



The **purpose** of the Utah Commission on Service and Volunteerism is to enable individuals, communities and organizations in Utah to benefit from the service, power, skills, and passion of volunteers. Our **mission** is to strengthen Utah communities through the power of service and volunteerism. Our **vision** is vibrant, productive communities with active, engaged citizens.

Minutes

COMMISSION MEETING
Sept 21st, 2017
2:00 to 4:00 P.M.
Capitol Board Room

ATTENDEES

Commissioners

Debbie Hardy
Richard Gonzalez
Jacob Murakami
Paul Leggett
Alan Griffin
Chris Bray
Vikram Ravi
Todd Hansen
Kris Hamlet

Debra Hoyt
Karen McCandless
Mark Thomas
David Clark
Melissa Fromm

Visitors:

Luane Jensen
Melinda Seager
Tracy Miller
Dawn Ramsey

Staff

LaDawn Stoddard
Greg Bates
Kate Hulme
Mary Buehler
Corynn Benoit
Ruqia Qasim

WELCOME/GOVERNANCE – DEBBIE HARDY

Motion to approve July minutes made by Karen McCandless. Seconded by Debra Hoyt. Vote carried unanimously.

The next commission meeting will be rescheduled to November 9th 2-4 p.m. at the Capitol Board Room. A calendar invitation of this change will be sent to all commissioners.

On January 18th, noon – 4 p.m. we will have a commission retreat meeting. The location has yet to be determined. A calendar invitation will be sent with all the details.

Calendar invitations to next year's commission meetings will be sent to all commissioners.

ED UPDATE- LADAWN STODDARD

NS: At the end of July 2017 we had a compliance monitoring visit from our CNCS program officer. She came on site for a few days, and reviewed our internal systems, and processes on how we manage AmeriCorps programs, as well as checking upon compliance of the programs themselves around a couple of key specific areas such as member criminal history checks, and member file checks. The National Service team did thorough checks, looked at a certain number of member files, and found supporting documentation that helped clarify any questions that the program officer had. They are taking some proactive steps to make sure everything is on a consistent schedule, and are doing spot checks in the

beginning of the year, so that if there are issues, they're being resolved immediately. We will use the feedback received from this visit to improve our processes.

We've received approval from the federal agency in supplementing an additional 300,000 for our AmeriCorps formula grant. We also received \$70,000 in funding for an Opioid planning grant.

On August 12th- 14th, LaDawn, Greg, and Corynn were in Washington, DC attending the annual required federal training hosted by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS).

We've received full funding for FY17 federal appropriation, and there was a continuing resolution passed. A decision on the appropriation bill will be made by the end of December, 2017

CE: Over the last seven years, we have received funding from the Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF) grant. We've applied this year, and did not receive funding this time. Most of our community engagement efforts are funded through this grant, and we are looking at some ways to ensure that these efforts will continue to be supported. We're confident in our 2018 budget, but we will need to start thinking strategically about the following years. Commissioners suggested we reach out to help raise funds and initiate conversation around sponsorship opportunities. We will most likely form a sub-committee of commissioners to help develop resources for our community engagement initiatives.

We will be doing a quasi-partnership with Youthlinc. CE program manager Mary Buehler will attend one of their upcoming volunteer management trainings as a guest speaker.

LaDawn will be presenting at two conferences: the first at USHE's Conference for School Administrators and Counselors to talk about AmeriCorps and volunteerism, and the second at the Creative Aging Conference in St. George to talk about the different ways seniors can get involved with volunteerism and SeniorCorps.

We're trying to reach out to businesses to talk about a corporate employee volunteering program. We have created two surveys: one geared towards businesses with an employee volunteer program, and the other without. We have received responses for both surveys, and our next step is to contact someone directly at these businesses, to do an in-person interview. LaDawn is going to share a google spreadsheet that lists businesses we're trying to reach, and have commissioners fill in contact information of a person they know is best to reach out to at each of those businesses.

POWER OF SERVICE AWARD

Commission Chair Debbie Hardy presented the Power of Service award to Luane Jensen. For the last ten years, Luane has spent 250-300 hours a year volunteering at the Gale Center of History and Culture. The Gale Center—the City's museum featuring South Jordan history and Americana art exhibits—is free to the public, and is a favorite field trip for elementary and preschool-aged children. Luane frequently volunteers extra time to help with field trips and special tour requests in order to teach children more about the community she loves to call home. Luane is also an appointed volunteer of the South Jordan Historic Preservation Committee and helps advise the city on preservation and historic education. Her areas of concentration include the South Jordan City cemetery and community outreach to veterans. She was instrumental in advising, coordinating and fundraising for three completed historic monuments in the City: the veterans' memorial, the 1938 school bus/train accident tragedy, and the "Birthplace of South Jordan" memorial. For over ten years, Ms. Jensen has hand washed the bronze veterans' memorial statue in South Jordan City cemetery in time for Memorial Day services. She also coordinates memorial services with the city and with the Veterans of Foreign War each Memorial Day. Luane has also dedicated over 35-years as a volunteer Boy Scout leader in South Jordan. Not only has she made a difference mentoring and leading hundreds of young scouts over the years, she has coordinated "Scouting for Food" drives each year with the Utah Food Bank, bringing over 28 tons of food from the South Jordan community to the nonprofit to help feed Utah's hungry.

STRATEGIC PLAN DASHBOARD

Commission chair Debbie Hardy went over the strategic plan dashboard. Here are a few highlights of that discussion: Progress is being made for the development of the Service Enterprise Certification training curriculum. We will reach out to businesses to sponsor five nonprofit organizations to take this training course. Our hope is to identify those businesses and nonprofits by quarter one of 2018. Ideas on businesses we can approach, and nonprofits to get sponsored can be submitted to LaDawn.

We're outside of the 15% of target under our "recognition of outstanding volunteers" goal. Additional outreach efforts are being made to help us reach our target by the close of 2017. We're currently at 121 certificates awarded out of 350. We plan to reach out to AmeriCorps program directors, previous nominators, and municipalities to encourage use of the recognition certificate. We anticipate receiving about 100 nominations for Philanthropy Day's Hearts & Hands award. **Commissioners discussed and came to motion the approval of broadening the scope of providing volunteer certificates to not only nonprofits who nominate volunteers, but businesses who have employee volunteer programs. Alan Griffin made approval first, Todd Hansen seconded. All were in favor.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

National Service: NS program manager Greg Bates gave the committee report.

Build & Cultivate Capacity: Nine out of ten programs have submitted final evaluation reports following the Project Impact evaluation training series we provided. We are working with the last program to wrap up their report which is delayed due to turnover. The national service staff have also completed a final report.

We have been approved to receive supplemental funding allowing Boys and Girls Club of Utah County and Boys and Girls Club of Weber/Davis to operate AmeriCorps programs in 2017-2018.

We participated in the National Mass Care Exercise from August 22nd – 24th at the State Emergency Operations Center. We will use lessons learned from this event to hone our operating guidelines for the Volunteer and Donations Coordination Team.

Promote & Inspire Service & Volunteerism: We have scheduled and begun attending various University job fairs and community engagement fairs. We are partnering with our programs to staff these events and will have fliers available for each program.

We have made contact with various military recruitment offices who have expressed the willingness to receive and distribute AmeriCorps materials as an alternate service opportunity for those unable to enlist. We are working with our outreach coordinator to design updated materials for disbursement.

In conjunction with Utah Campus Compact, we are assisting to staff this year's Engaged Citizenship Retreat which has been renamed the Active Engagement Retreat. Members from each of our programs will be in attendance in October.

Recognize the Efforts of Outstanding Volunteers: In July we awarded the member of the month to Taylor Kevern an AmeriCorps member serving at the Primary Children's Hospital Residential Treatment Center. He was nominated for his outstanding work there as well as a service project he organized for a needy family in his neighborhood.

In August the award was presented to Kenny Henager a third term AmeriCorps member serving as a Field Boss with the Utah Conservation Corps who has provided invaluable mentoring to other members.

The winner of the September member of the month award is Anthony Roncher from Canyon Country Youth Corps. Anthony served as a crew member in 2016 and returned as a crew leader in 2017. He was nominated for his ability to run a safe, efficient and productive crew.

Community Engagement: CE program manager Mary Buehler gave the committee report.

Build & Cultivate Capacity: The final intro-level VMT of 2017 is scheduled for December 6th and 7th in Lehi, UT. An intermediate-level Volunteer Management Credential Badge Training offered in collaboration with the Utah Nonprofits Association will be held on November 1 and November 14. In collaboration with the Department of Emergency Management, we will offer a Local Volunteer and Donations Management Training on November 15 and 16. Mary presented a breakout session at the Utah Nonprofits Association Annual Conference in Layton, UT on September 14 that taught volunteer managers how to find, use, and retain skills-based volunteers. Thank you to Commissioner Lindsey Kneiven for participating in our panel of skills-based volunteers.

We conducted phone interviews with municipality volunteer coordinators in order to better understand their needs and how to support them. We are planning a focus group to gather more information during the last week in September.

Promote & Inspire Service & Volunteerism: 9/11 Day of Service grants were awarded to 7 nonprofit organizations for service projects. This was the highest number of applications we've received in years. We thank Commissioners Alan Griffith, Debbie Hardy, and Vikram Ravi for serving on the grant review committee. Reports on the projects will be submitted in the coming weeks and results will be shared at the November Commission meeting. In partnership with World Trade Center Utah, we held our first annual 9/11 Day of Service Project on Monday, September 11th at Catholic Community Services in the Rio Grande area. Between WTC, the Department of Heritage and Arts, the Lt. Governor's Office, and Speaker of the House Gregory Hughes' Office, over 50 volunteers came together to serve. We would like to thank Commissioners Lt. Governor Spencer Cox, Jill Love, and Jake Murakami and his staff who served 360 meals to homeless individuals in Salt Lake City. We would also like to thank Commissioner Representative Becky Edwards who helped organize dozens of arts and crafts supplies in the Weigand Day Center. Our other volunteers prepared food for 1200 sack lunches, installed 80 shelves, organized 3 donation rooms, and prepped the CCS fence so it can be painted later this week. We also did a donation drive in which we had 600 items donated to CCS. Items ranged from clothing to hygiene.

Recognize the Efforts of Outstanding Volunteers: On November 16, UServeUtah will host Philanthropy Day with Utah Nonprofits Association and the Utah Association for Fundraising Professionals, an annual event that recognizes hundreds of local volunteers and philanthropists.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Chris Bray: Boeing is looking for veteran support organizations that they can provide assistance and opportunities to this holiday season. Recommendations for any veteran organizations can be submitted to Chris. Boeing will have sponsorship grant opportunities open on January of next year. Visit their website for more information.

Karen McCandless: There has been an increase of need in services in the Utah County, and Salt Lake Valley areas amongst the homeless population. Community Action Services in Provo have partnered with the LDS church to provide motel vouchers for the homeless since there is not a shelter in Utah County.

Jake Murakami: Five new VISTA projects have rolled out. The first is a STEM education project with the American Indian Services organization. They have a program that supports summer STEM education programs for Native American youth. They offer this program to High School students, and they're looking at expanding it to include Junior High students. They've been approached by different tribes both inside and outside of Utah who are interested in participating. The second is a free health clinic project with Maliheh clinic. The aim is to increase health care access to non-insured Utahans. The project will take place in St. George and Park City. The third is on homelessness and housing with Switchpoint in St. George. They're partnering with United Way, and they're going to have up to eleven VISTA members involved in this project. The fourth is also a housing and homelessness project, with Youth Futures in Ogden. The fifth is a veterans upward bound program with Weber State University. This program will engage veterans in higher education, and is looking at expanding this program onto other higher education institutions such as: Utah State University, University of Utah, Salt Lake Community College, Utah State University, Dixie State, and Southern Utah University.

The Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanic and Native American for Science is going to have its annual conference and career fair on October 19th. VISTA members will be there for recruitment. STEM based AmeriCorps programs are encouraged to attend as well.

WRAP UP

We are participating again this year at the Festival of Trees event. We're going to be donating a large tree along with some gifts. We're planning on decorating the tree and donating it on November 27th. More information will be provided at our next commission meeting.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn made by Chris Bray, seconded by Debra Hoyt. Motion carried unanimously.