



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 individuals.

Minutes

COMMISSION MEETING

May 21, 2020

2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Virtual Meeting held via Google Meet

ATTENDEES

Commissioners

Jill Love
Melissa Fromm
Paul Leggett
Nancy Basinger
Debra Hoyt

Karen McCandless
Brian Yazzie
Luis Lopez
Kelly Riding
Tyler Cain

Staff

LaDawn Stoddard
Mike Moon
Jacob Johnson
Sara Dorsey

WELCOME/GOVERNANCE – PAUL LEGGETT

Paul Leggett welcomed everyone. He mentioned that the Aging Network has received funding to help people over the age of 60 during this time outside of their regular programming. He offered to share a fact sheet with the commission in hopes that there are collaborative opportunities for commission members.

Approval of the Minutes – Nancy Bassinger motioned to approve the minutes from the Commission Retreat held on January 15, 2020. Luis Lopez seconded the motion. Vote carried unanimous.

Approval of Consent Agenda – Debra Hoyt motioned to approve the consent agenda. Karen McCandless seconded the motion. Vote carried unanimous.

LT. GOVERNOR COMMENTS – TYLER CAIN

Tyler thanked the staff and commission for all the work being done to galvanize volunteers throughout the state. This crisis has illuminated how resourceful and resilient we are as a state and we have seen so many civilians and members of the healthcare industry and the business community completely redefine and repurpose their daily operations in order to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19. They look forward to updates from the staff and commission about how we have shared collective success across the state during this remarkable time.

Tyler wanted to pass along that the Office of Childcare directed by Tracy Gruber from the Department of Workforce Services just received some supplemental grant funding which is non-competitive and

available on a first-come first-serve basis. If the commission is aware of any after-school programs or summer camp programs that may be in need of this extra funding for staffing purposes or sanitation purposes they are encouraged to share this opportunity.

DIRECTOR UPDATE- LADAWN STODDARD

Staffing Changes: Elizabeth Oliver, National Service Program Manager, left to take another position. This position has now been filled by Jacob Johnson, former Community Engagement Program Manager at UServeUtah. Mike Moon, Associate Director of UServeUtah, will be assuming the Community Engagement responsibilities in addition to his role as Associate Director.

AmeriCorps Programming Changes: Some programs have had to repurpose AmeriCorps positions in light of COVID-19. About 60% of our AmeriCorps programming is in schools and when schools closed AmeriCorps members were not being able to hit their needed hours. Many shifted to virtual tutoring. Others shifted to a variety of different activities. We got permission from the federal agency (CNCS) to allow programs to go outside of their normal scope of work to allow members to do activities in support of COVID-19, food insecurity, housing, etc. Programs stepped up to pivot and keep members active and engaged.

AmeriCorps Funding: The formula grant process is now complete and will need a vote of approval from the commission. \$1.78 million was available and we received \$2.27 million in requests. We were not able to fill all requests, but the review committee did get funding to every organization that made a request. LaDawn walked the commission through a pdf summary of grant funding.

Playworks and the Utah Conservation Corps received expected competitive funding as their programs are in continuation. The Utah Healthcare Corps received new competitive funding.

LaDawn asked the commission to approve the funding document before it could be submitted to CNCS. Nancy Bassinger asked a clarifying question about the total grant amounts and carryover. LaDawn explained the fixed grant amounts and operational grant funding in relation to the current program portfolio.

Karen McCandless, chair of the National Service Committee, thanked all of those who participated in the grant review process.

Nancy Bassinger motioned to approve the funding matrix as presented. Brian Yazzie seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with the caveat that commissioners could vote to approve without fully understanding the funding matrix. LaDawn is available for any further funding questions that may arise from commissioners.

Nonprofit Grant Funding: In partnership with the Utah Nonprofits Association, UServeUtah was asked to participate in the process of granting out emergency COVID-19 funds and accepting donations for this fund. 300 applications were received and 20 applicants were able to be funded. Additional resources will be incoming and phase 2 funding will occur in the near future.

Federal Funding: A bill has dropped to potentially expand National Service. This grant could potentially double National Service resources.

Community Engagement: We have had to make adjustments to our Community Engagement initiatives in light of COVID-19. These adjustments will be discussed further in the dashboard.

Rio Grande Building: The building had significant damage during the earthquake. The UServeUtah staff will be working remotely for the foreseeable future. Jill Love added that the Rio Grande building updates change daily. There are 20 different contractors working in the building currently. She is hopeful that staff could return sooner rather than later and hopes that she will have a timeline soon.

2020 Dashboard: There have been significant adjustments to the dashboard due to COVID-19. Many foci have moved to a “yellow” or “red” status due to COVID-19 causing delays in reaching targets.

National Service “Member Engagement” is outside its target. Development of the AmeriCorps Alumni Association and further development of the Disaster Corps have been delayed but are in progress. The staff is hopeful that this initiative will see significant progress before year’s end.

Community Engagement trainings have had to be postponed for the time being. The staff is reevaluating what trainings will look like for the rest of the year. In general, this goal for 2020 may need to be reevaluated and may need to be accomplished via virtual training opportunities

National Service “Inspire National Service Engagement” is outside its target. COVID-19 has caused delays with training and outreach. LaDawn is not sure if this target will hit 100% by the end of the year. This goal is largely met via in-person recruiting events. This goal may change from a percentage to an actual number.

Community Engagement “Encourage more Utahns to engage in volunteerism through the Pathways of Community Engagement” is outside its target but will likely be able to be met this year. Progress will likely be seen in the 3rd and 4th quarters.

The recognition dashboard foci are all on target.

COMMISSION FOCUS OVERVIEW

MIKE MOON UPDATES

Our Role in the VDCT – Volunteer Donations and Coordination Team

This team has been very active during the pandemic. Eight donation sites have been set up around the states to collect donated Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Individuals and business can donate PPE that is then distributed weekly throughout the state to local health departments, county emergency managers, hospitals and tribes. Donation sites are located in Salt Lake City, Provo, Ogden, Delta, Logan, Panguitch, Fairview and Enoch.

The new website page useve.utah.gov/ppe records received donations and steps for potential donors to take. All donations are tax deductible.

Large donations are coming in from generous companies such as: Apple, the Taiwanese Government, provinces in China, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Young Living Essential Oils, Dominion Energy, the state STEM Foundation, and more.

Volunteers have been serving at all of the donation sites including the RSS at the Salt Palace. Volunteers have also been recruited to potentially serve as medical volunteers at an overflow site. Volunteers will also serve in contact tracing.

We have also been receiving financial donations to purchase PPE and as a relief fund for nonprofits. Temporarily returned missionaries from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints were supported by UServeUtah staff that confirmed available service opportunities throughout the state.

Jill Love thanked the team for the work they have done and the creative solutions they have embraced.

JACOB JOHNSON UPDATES

Community Engagement Grants – we received an appropriation from the state to fund initiatives. Eight organizations were funded last year and those projects are wrapping up. Several have changed in light of COVID-19. The process is now open for the next grant opportunity and will close July 5th.

We have canceled or postponed many of our upcoming trainings. A successful training was held in March at Weber State University. It is a model that UServeUtah would like to replicate throughout the state.

A webinar was recently held in partnership with the Utah Nonprofits Association on the topic of “Volunteer Management for the New Normal.” This covered how to use volunteers amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Over 170 individuals registered for the webinar. Registrants responded to a survey to indicate that the majority of organizations registered for the webinar have had to cancel volunteer programs and activities. Organizations are concerned about losing volunteers and about how to safely reintroduce volunteer programs.

The Pathways of Community Engagement is an ongoing initiative. It is the foundation of the curriculum for the Active Engagement Retreat. UServeUtah has applied for two sources of funding to support the development of an online diagnostic tool and the incorporation of the pathways in more initiatives. The first source of potential funding is through the Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF) offered by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). UServeUtah has received funding in the past and has reapplied for it this year. The second source of funding being sought is through AARP. This funding would be used to develop a survey and to use this survey to help older adults identify how they can continue to stay engaged in their communities.

ANNUAL REPORT – SARA DORSEY

Sara Dorsey presented highlights from the recently completed 2019 Annual Report. This report has been published virtually and will also be sent in print to commissioners and sister commissions. Highlights included the 2020-2022 Strategic Planning Process, public survey results, updated core values, community engagement statistics, and 2019 financials.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Nancy Bassinger – Big Brothers Big Sisters of Utah is matching volunteers to be mentors virtually. Individuals can apply, be trained, and be matched virtually. They can also do their mentoring virtually until it is safe to mentor in person.

Melissa Young-Fromm – 4-hour crisis-management trainings for nonprofits have been filling up fast. They will have a new set of dates soon that will be shared with commissioners

Paul Leggett – Area Agency on Aging (AAA) network has received an opportunity to be reimbursed for services and supplies to keep older adults at home during COVID-19. Anyone over the age of 60 who is home-bound by choice or circumstance can contact their local Area Agency on Aging and request services. This can also pay for unique things like swamp coolers, technology, etc.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Melissa Young-Fromm. Kelly Riding seconded the motion.