

Michigan Community Service Commission

August 29, 2013

MCSC Board Meeting

South Haven Conference Center

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carolyn Bloodworth, Chair
Diana Algra
Julie Calley
Tony Campbell
Rob Collier
Michael Hill
Megan Russell Johnson
Bob Kolt
Michael Lavoie
Donna Niester
David Price
Jerry Swartz
John Truscott
Miles Wilson
Ginna Holmes, Ex Officio
Cathy Sharp, Ex Officio, CNCS

MEMBERS ABSENT: Breannah Alexander
David Andrews
Lloyd Jackson
Lori Jewell
Janet Lawson
Fred Mester
Larry Romanelli
Marsha Smith
John Truscott
Ella Kate Wagner
Judy Watson-Olson
Larry Williamson

OTHERS: Garry Gross, Michigan Community Service Commission
Ben Gulker, Michigan Community Service Commission
Janice Harvey, Michigan Community Service Commission
Donna Murray-Brown, Michigan Nonprofit Association
Megan Sargent, Michigan Community Service Commission
Amber Troupe, Michigan Community Service Commission
Paula Kaiser VanDam, DHS, Bureau of Community Services
Jamie Wilson, Michigan Community Service Commission
Jeanine Yard, Michigan Community Service Commission

- I. Welcome and Introductions – Chair Bloodworth convened Commissioners at 12:35 pm. There was discussion on the CNCS’s six priority areas for MCSC/AmeriCorps programming. It was discussed whether the MCSC should focus on three top priorities around funding: economic opportunity/jobs, health, and education. The MCSC will continue to focus on the six priority areas due to funding opportunities with CNCS. Michigan’s State Service Plan will also direct the MCSC’s priorities.

- II. Consent Agenda – Chair Bloodworth asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda and the minutes from the June 26, 2013 MCSC board meeting. **Commissioner Hill motioned to approve the consent agenda and minutes; Commissioner Algra seconded motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

- III. Other Business
Mission Statement Revision: Commissioners have been working on a new MCSC mission statement. A revised statement was approved as follows: The Michigan Community Service Commission utilizes service as a strategy to address the state’s most pressing issues and empowers volunteers to strengthen communities. Chair Bloodworth asked for a motion to approve the revised mission statement. **Commissioner Lavoie motioned to approve the revised MCSC mission statement; Commissioner Algra seconded motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

State Service Plan:
Ginna Holmes presented the State Service Plan. This plan will go to Governor Snyder for approval and then sent to the Corporation for National & Community Service (CNCS). Chair Bloodworth asked for a motion to approve the State Service Plan. **Commissioner Algra motioned to approve the State Service Plan; Commissioner Truscott seconded motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Creation of Advisory Work Teams:
Ginna Holmes explained the need for Commissioner Work Teams which will include Advocacy and Public Policy, Resource and Fund Development, MI Reading Corps, Volunteer Michigan, Mentor Michigan/Youth Development, and Social Innovation. Chair Bloodworth asked for a motion to support creation of Commissioner Work Teams. **Commissioner Lavoie motioned to approve the State Service Plan; Commissioner Collier seconded motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

- IV. Executive Directors Report
Volunteer Generation Fund – Bob Kahle provided information and context on the Volunteer Generation Fund. He shared the goal of Volunteer Michigan, the key components of service as a strategy, the essential building blocks of volunteer connector organizations, volunteer engagement, HandsOn Connect and the challenges of the technology, and other challenges within Volunteer Centers. He also distributed infographics for Volunteer Kalamazoo Neighborhood Safety Initiative and the Volunteer Medical Corps in Allegan County.

Volunteer Generation Fund FY14 Grant -

Ginna Holmes explained that only past Commissions that received funding in last grant cycle were able to submit an application for the FY14 VGF grant and required applicants request at least \$100,000 and provide a dollar for dollar match. The total amount available was \$3.7 million. The MCSC requested \$262,500 and will focus on youth development. The MCSC will find out the end of September if the funding request was approved and the program start date is October 1.

- V. Governor's Service Awards – Ginna Holmes recommended alternating the event between Grand Rapids and Detroit each year. Commissioners agreed to alternating the event between Grand Rapids and Detroit. Chair Bloodworth thanked Commissioners for their support of the event and for attending. It demonstrates a great commitment from Commissioners.
- VI. CNCS Funding Update – Ginna Holmes shared a chart outlining the President's FY14 funding for CNCS.
- VII. CNCS State Office Update – Cathy Sharp explained that CNCS is working on interagency agreements around key issues including Affordable Care Act. They will fund two VISTA programs in Michigan (Oakland/Livingston County and Wayne County). Eight VISTA members will serve at Community Action Agencies in these areas to help organize activities to share information with those that need it around the Affordable Care Act. RSVP programs will have volunteers do outreach in their communities and help enroll residents. Senior Corps has funding available and will supplement these two programs. The RSVP volunteers will start October 1 at the Community Action Agencies and will be trained as certified application counselors. There is a six month timeframe to share the information and enroll the individuals.

RSVP competitive grants are due on September 10 and Cathy thanked Commissioners for promoting this program. Cathy is also working with a number of federal agencies, including Jed Hermann from the White House Office of Cabinet Affairs, to talk about the crisis in Detroit and identify what federal agencies that have services in Detroit can do to help support nonprofit agencies. CNCS Michigan Office may be adding more VISTA members to projects in Detroit to assist with this effort.

- X. Public Comment – Chair Bloodworth announced that Commissioner Rob Collier will receive the Outstanding State Commissioner award by America's Service Commission at a reception on September 16 in Washington, DC.

Adjourn: 1:45 pm