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DRAFT

Minutes - Commissioner Meeting

Friday, 12/7/12

Recorder: Heather Kreider

Commissioners

Neil Oberfeld, Chair Morie Smile, Vice Chair Amy Humble (absent) Tom Muniz (absent)

Honorable Cecil Gutierrez (absent)

Carol Wright Tamra Ward

Pati Montgomery (absent)

Barbara Morris, M.D. Angeline Roles

Laura Mulvey (absent)

Bruce Cline

Steven Trujillo (absent)

Deb Smith Ryan Hanschen

Staff

Lindsay Dolce Heather Kreider Cara Cheevers Jeremy Gaskill Hannah Reed, Intern

Guests

Bob Epstein

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 pm. The meeting took place at Wind Crest, a senior living community in Highlands Ranch where Dr. Morris is the resident physician.

Approval of Minutes

Neil asked for a motion to approve the September and October 2012 meeting minutes. Dr. Morris moved and Angeline seconded. There was one addition to the October minutes; Cara Cheevers did attend that meeting. Heather will make that change. The minutes were approved unanimously (8 yes 0 no)

Re-cap October Commission Retreat and Feedback

Lindsay said that since the October Commission Retreat, the sub-committees have been very active. She thanked the Community, Outreach and Development Committee for their helpful feedback on the sponsorship package for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service. She walked away from the retreat energized and is happy that the momentum has continued.

Neil said that the retreat helped sharpen the focus of the Commission and that the core work of the Commission is being done in the Committees. Neil had lunch with Andrew Freedman, Chief of Staff for the Lt. Governor, and Andrew said that the Lt. Governor and Governor are very happy with the new Staff and the work of the Commission and are looking forward to seeing the work of the Commission over the next two years.

Executive Director Update

Lindsay mentioned that things have changed up a bit in dealing with programs and that there are some growing pains with the new processes. Lindsay commended Jeremy for the new monitoring tool he created for the programs. Lindsay reported that the Auditor from CNCS was here in November and was very helpful and supportive. She is still waiting on the final management decision and if Serve Colorado needs to pay back any Federal funds. \$48,000 in match was disallowed; however, Lindsay found an additional \$75,000. She may have to appeal the final management decision and Lindsay is prepared to do that if necessary.

Lindsay mentioned that she has been working on One Book 4 Colorado- this is the program that puts a book in the hand of every 4-year old in Colorado. These books are given out at libraries or at Reach out and Read Clinics across the state. This program is about more than just the book; it provides a literacy rich moment and promotes the libraries in the communities. For 2013, the focus will be on working more closely with early childhood councils.

The book selection will take place in January and the books will be distributed in May. In January, people will be able to vote on the top three books on Rocky Mountain PBS' website. Three celebrity readers (The Governor, Missy Franklin and a Bronco's player) are reading the top three books. Money from One Book for Colorado can be used as match for Serve Colorado. Rocky Mountain PBS has volunteered their time for this project.

Neil mentioned that One Book for Colorado is an excellent outreach opportunity for any company that is interested. The sponsor's logos will be printed in all 100,000 copies of the books.

Lastly, Lindsay mentioned that she will be attending the National Service Inclusion meeting in Crystal City. The focus is on working with Veteran's, Workforce Development Centers and Train-the-Trainer activities.

Commissioner Update

Carol- commended Jeremy on the grant review process and information. Even though she had to drop out due to a work commitment, she was very impressed with everything Jeremy prepared.

Tamra- she is done with chemotherapy and radiation.

Louis- Louis is the new Labor representative on the Commission. He introduced himself and told a little bit about his background. He is excited to be serving on the Commission.

Morie- Volunteers of America came together, very quickly, and opened a women's shelter after an article in the Denver Post reported the lack of housing for women who are homeless. She is collecting pillows and blankets for the new shelter and if you get them to her, she will get them to Volunteers of America.

Angeline- is excited to report that she found some AmeriCorps members serving in Grand Junction, at the Center for Independence and is looking forward to working with them.

Deb- United Way's Women's Leadership Council will be providing mentoring for City Year AmeriCorps members starting in 2013.

Jeremy- Cara, Honey and himself, have started monitoring visits- to see where the money the organizations are granted, goes to. He also commended the VISTA's- they are all doing great work.

Bruce- mentioned that Ventana will also be attending the National Inclusion Conference and that Denver is one of the two pilot cities for Operation Abel- a program that funnels veteran's into Community Service. Bruce mentioned the Together for Tomorrow Program- which is a program focused on turn around schools. This program highlights the real success of National Service- that service is a solution for turnaround schools. Colorado is also one of the national pilot sites for the Foster Grandparent program to work with military families. Lastly, Bruce mentioned that the RSVP Program is looking into how seniors can best support communities when disaster hits a town.

Cara- mentioned that the State Service Plan met before the Commission meeting and had a great meeting on the process for the next year.

Dr. Morris- mentioned that she took a two week service trip to Peru and will be giving a presentation to the residents next week. She also mentioned that she met with Boomers Leading Change in Health and that there are a lot of synergies and she is looking forward to working with them.

Ryan- things have been very busy at the University of Denver campus, this fall over 200 AmeriCorps members started and DU also hosted the first Presidential Debate.

Neil- mentioned the Book Drive that is taking place for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service. Neil also mentioned that a former Serve Colorado staff member, Jovan Melton was just elected to the Colorado House. Lastly, Neil mentioned the Latino Foundation of Colorado. This is a foundation that was started by the Rose Community Foundation and it just was selected as the Foundation of the Year by National Philanthropy Day in Colorado and also just celebrated its 5 year anniversary.

Sub-Committee Report Out

Community, Outreach and Development Committee

Deb reported that there has been a great foundation laid for the committees work by previous sub-committees; the committee is not starting from scratch. The Committee will present a Commissioner Toolkit at the January meeting and will also do a presentation on match. The committee is also pursuing a PR Firm that will work on a pro bono basis on a branding strategy for Serve Colorado. Laura and Angeline are working on training needs of AmeriCorps members and how Commissioners can assist or lend their knowledge to the members. Lastly, at the January meeting, a calendar of activities will be presented to the Commissioners as well as information on where they are wanted and needed to be to help extend the outreach of Serve Colorado.

Grant Committee

This year, the number of grant applications received are lower than in recent years, because the Grant Committee is only considering applications that will be sent up to the national Competitive level. There are five grants that the Grant Committee will be reviewing. The grant committee, staff and peers will be reviewing the applications and then the applicants will present to the committee on January 7. Final funding recommendations will be presented at the January Commissioner meeting.

State Service Plan Committee

The State Service Plan Committee will be creating a survey that will be sent out statewide focusing on certain pockets of people. They are going to reach out to TBD Colorado and see if they will help develop the survey questions. They hope to have the survey completed and released by February or March. The Committee knows they must delve deeper into the world of Veteran's and Veteran's issues. They would like to create more collaboration between younger and older veterans.

Public Comments

Bob Epstein mentioned a couple of Veteran's organizations that the Commission may reach out to, to assist with Veteran's issues: Every county in the State has a Veteran's Service Officer and they should be able to assist.

Bob mentioned the United Veteran's Committee of Colorado. A representative from every Veteran's organization in the State sits on this Committee; this Committee meets the second Tuesday of every month.

Website is: http://www.unitedveteranscommittee.com/

The State also has a State Veteran's Service Committee that should be able to assist with Veteran's issues.

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m. for the Commission Holiday Party/Service Project.