



Oregon Commission for Voluntary Action and Service

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Technical Advisor:
KAREN HUMELBAUGH
Director, Office of Workforce Investments

October 9, 2020

9am-12:30pm [Meeting Link](#)

To call in: 1-669-900-6833, Mtg. ID: 81360061031, Passcode: 055932

Persons wishing to testify need to send an email twelve hours prior to:

Brittany.e.Melzer@hecc.oregon.gov

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Co-chair Josh Todd, Co-chair Derenda Schubert, Nathan Rix, Mary Greusel, Sierra Barnes, Jayesh Palshikar, Adele McAfee, Daniel Altamirano Hernandez, Todd Jones, Elias Villegas

Staff Present: Director Carie Bauer, Director Karen Humelbaugh, Amy Holland, Stephanie Solomon, Brittany Melzer

Call to Order & Welcome

Meeting called to order at 9:07am.

Commission Business

Public Comment: None.

Consent Agenda: Commission approved all minutes.

Agenda Review: No changes made.

Commission Member Announcements: Daniel Altamirano Hernandez has joined the Commission, filling the 18-25 National Service Member Representative slot.

2021 Chair Positions: Motion to approve appointment of Nathan Rix as Chair and Elias Villegas as Vice Chair. Todd Jones motioned. Josh Todd seconded. No discussion. None dissenting. None abstaining. Motion approved. Elias Villegas, Jorge Cruz, and Adele McAfee are reappointed.

Outgoing Members Recognition:

Commission members and staff expressed gratitude to Derenda Schubert and Josh Todd for their service as members and leadership as Co-Chairs.

Reports & Updates:

AmeriCorps West Region Report: Mary Greusel, AmeriCorps West Region Senior Program Manager, shared the AmeriCorps West Region report, covering the progress of the office openings and the brand update for AmeriCorps. Annual Program guidance has been released and the request for Concept papers notice and timeline were uploaded to the AmeriCorps website.

OV Director Report:

Legislative Update: The CORPS Act has not made it into a stimulus bill as of yet. The HEROES Act 2.0 was put into a different stimulus bill and included several things. It's about 2/3 of what was wanted with national service expansion. As of right now a stimulus bill has been called off again.

It is still a priority for people moving forward, realistically it's off the table for now. We will be prepared to leverage a stimulus bill if one does pass.

Wildfire Response: OV has connected national service resources with the disaster response teams operating in the state. Program Officer Stephanie Solomon updated that NCCC deployed to work with OEM in Salem on resource distribution projects. A second deal was made for long-term recovery at donations warehouses in Lane County. OV is in communication with AmeriCorps Disaster Services Unit to see if there is a long-term need for recovery.

Tribal Opportunity Grants: Katie Keane, Assistant Program Director of the Pacific Region of AmeriCorps and Mary Greusel, Senior Portfolio Manager of the West Region office of AmeriCorps, and Director Bauer are having conversations of how to promote these opportunities and spread the word of the availability. They will be meeting in the coming months to discuss strategies to build momentum. Discussion surrounding different partnership strategy ideas. Discussion of leveraging existing AmeriCorps relationships that can be expanded to assist tribal communities.

DEI Virtual Learning Series: Board members are invited to join the state iLearn series, on Tuesday October 27th, 28th, and 29th. Director Bauer will send out email with details later today.

State Service Plan: Contracts signed last week with The Coraggio Group. The main components will be Mission and Vision Statement and Values review to establish a deeper connection between our work and our mission. Their recommended structure is to work with the specific strategic planning team of eight people and then have touch points with the full board. It helps maximize the representative structure and not bog down all members with a ton of meetings. An initial feedback collection meeting will be first, then a loose structure will be developed and brought back to the full board for review. The target date for the completed plan is March 31st.

Proposed Timeline: Discussion of proposed 2021 calendar. Jayesh Palshikar motioned to approve, Nathan Rix seconded. None opposed or abstaining. Calendar was approved.

OV Program Officer Report: Covid-19 program monitoring is wrapping up. Majority of members are still serving virtually. Some members are serving in person with very thorough safety measures in place. Their communication has increased significantly since March, and have all adopted teleservice tracking methods. Member recruitment for the new cycle has been high. Limited capacity for non-profit organizations right now.

2020-2021 Member Orientation: Orientation has been remote. Per programs, members reported concern for roll-out but found it was still very effective in building a sense of team with the groups.

Racial Equity Learning Series: The Program Officers hired an Oregon-based consulting group called Engage to Change, LLC to deliver the training opportunity. Discussion of the details of the training, such as who will be encouraged to take it, who will be optional, etc. As soon as the proposed dates are known they will be sent out to the Commission.

OWI Director Report:

Wildfire Response:

Karen Humelbaugh, director of OWI, provided update on statewide wildfire response efforts and resources developing to assist communities.

State Budget Report: The Emergency Board approved the match funds requested by OV, in order to correct a budget request issue. It means that the bigger number rolls into the biennia budget for next time and creates the new norm level of funding for OV.

Legislative Update: Name change in the queue. The board will have chance to adjust come session. Will let commission know when we know a timeline or what committees will be seeing it. Updates given for Executive Order and DEI Learning Series.

Legislative Concept Request: Michael Fieldman gave an update on a submitted placeholder for the letter asking for education award tax exception status. Oregon would be the fifth state only to adopt this practice. The first goal is to have the Governor's Office adopt it; if not adopted, to seek legislative sponsorship.

Expansion Workgroup Update: Todd Jones, Chair of Expansion (Response and Recovery) Advisory Workgroup, walked the commissioners through the recommendations document. There were many suggested changes regarding spelling out acronyms, and deciding which particular acronyms to use for a fully inclusive message.

Mike Fieldman motioned to accept recommendations with recommended changes, Jayesh Palshikar seconded. No discussion. None opposed or abstaining. Motion passed.

Equity Workgroup Update: Discussion surrounding language of welcome letter, especially the language in the final paragraph that says "to our BIPOC and Latinx members", is this singling Latinx members out as an 'other'? Decision to reach out to Rudyane Rivera-Lindstrom, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion with the HECC to consult on letter language.

Executive Order Discussion. There is no guidance for carrying out this order as of yet, state department of justice review reached out and asked what OV's plan is moving forward. OV is researching potential impact and considering options for alternative funding for activities, as well as providing guidance to programs on the matter.

Policy workgroup: As a commission there is a desire to move into providing impactful policy in our state and coordinating with HECC to do so. Name change revision and state tax exemption initiative. Discussing the strategy of why making the tax exemption a thing is attractive and how the monies freed up will be spent on housing etc. to make service more attractive and attract members to serve in Oregon such as ed award matching in institutions.

Parking Lot Items: None.

Upcoming Dates & Meetings: Discussed timeline of upcoming meetings. Expansion workgroup is discontinued for now, to bring representatives into strategic planning. Next full board meeting is January.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 11:59am.