



INDIANA COMMISSION ON COMMUNITY SERVICE AND VOLUNTEERISM
Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2007
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

**Indiana Government Center
302 W. Washington Street
Conference Room 26
Indianapolis, Indiana**

Due to the weather and some parking related issues, Commission Chair David Reingold advised those Commission members in attendance they would go ahead and discuss some non-decisional items on the agenda while waiting for the remainder of the Commissioners to arrive. He further stated Executive Director Paula Parker-Sawyers sends her regrets for not being in attendance for the meeting, but she has been selected to participate in the Fellowship Leadership Program and is currently at a retreat. He introduced Cecelia Johnson-Powell, Deputy Director, and advised she would be sitting in for Mrs. Parker-Sawyers.

Following his introduction of Cecelia Johnson-Powell, he acknowledged her leaving the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives at the end of the week. She has accepted the position as Community Development Manager with the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority. He further stated the ICCSV is extremely grateful for the work she has done over the past few years and that she will be missed. Commission Chair stated Mrs. Parker-Sawyers will give a more in depth report at the next ICCSV meeting about this change as well as the addition of more programmatic responsibilities for Erin Wright and Carey Craig. He also congratulated Erin Wright as the new Director of Programs.

Deputy Director Cecelia Johnson-Powell thanked the Mr. Reingold and the Commissioners for their well wishes and stated she will remember her time with the OFBCI very fondly. She further stated Erin and Carey are exceptionally competent in the work they do. As a result of one of the new Commissioners being in attendance, Mrs. Johnson-Powell asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Following self introductions, Mrs. Johnson-Powell continued with the Executive Director's Report. She reminded all Commissioners they are required annually to complete an online ethics training course. To complete this course, they should go to <http://www.in.gov/ethics/training/>. Upon completion, she advised them to inform Carey

Craig via email at ccraig@ofbci.in.gov. Attached to the Executive Director's is a copy of a letter regarding the Grantee Progress Reports that were submitted to the Corporation in December, 2006, as well as copies of the Corporation Grantee Progress Report for State Competitive Programs and State Formula Programs grantees. She advised the report details activities, performance measurements and outcomes for the Commission and the Indiana AmeriCorps grantees. Mrs. Johnson-Powell asked the commissioners to review the report as well as the response from our CNCS Program Officer and forward any comments or concerns to Mrs. Parker-Sawyers. Mrs. Parker-Sawyers will respond to their questions/concerns in writing if requested and will discuss them at the next ICCSV meeting.

Mrs. Johnson-Powell shared with the Commission that midway through December, the Corporation for National Service asked the OFBCI to serve as the lead agency for the state for National Mentoring Month which was scheduled for January. The OFBCI was able to do the following: Governor Daniels declared January National Mentoring Month; a link was established on our web page with testimonies from the Governor, Lt. Governor, Senators Lugar and Bayh, several Congressmen, and a number of individuals; a booth was available to state employees to pick-up thank you postcards so that individuals could thank a mentor; the day nursery within the government complex took enough postcards for the children to use as a learning activity; a booth promoting National Mentoring Month was available at the MLK Day events at the Children's Museum. A small steering committee of organizations whose program focus is mentoring was also brought together to discuss activities for January and the coming year so that next year's month long celebration engages more people statewide. VISTA Marjorie Roberts has begun to work on OFBCI's vision and goals for next year, which include developing a centralized website; working with volunteer centers and other mentoring centers throughout the state to encourage them to become a mentoring partner next year.

Deputy Director Johnson-Powell also stated that in addition to National Mentoring Month activities, the OFBCI has also been working on the SHARE Network and are currently in a 'soft launch' from February to mid-March in order to populate the database with information other than government resources. The Showing How Access to Resource Empowers (SHARE) Network was introduced to the State of Indiana by the Department of Labor's Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. This program has been offered to several states throughout the country, and Indiana has partnered with the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) and the Department of Correction (DOC). SHARE Network postcards were sent to thousands of community based and faith-based organizations encouraging their support and use of the database. The data in the database will be updated regularly and will be an extremely useful resource for those people who need assistance. This pilot program grew out of the informational referral network, which is 2-1-1 in Indiana. Commission Chair Reingold asked Mrs. Johnson-Powell to explain 2-1-1. She stated that 2-1-1 is a network of organizations that collect and retain information about resources for those people who need it in the community and is accessed via the telephone.

Mrs. Johnson-Powell said the Mrs. Parker-Sawyers is serving as Chairperson of the Training and Outreach Workgroup for the Strategic Prevention Framework-State Incentive Grant, which is a 5 year \$14 million grant received by the FSSA-Division of Mental and Substance Abuse. This grant will provide capacity building and program implementation funding around the state in an effort to prevent the continued use/abuse of alcohol, cocaine and methamphetamine. The Health VISTA Associate is producing a bi-weekly newsletter that will serve to educate, inform and promote the availability of funds for this purpose. The OFBCI will be the resource for those organizations that need information about improving their structure and performance. The OFBCI is also the lead agency on disseminating the information and developing the tools and resources as to who should receive these funds.

The next item discussed was the 2007 Governor's Conference on Service and Volunteerism. Mrs. Johnson-Powell indicated there are approximately 350 individuals who have registered for the conference prior to the February 9th early bird deadline. The registration fee after Friday is \$160. However, ICCSV Commissioners are encouraged to register and attend; their conference fee is \$40 a day, including meals. Currently there have been approximately 50 nominations submitted for the Governor's Award for Volunteer Service. Commission Chair Reingold asked if David Eisner, CEO for the Corporation for National and Community Service, is still scheduled as the Keynote Speaker. Mrs. Johnson-Powell answered in the affirmative.

Commission Chair Reingold asked Mrs. Johnson-Powell what type of feedback has been received from the school principals who were sent the AmeriCorps information packet and video. She advised the office has received several follow up calls and it is OFBCI's intent to add this 15 minute presentation to an existing school event, possibly a career day, rather than having a separate event and are in the process of aggressively following up with phone calls.

Commission Chair Reingold asked the Commissioners if they had any other questions, concerns, or comments about the Executive Director's report. As a result of no further discussion, he asked Carey Craig to update the Commission reference the Jesus and Me (JAM) program. Mr. Craig disseminated a copy of a memorandum which provided the Commissioners with an update on the JAM program at Indiana State University's Sycamore Service Corps that was previously discussed during the ICCSV meeting last December. On November 9th, the OFBCI issued a monitoring report containing a material finding relative to the participation by AmeriCorps State Members in religious activities. During its initial review, the OFBCI discovered Member position descriptions containing references to Jesus and Me (JAM) bible study. One Member's position described included responsibilities for planning and leading weekly JAM sessions. Another Member's time sheets noted "learned about Christ" and "learned about God". At the time, the Center and ISU indicated that the roles performed by Members during the JAM and chapel sessions were purely supervisory. The OFBCI conducted a second review on November 28th. The OFBCI's decision to forward this issue to the CNCS was rooted in: an analysis of the information collected at each of the two examinations,

which caused alarm among OFBCI staff; and the negative national publicity given to a previous Terre Haute-based AmeriCorps program (21st Century Scholars/IVY Tech) in 1999/2000. The CNCS is still very sensitive about this issue. On January 24, 2007, a conference call meeting was held with Frank Trinity (CNCS General Counsel), Kira Weiss (AmeriCorps State Program Officer for Indiana), and other Corporation staff. Mr. Trinity issued a letter to Executive Director Parker-Sawyers the following day which (1) reiterated the OFBCI's findings; (2) notes the legal framework prohibiting Members from engaging in religious activities on AmeriCorps time; (3) outlines the application to the facts; and, (4) delineates the agreed-upon corrective actions. Also in his letter, Mr. Trinity comments on *American Jewish Congress v. the Corporation for National and Community Service* (399 F3d 351) in which the Court of Appeals for the district of Columbia held that a Corporation-funded organization "is not precluded from separately sponsoring religious activities." Yet, the Court's decision yielded four parameters: (1) the organization selects AmeriCorps Members neutrally with respect to religion; (2) the organization separates its religious and secular activities, which must occur at different times, places, or locations; (3) the organization does not require AmeriCorps Members to participate in religious activities; and, (4) the AmeriCorps Members who choose to participate in religious activities must exclude these actions from their Member service hours. Furthermore, Mr. Trinity notes that the Corporation's regulations offer guidance to sub-grantees with respect to the types of religious activities explicitly prohibited from Member service time.

Commissioner Marty Moore asked Mr. Craig how many hours had been spent on this matter and if the OFBCI thought it was worth the effort. Mr. Craig advised numerous hours had been spent on this matter and indicated it has been mandated by the Federal Government, so the OFBCI must comply.

Commissioner Louis Lopez asked how long this grantee has been in place and if all grantees are given this information in advance. Mr. Lopez further stated AmeriCorps members are told both verbally and in writing what they can and cannot be involved in, including political and religious activities. In response to Mr. Lopez's questions, Mr. Craig advised this is the third year for this grantee, but 2005/2006 was the first year with AmeriCorps members. He further stated this grantee always believed they were in compliance but did not differentiate between supervision and participation. They subsequently tried to make that distinction but lost that argument. The CNCS observes in its letter to the OFBCI "*The program suggests that there is a distinction between participating in religious instruction and supervising children who are being taught about religion by someone else. We are not persuaded of a meaningful distinction between the act of supervising an event and participation therein. Supervision is a form of participation. Moreover, a supervisor, unlike a mere spectator, may reasonably be perceived as playing an authoritative role in an activity. Supervision of religious instruction would therefore be considered participation in religious instruction, which is not permitted.*" The CNCS found nothing in the information from the program and from the information OFBCI provided them to indicate maliciousness on their part. This grantee is unhappy with themselves and cannot believe they have fallen short of expectations. They are very sensitive to this particular issue as well as any other issue

that arises negatively in that community. Mr. Lopez asked what the OFBCI is going to do to make sure this does not happen again. Mr. Craig advised this grantee would probably fall into a high risk category resulting in two reviews this year. He further commended Erin Wright and Chuck Templin for the tremendous job they have done in monitoring the grantees. During Mr. Templin's review and close out process, he has determined several programs owe money. Mr. Craig indicated during the conference call on January 24th, the Corporation and the OFBCI agreed on the following corrective action plan. (1) the OFBCI will mandate that ISU modify the Center's current Member position description. ISU will eliminate any requirement that Members participate, plan, lead, or attend any religious activities, including JAM Bible Study and Chapel sessions; (2) The OFBCI will explain to ISU that a defensible distinction between *participation* and *supervision* does not exist and that supervision is a form of participation. Thus, ISU cannot require its Members to participate in religious activities; (3) the OFBCI will ensure that individuals will only engage in religious activities on a purely voluntary basis. Those Members who choose to engage in religious activities will not record that time towards their service hours and will refrain from wearing AmeriCorps gear during their participation; (4) the OFBCI will submit corrected end-of-term certifications for each of the ten (10) part-time Members who participated in prohibited activities. ISU will reimburse the National Service Trust as warranted. He further explained that AmeriCorps Members must serve a defined set of hours in order to receive an education award (full-time: 1,700 hours; half-time: 900 hours). The Members who participated at the Center have earned an education award. The OFBCI is in the process of conducting an examination of Member time records. The purpose of this is to determine how many Member hours are unallowable due to participation in religious activities. This means several Members will fall below the defined set of hours needed to earn an education award. However, Members will not lose access to their full education award. Rather, the OFBCI will need to re-certify each Member's hours. If a Member falls below the defined number of hours, then the education award will be pro-rated. ISU is responsible for the amount of the education award that was lost due to unallowable activities. Mr. Craig gave the following example to the Commission: *Member A earns 1,710 hours and is eligible for a \$4,725 education award. The OFBCI determines that 75 hours of the Member's time was unallowable. Thus, the Member only earned 1,635 hours. In other word, the percentage of unallowable activities is three-percent, which technically entitles the Member to \$4,583.25. To avoid penalizing the Member, ISU will need to reimburse the national trust for the three-percent of unallowable activities, or \$141.75.*

Commissioner Simms suggested using this information as part of OFBCI's orientation to grantees. He further commented just because a grantee thinks they are in compliance, it would be better to ask. He further stated he is confident that with the expertise of the OFBCI that this matter will be handled properly with the grantee. Mr. Craig indicated the OFBCI staff will meet with ISU officials and program staff next week to discuss the CNCS' final determination and correction action steps. He requested that the Commissioners abstain from speaking about this issue until further notice.

Following a brief discussion between Commission members, Commission Chair Reingold asked if there were any other questions or thoughts about this issue.

Commissioner Lopez congratulated the OFBCI staff for a job well done regarding this matter. Commission Chair Reingold stated the program directors and members receive a lot of training and people are naturally going to interpret information differently. He further stated the Commission is always going to have the potential of something like this occurring. He also complimented the OFBCI staff on their monitoring visits.

The ICCSV meeting was called to order at 11:17 AM by Commission Chair David Reingold, followed by the roll call. Those Commissioners in attendance were:

Rick Bentley	Jim Perry
Louis Lopez	Carter Phegley
Leo McCarthy	David Reingold
Jackie McCracken	Adam Shoemaker
Marty Moore	Wesley Simms
Belinda Munson	

The following OFBCI staff members were also in attendance:

Carey Craig	Janet Simpson
Cecelia Johnson-Powell	Erin Wright
Edith McGuire	

Commission Chair Reingold entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the December 13, 2006 meeting. Marty Moore made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Leo McCarthy. The motion passed unanimously.

Commission Chair Reingold advised the remainder of the ICCSV meeting will be the discussion of the final grant proposals. Mrs. Johnson-Powell briefly described the binder each Commissioner had, indicating the higher scoring applications were first. The pink sheet included behind each tab is the summary by the OFBCI staff, based on the information supplied by the applicant. These categories are: program name; program contact; program summary; number of MSYs/grant award proposed for 2007-2008; issue area; geographic coverage; host sites/member locations; years with AmeriCorps; project justification; performance measures; member activities; partnership information; match sources; and OFBCI staff notes. Following the pink sheet is a copy of the performance measures draft as well as the AmeriCorps State 2007-2008 Peer Review Panel Reviewer Scores and Comments. The comments from the reviewers are critical, indicates program strengths, areas of concern, questions, additional comments and contingencies. Mrs. Johnson-Powell indicated some reviewers may have commented significantly, and some may not have but all there reviewers gave a great deal of time and thought into this process. Commissioner Moore asked how many reviewers there were. Erin Wright advised each proposal was reviewed by at least three and possibly four reviewers. Commissioner Moore asked if all of the reviewers reviewed all of the proposals and if any of the ICCSV Commissioners were on the review panel. Mrs. Wright indicated there were three Commissioners on the review panel, Mark Dobson, Belinda Munson and Wesley Simms, as well as 12 other reviewers. She further stated that the reviewers did

not review each proposal. Mrs. Wright indicated there were 13 new/re-compete proposals all together and each reviewer reviewed 4-5 proposals. Commissioner Simms was asked how long it took him to go through the proposals. His response was it took him at least two hours to get through each proposal, giving them very serious consideration. Mrs. Johnson-Powell advised the review panel consisted of several reviewers from last year and OFBCI has a list of those who reviewed each particular proposal.

Mrs. Wright reminded the Commissioners that the formula funds are allocated by the Corporation to the State of Indiana, based on population. The proposals currently being discussed are for State Formula Funding, not Competitive Funding, as discussed in December's meeting. Mrs. Wright then drew the Commissioner's attention to the grant application process time line which was included in their meeting binder. The OFBCI will not find out until the middle of May which one, if any, of the five new/re-competing applications will be funded competitively for program year 2007-2008. As a result, the Commissioners are asked to make decisions about which proposals should remain in contention for Indiana AmeriCorps State formula funding, contingent upon the results of national competition. She further indicated the new applicants will have a pre-award risk assessment to make sure they have the organizational and financial capacity to manage the grant, if awarded. Commission Chair Reingold interjected and advised that basically the Commission is creating a waiting list just in case all of the proposals submitted to the national competition are funded competitively, which is a list of proposals that could possibly receive the remainder of the formula money designated for Indiana.

The proposals being considered are: Redeeming Ministries; Concord Neighborhood Center; City of Hammond; American Red Cross, St. Joseph Chapter; Heart and Hands, Inc; Union Baptist Church; First United Methodist Church of Hammond; and CR Works, Inc.

Commissioner Jackie McCracken asked if any proposals were submitted from southern Indiana because that area is in need of services. Mrs. Wright advised the OFBCI hosted two RFP technical assistance programs down there but did not receive any proposals.

Discussion of the following proposals was led by Erin Wright and Cecelia Johnson-Powell.

Redeeming Ministries: Their mission is to partner with families to provide quality child care and education in a safe environment. Their purpose is to inspire and motivate students to excel spiritually, academically, socially, morally and physically by providing education emphasizing values, academics, technology, critical thinking, love of learning, self-esteem and a care and concern for others. They are requesting 10 AmeriCorps members to expand their service to 300 students. They would accomplish this by developing a comprehensive out-of-school program which will include tutoring, the arts, nutrition, fitness and computer literacy. The geographic area served is Lake County, IN and Cook County, IL. The peer review panel and staff funding recommendations were to fund at amount requested (\$125,029) with contingencies, including that applicant

institutes a 3-month development period followed by 9 months operating. Mrs. Johnson-Powell indicated there seemed to be a lot of questions about this proposal. She further stated this organization is doing a good job at what they do and they believe they can expand their services with an AmeriCorps program. This is a grass roots organization that has been around for a number of years and has developed community support for what they do. Commission Chair Reingold called for the question. Marty Moore made a motion to consider this proposal for formula funding. Jim Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed, 10-0-0.

Commissioner Belinda Munson asked Mrs. Wright if there has been any communication with the grantees following their proposals being reviewed. Mrs. Wright's response was no. Commissioner Moore asked if any of the programs had been visited. Again, Mrs. Wright's response was no. Commissioner Moore further suggested perhaps instead of making an appointment to visit, that the OFBCI should just drop by to see them in action. Commissioner McCarthy asked if Redeeming Ministries was basically a baby sitting program. Mrs. Wright's response was they also provide tutoring and there are other programs like this one that have been funded through AmeriCorps in the past. It was suggested that OFBCI staff gather additional information regarding the application during the pre-award risk assessment visit.

Concord Neighborhood Center: The mission of the proposed CANDO Corps is to provide services and programs to better prepare youth and family to become self-sufficient within their economically depressed neighborhood in Marion County. Approximately 750 families, youth, and volunteers will be reached through member led family support, early childhood education and youth development programs. Ultimately, the program seeks to build a network of sustainable programs that helps our neighborhood families and youth attain self-sufficiency. Commissioner McCracken advised Concord provided more information about their after school programs than Redeeming Ministries did. Commissioner Lopez stated he believed Concord has had an AmeriCorps member on site for 8 years. Mrs. Johnson-Powell shared with the Commission that this particular program was part of a coalition that hosted AmeriCorps members from the Mary Rigg Neighborhood Center and is funded through the United Way. Commissioner McCarty stated according to their application, 80% of families will demonstrate and increase in knowledge and 75% of youth of parents increasing in parenting skills knowledge will increase their individual grades, how is this measured? Mrs. Wright indicated their performance measures include recruiting 100 volunteers to increase the capacity of the organization and will also engage 400 youth in educational enrichment and social programs. Those 400 youths will demonstrate an 80% increase in positive attitude toward school as a result of youth educational enrichments and social services. She further stated there is pre and post testing on parenting skills as well. Mrs. Johnson-Powell indicated they are making improvements in the neighborhood just by being there.

After a lengthy discussion, Commission Chair Reingold called for the question. Rick Bentley made a motion not to accept the reviewers' recommendation not to fund, but to

keep this proposal in the running. Jackie McCracken seconded the motion. The motion passed 9-1-0, nay by Commissioner Jim Perry. Commissioner Chair Reingold reminded the OFBCI staff to be mindful of the reviewers' concerns when the pre-award risk assessment is conducted and those concerns will need to be answered and the findings reported back to the Commission.

City of Hammond: The Hammond AmeriCorps After-School Achievement Program is designed to improve the currently poor academic performance of students who attend five elementary schools in the School City of Hammond system. The 2007-2008 Hammond AmeriCorps After-School Achievement Program will provide tutors composed of five teams of eight AmeriCorps members each to actively tutor 1st through 5th grade students in reading, mathematics, and science. Mrs. Wright indicated the City of Hammond did apply last year and were not funded. They also integrated into their proposal some of the feed back they received last year after not being funded. She further stated their budget is still in need of work and their MSYs are above the \$12,600 per member maximum and lost a lot of points because of their MSYs. As noted by one of the reviewers, most of the data provided for this proposal is outdated and the reviewer may have been looking for a stronger argument for the need for this type of program, Mrs. Wright advised.

Commission Chair Reingold asked the Commission if there were any other questions or concerns. As a result, Commission Chair Reingold called for the question. Commissioner McCarthy made a motion to consider the City of Hammond for funding. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Simms. The motion passed, 10-0-0. Commission Chair Reingold reminded Mrs. Wright that the Commission really needs answers to the questions about the MSYs as well as the results of the 21st CCLC program evaluation. OFBCI staff was advised to seek clarification on these and other reviewers' concerns during the pre-award risk assessment and to report back to the Commission.

American Red Cross, St. Joseph Chapter: The Red Cross AmeriCorps Northern Indiana (RCAP-NIN) program is a collaboration between a number of Chapters of the American Red Cross and partnering public and private agencies involved in disaster preparedness and response. This program is proposed for the next program year, September 1, 2007, through August 31, 2008. The program will be led by the Red Cross Chapter in St. Joseph County, Indiana, based in South Bend, Indiana. The project will place 18 FTE in five different Red Cross Chapters to conduct two primary service functions: 1) Increase disaster preparedness among residents of the counties represented in the collaboration by providing a mix of disaster training, including programs for youth (Masters of Disaster) and adults (Get Red Cross Ready and Community Disaster Education); 2) Increase disaster response capacity of the region by recruitment and training of disaster volunteers who will serve with the Red Cross and with local community organizations, including religious, civic and community organizations. Commissioner Lopez advised they are also interested in an AmeriCorps VISTA program and have visited with him. Commissioner Lopez stated he provided them with information and sent them similar VISTA programs that are currently being done by the Red Cross in Illinois. Commissioner Lopez also stated that he is working with the Northwest Indiana Chapter of the Red Cross (Merrillville) to develop a new VISTA

program there. This chapter is listed as one of the host sites for AmeriCorps members under this proposal. There was a question regarding how the programs would work together.

Mrs. Wright further indicated this is a new applicant that wants to further penetrate their communities to get the resources which will allow them to get more people involved as volunteers. Commission Chair Reingold asked if this region of the country is a disaster zone area. Mrs. Johnson-Powell advised the northeastern part of the state is very organized and the OFBCI is surprised there wasn't some mention of them partnering with another organization. She further stated the American Red Cross is extremely independent and there isn't a real network between them. Commissioner McCarthy commented that all three reviewers indicated this proposal was short on details. Commission Chair Reingold advised that Northern Indiana has regional diversity and this proposal covers one of the priorities by the CNCS. He further stated it is not the strongest proposal, but deserves to be revisited. Commissioner Perry made a motion to consider the American Red Cross, St. Joseph Chapter for funding and was seconded by Commissioner Munson. The motion passed, 9-1-0, nay by Commissioner Leo McCarthy. OFBCI staff was again advised to seek clarification regarding the reviewers' concerns during the pre-award risk assessment and to report back to the Commission.

Commission Chair Reingold then brought the Commissioner's attention to the remaining four proposals, Heart and Hands, Inc; Union Baptist Church; First United Methodist Church of Hammond; and CR Works, Inc. He stated the peer review panel's recommendation, as well as the OFBCI's staff recommendation, is not to consider them for funding. He further suggested that instead of going through them one by one, unless a Commissioner had a strong feeling about reversing the staff's recommendation, to vote on the proposals as a group.

Commissioner McCracken indicated that Marshall County has a large Hispanic population and even if that isn't a Corporation's focus, maybe it is an Indiana focus. Commissioner Munson advised the proposal was poorly written and therefore, we may not want to fund an organization that can't follow instructions. Commission Chair Reingold asked the OFBCI to let Heart and Hands, Inc., know they peaked the interest of the Commission about their target population and geography and should give more thought about their service program and how it would serve their community. Commissioner McCarthy advised that 11 out of 12 reviewers of these four proposals recommended not to fund them. He asked if the staff, based on their expertise, if they had any sense that the Commission would be overlooking a program which could be improved? Mrs. Wright advised the OFBCI staff also recommended not to fund these four organizations. Mrs. Johnson-Powell stated the organization's staff is contacted, met with, and continues to support them to help them find out where they went wrong with their proposal. Commissioner McCarthy made a motion to vote on all four as a group as well as the staff's recommendation not to consider Heart and Hands, Inc., Union Baptist Church, First United Methodist Church of Hammond, and CR Works, Inc, for consideration. Commissioner Simms seconded. The motion passed 10-0-0.

Commission Chair Reingold thanked Cecelia Johnson-Powell again for her service to the agency and to the Commission. He indicated that hopefully they could do something more formal at the next ICCSV meeting. He also reminded the Commissioners if they would like to have anything addressed during a meeting, to please let him know.

Commissioner Simms made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Commissioner McCracken. The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Simpson
Administrative Assistant