

Montana Commission on Community Service
April 5, 2007
Board of Investments 2401 Colonial Drive
Helena, MT
Meeting Minutes

Present: George Dennison; Chair, Keith Kelly; Vice Chair, John Allen, Chris Kolstad, Robert Harris, John Ilgenfritz, Bob Maffit, Sheila Rice, Jim Murphy, Cedric Jacobson, Gary Pfister.

Absent: Johnel Barcus, Erik Burke, Tracy King, Mike McGinley, James Corson.

Guests Present: Jono McKinney, Marian Palaia, Shannon Stober, Sarah Sadowski, Gini Aiten Erving, Adam York, Elizabeth James, Nick Sovner, Jon Rakiiecki, Jason Okuly, Elizabeth David, Randolph Gardner, Cara Webb, Shaun Loveless.

Staff Present: Linda Carlson, Will Soller, Kathy Bean, Sue Tinsley, Scott Peterson, Mark Squires.

President Dennison Chair asked for everyone to introduce themselves, for the benefit of attending guests and new Commission members. President Dennison went over committee assignments and they are as follows: Chair, SAA Sheila Rice, Johnel Barcus, George Dennison, and John Ilgenfritz. PPP Committee: Chair, Keith Kelly, Gary Pfister, Chris Kolstad, Eric Burke and Bob Maffit. MIT Committee: Chair, Jim Corson, John Allen, Bob Harris, Cedric Jacobson and Jim Murphy. President Dennison explained some of the handouts with regards to the Corporations Volunteer Survey. The results placed Montana at 7th up from 10th in volunteerism for Montana. The civic Life index also had us at number 1 in the nations. The report will be mailed to Commissioners, as soon as the embargo is lifted. The Civic Life Index indicated that 290,000 Montanan volunteers in 2006/almost 40 million hours of service).

President Dennison asked for a motion to approve the January 4 meeting minutes. The motion was made by Sheila Rice with a second by Keith Kelly, motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee

President Dennison

Update on Personnel – Scott Peterson – Citizen Corp. Program

- Action Plan – Update from Scott Peterson: Citizen Corp was developed to coordinate volunteer activities focused on disaster response (part of Home Land Security Grant). OCS took on Citizen’s Corp after DES asked for help along with the Governors office. Scott has been traveling to Citizen Corp meetings around the state and meeting with local county emergency managers to build relationships and rapport and further develop the Citizen Corps system, functions, volunteer retention, and trainings. Citizen Corps is also working on ways to tract special needs population in terms of emergency response and evacuation. The third item Scott is working with OCS is a general media campaign focused on volunteerism.

Program, Policy and Planning

Keith Kelly

- AmeriCorps 2007 Grants – Will Soller explained the document that displays funding grants (see blue handout). Literacy Support program is in re-compete mode and was submitted in Jan. with expected response in May. A new proposal, Montana Making Sense has been submitted by the Montana Technology Corps, after consideration of some new directions.

There are two resources that AmeriCorps grants are funded from AmeriCorps national competitive resource and formula resources based on population statistics (Montana receives \$500,000/yr) that OCS decides how to distribute. (See handout for programs OCS is now funding and programs nationally funded). If the Montana Making Sense proposal doesn't get funding by the national AmeriCorps, OCS will fund with formula resources, with the exception of \$50,000 that has been set aside to cover planning grants. If no one applies for a planning grant, MMS\$ will be funded at the full level rather than turn money back to NCCS. Keith Kelly motioned to accept the PPP proposals as a whole and the motion was passed with a second from Sheila Rice.

Sustainability, Accountability and Assessment

Sheila Rice

- Foundation Update – Linda Carlson reported that the Board has met, and documentation is being submitted for IRS approval for a 501 © 3 status. The MCS Foundation was created for the purpose of financial security and special projects of the OCS.

- Budget to date – Linda presented budget/grant amounts (white handout).

- General Fund 2007 request - Keith reported that \$125,000 funding looks good at this point.

- Governors C S Scholarships/Disability – Kathy updated the amount of applications for the scholarship at 38 and expects the full 50 by the May 15 deadline. OCS and Student Assistance Foundation funding the scholarships as national funding have been discontinued. Kathy encouraged Commissioners to attend school awards ceremonies across the state to acknowledge recipients of the scholarships and to encourage publicity of the program. There was discussion of improved inclusion/access of home-schooled students and adding more high schools or all Montana high schools in the future. Kathy went over her contacts with disability inclusion/technical assistance involving distribution of meds and the paperwork involved. Kathy presented the PSA that she has been involved in. Bob Maffit reported that the educational awards process is in place and is ready to be tested and will probably have some applicants at the end of the summer.

- Action Plan – Sheila Rice stated that plans are completed or ongoing.

Marketing, Information, and Training

Jim Corson

- CBI/AMG – Sue Tinsley reported on the activities, media awareness, results and success of the CBI/AMG (see handout). The next CBI will be hosted in Butte on August 21 – 23.

- Governor's Awards/Hometown Hero's – Sue went over the nomination and presentation processes for the awards to be given at the Governor's Conference on Civic Engagement in Billings. She also went over ACMAC service projects (see handout).

- Governors Conference 07 September 24-26 in Billings – Linda reported that OCS will do the conference in conjunction with the Montana Nonprofit Association. Training will be held Sept. 24-26 the dinner and awards ceremony for civic engagement will be Sept. 25.

- Action Plan – President Dennison stated that the action plan is near completion and will be updated at the retreat in July.

Executive Director Report

Linda Carlson

- Email quarterly update/staff – Linda announced that a newsletter will be produced soon and updated on the website and emailed.
- Civil Rights Advisory Council – Linda stated that the council decided to have a public hearing May 17, 2007 in Missoula on the juvenile justice system.
- Living Legacy Foundation, Organ Donor Month/MetNet April 11, 2007 – Funds have been Subgranted from DPHHS and Linda has asked the Campus Compact to develop scholarships for AmeriCorps members to come up with innovative ways to do organ donor recruitment. Seven members won the scholarships and will do a MetNet conference April 11, kicked off by the LT. Governor. Robert Harris reported on bone marrow donor drive funding and the scheduled May 12th drive in Great Falls. Linda mentioned there will be all day recruitment May 16 at the state capitol for bone marrow, organ donation and sight life.
- Commissioner Training – Linda said that the training for new and all interested commissioners will be set for early June in Helena. She will send an email when the date is set.
- Summer retreat Salmon Lake – Mon. July 23, 3:00 - Tues. July 24, 1:00.
- Linda mentioned that the Governor's Office has asked OCS to do the Montana Conference on Race (done previously by OPI).

Additional Comments

- Sheila thanked MCC for their help working with the Mutual Self Help project, a rural development project, to build housing for low income families.
- Sue announced OPI's Indian Education for All conference May 7 and 8. She will send email reminders out to remind people of the conference.

Next Meeting:

October 4, 2007, Noon.

2401 Colonial Drive, 2nd Floor

Board of Investments Building

Helena, Mt 59620

Meeting was adjourned

Respectfully submitted:

Mark Squires

Office of Community Service