

Montana Commission on Community Service Meeting Minutes
10am-3pm, April 14th, 2008
Board of Investments 2401 Colonial Drive

Commissioners Present: Vice Chair Keith Kelly, Chris Kolstad, Robert Harris, Gary Pfister, Cedric Jacobson, Jackie Girard, Doug Braun, John Ilgenfritz, Sheila Rice, Jim Corson

Absent: Chair George Dennison, Jim Murphy, Johnel Barcus, Kim Miske

Staff Present: Linda Carlson, Kathy Bean, Lorri Ward Brown, Tony Dean, Scott Peterson, Sue Tinsley

Guests: Amy Busch, Sarah Sadowski, Ramsey Sprattmoran, Andrea Vernon, Alison Kinney, Jeanne Moon, Josh Vanek, Gini Aten Irving, Eric Cardella, Connie Roope, Marian Palaia, Jono McKinney, Laura Fellin

Vice Chair Kelly opened the meeting, welcomed attendees, and asked for a show of hands to determine a quorum. With a quorum present, the December 2007 meeting minutes were approved. The agenda for the April 2008 meeting was approved with no changes. Vice Chair Kelly also introduced Connie Roope, the new program manager for Montana Graduates Foundation (JMGF).

The following committee reports were presented:

Executive Committee **Linda Carlson**

- Linda Carlson, Executive Director of the Office of Community Service (OCS) reported that the state unified plan is being updated and the commission standard review with the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) will be held soon.

Program, Policy and Planning **Vice Chair Keith Kelly**

- The PPP committee met today (prior to this meeting) in order to bring a recommendation to the board regarding the application for Montana Making Sense.
- Program Officer, Tony Dean shared information about the peer review of the application for Montana Making Sense (MM\$).
- The PPP recommendation for Montana Making Sense is to reduce the original proposal from 26 ½ (MSY) member service year to 17½ (MSY) and increase the maximum cost per MSY allowed from \$12,600 to \$14,000.
- Commissioner Jacobson made the motion to approve the PPP committee recommendation, with a second by Commissioner Corson.
- Vice Chair Kelly asked for public comments. The board heard comments from representatives of Montana Making Sense, including Marian Palaia and Laura Fellin.

- With no further comments from the board or the public, Vice Chair Kelly called for a vote on the motion. The motion was passed by the attending Commissioners to fund Montana Making Sense at the level recommended by the PPP Committee.
- Vice Chair Kelly stated that there is a second recommendation from the PPP Committee on JMGF. Program Officer Tony Dean stated that the Committee recommended restoring JMGF's funding to \$90,000 so they can hire an administrative assistant.
- Vice Chair Kelly asked for a motion to approve staff recommendations for JMGF.
- Commissioner John Ilgenfritz made the motion to approve with a second by Commissioner Jacobson.
- Vice Chair Kelly called for public comment and having none, called for a vote.
- With Commissioner Gary Pfister abstaining from the vote, the motion passed by attending Commissioners.
- Citizen Corps Program Manager, Scott Peterson, gave an update on the Map Your Neighborhood program development across the state and discussed the DPHHS grant awarding funding to new and existing CERT programs.
- Lorri Ward Brown, CERT/ServeMt Program Manager for OCS, stated there are upcoming CERT trainings to be held in Missoula and Dillon. A CERT training will also be offered in Bozeman.
- Commissioner Corson asked about CERT trainings on the reservations. Lorri Ward Brown stated that there are CERTs on several of the reservations, such as Polson. Scott Peterson added that the Salish Kootenai and the Blackfeet Tribes CERT teams are also up and running.

Sustainability, Action and Accountability Committee

Commissioner Sheila Rice

- OCS Executive Director Linda Carlson reviewed the budget to date. All funds have been approved for 2008 and we will receive \$154,412.00. The amount will be \$125,000 next year. She added that we have to match the difference between the general fund amount of \$125,000 and the \$154,412 received from the CNCS.
- Vice Chair Kelly stated the PDAT, Disability and Admin grants come from CNCS and Citizen Corps comes from Homeland Security. Commissioner Rice asks if there are any more questions on the budget.
- Kathy Bean, Disability Specialist for OCS gave her report and reminded the board that the CNCS sets aside 1% percent of their total funding to ensure disabilities inclusion to all AmeriCorps programs.

- Vice Chair Kelly asked for public comments and the following representatives gave program updates:

Eric Cardella, Montana Campus Corps
Jono McKinney, Montana Conservation Corps
Josh Vanek, Community Partners
Sarah Sadowski, Jobs for Montana Graduates Foundation (JMGF)
Andrea Vernon, Montana Making Sense
Laura Fellin, Montana Making Sense

Marketing Information and Technology committee

Commissioner James Corson

- Commissioner Corson asked Sue Tinsley, Training & Events Manager for OCS to give her report. Sue reported on the statewide activities for Global Youth Service Day and AmeriCorps Week.
- Commissioner Corson stated that the MIT Committee had a conference call and will be proceeding with the marketing plan in May. He also stated that there will not be a Governor's Civic Engagement Conference this year. The Governor's Civic Engagement awards will be presented on Martin Luther King Day 2009 in the Capitol Rotunda. The conference will be held every other year.

Executive Director Report

Linda Carlson

- Linda Carlson, OCS Executive Director gave her report, which included an announcement that Homeland Security awarded \$114,000 for special needs planning. OCS is also working on corrective actions as a result of the OIG audit.
- Vice Chair Kelly discussed the CNCS function in the audit and the OIG role. There are compliances when accepting the responsibilities of a grant. Linda asked Commissioners to read the OIG report and call with any questions.
- Vice Chair Kelly talked about the Martin Luther King anniversary last week and encouraged people to read "Letters from the Birmingham Jail."

Vice Chair Kelly stated that the next meeting will be July 14 and 15th, 2008 at the Double Arrow Resort, Seeley Lake, and meetings will follow on September 11, 2008 in Helena, and December 11, 2008 in Helena.

Vice Chair Kelly stated that we have covered all of the public comment period and the meeting is adjourned.