

AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC)
Minutes of the Public Board Meeting
June 11, 2010
2:32 p.m. – 3:04 p.m., EST

The Advisory Board convened in Washington, D.C. The following members of the Board were present:

Richard E. Carver, Chair
Kate Becker, Vice Chair
Susan Braun
Steven Dow
Dr. Alan Gropman
Mikel Herrington
Tiffany Zapico, NCCC Alumni
Elizabeth Hartzell, NCCC Alumni
Antonio Perez
Maj. Gen. (RET) John Phillips
Marty Rodgers
Stephen Sharf
Dr. Janet Wall

AmeriCorps NCCC Staff:

Erin Dahlin
Charles Davenport
José Phillips
LaQuine Roberson
Jennifer Szeliga
Nick Zefran
Gary Turner
Barbara Lane
Dan Milnes
Tom Bryant, General Counsel Liaison

AmeriCorps NCCC Advisory Board Liaison:

Erma Hodge

Federal Agency Representatives:

Alex Ampero (FEMA)
Felipe Floresca (Housing and Urban Development)
Ernie Gonzalez (U.S. Department of Defense)
Marlise Streitmatter (U.S. Department of Transportation)

OFFICIAL ACTIONS

The Board elected Kate Becker to be the next Chair of the Advisory Board of the NCCC.

Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Carver opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance.

National Director Updates – Mikel Herrington, Acting Nat'l NCCC Director

Director Herrington expressed appreciation for CEO Patrick Covington and briefly discussed his strong support for the NCCC program.

Chairman Richard Carver was honored as an Emeritus Board member. His commitment and passion to the NCCC are unparalleled.

Director Herrington introduced new Advisory Board Chair, Kate Becker; Pacific Region Director, Jose Phillips; and new alumni representatives Tiffany Zapico and Elizabeth Hartsell.

Director Herrington discussed the status of the optimization plan for the NCCC and the proposed pilot in the President's Budget for Fiscal Year 2011. It is currently going through the appropriation process now, and depending on Congress enacting the administration's request of \$34.6 million class enrollment in Fiscal Year 2011 will be doubled. The campus in Vicksburg, Mississippi would enroll 240 members in January/February, and then another 240 members in August/September of Fiscal Year 2011.

Committee Reports

Member Services Committee – Dr. Janet Wall, Chair

Dr. Wall began by recognizing the members of the committee: Dan Milnes, North Central Region director; Colonel Kissik, National Guard Bureau; Ernie Gonzales, Department of Defense; John Phillips, and Nick Zefran, director for member services.

Applications for NCCC have increased dramatically, doubled over the last year, and is now well beyond 6,500. This may be attributed to the work that's being done with Job Corps, National Guard Challenge, Foster Care, and because of President and First Lady Obama's focus on national service. As a result of the increase in budget our numbers for members are up from 1,200 to 1,400. The totals at Perry Point are down primarily because of the facilities issue, and at Vicksburg because of the optimization. The retention of the campus is phenomenal – it runs between 92 and 98%, which is a tribute to the directors at the campuses.

As a result of all the new applications it's clear something needs to be done about streamlining the process for selection of the Corps members. Efforts are being made to look into the ways this can be done efficiently and effectively, maintaining the excellence of the Corps members while reducing the labor intensive effort that it takes to review applications, interview people, complete background checks, etc.

The American Council on Education has approved another three undergraduate credits for human resources. This is in addition to previous approvals, service learning, and supervisory skills. Now Corps members are able to earn six undergraduate credits and team leaders can earn up to nine credits.

As a result of the focus on members from disadvantaged circumstances, training programs are being implemented to help headquarters, team leaders, and staff members mentor and work with disadvantaged members. Dr. Wall encouraged input from the board on organizing a framework for the training curriculum, which will be based on outcomes, competencies, and learning objectives.

Projects and Partnerships Committee – Jennifer Szeliga reporting for Rex Linder

Ms. Szeliga read into the record a report from Mr. Linder.

The report focused on three key components: national pipelines, disaster services, and outcome-based project performance measures.

(1) The Serve America Act includes the target for NCCC to increase the ranks of its youth from disadvantaged circumstances to 50% of its Corps size by 2012. Some national pipelines have been developed to help support this. Currently, NCCC's national pipelines include the National Guard Youth Challenge, the National Job Corps Associations/Job Corps, and the K.C. Family Programs. Two national pipelines with Youth Build and the Covenant House are pending.

(2) Recently the CEO of the CNCS, Patrick Corvington, decided to integrate the CNCS Office of Emergency Management into NCCC. The integration streamlines NCCC disaster preparation, mitigation, and the response activities with those of other corporation programs. Primary functions incorporated into NCCC include coordination of internal and external CNCS disaster partner relationships, management of cooperative agreement processes, management of CNCS staff disaster cadre, management of CNCS response under FEMA mission assignments, and communication of CNCS-related activities in times of disaster.

Current NCCC disaster deployments of June 10, 2010 are: One team from the Atlantic Region serving in Rhode Island in response to flooding earlier in this year; a total of 80 NCCC members responded to Mississippi tornadoes; 46 NCCC members are currently active in disaster activities in response to flooding in Tennessee; two teams were deployed today to assist the Mississippi Commission on staffing and operation of the volunteer reception centers in response to the Deepwater Horizon Gulf Coast oil spill.

Performance measures are a key part of the administration's efforts to ensure public investments in federal programs and they are evidence-based. A pilot program is being created to work with OMB in the Office of Leadership Development that will result in the development of outcome-based performance measures for the NCCC. The NCCC is working with Project Star to apply the best practices and performance measurement to the development of at least three measures focused on the five NCCC priority areas. Hopefully, these final measures will be identified by July 2nd for the inclusion in the CNCS strategic plan preparations. Campus staff will also be able to participate in a pilot due to the intel implementation plan that is being developed.

At the conclusion of this project, the Project and Partnership Unit anticipates NCCC will be able to meet the requirement to develop at least one high-quality performance measure for inclusion in the 2012 Budget Plan with additional measures to follow in subsequent years.

Operations Committee – Tony Perez, Chair

Mr. Perez discussed the need to relocate the Perry Point Campus. The NCCC hosted two delegations of congressional staff at the Atlantic Region Campus. This spring the visits gave the program the opportunity to demonstrate why relocation of the Atlantic Region Campus is in the best interest of the program. Since those visits, the NCCC has garnered support for its own OMB examiner and has engaged in conversations with GSA on locating a facility within commuting distance from D.C. The NCCC has concurrently met with the City of Baltimore to pursue city buildings that may be suitable for the programs.

In terms of the budget for 2010 the program is doing very well. At the end of the second quarter the program has spent 94% of the funds apportioned. The rate of expending the funds is an important metric for the program as OMB has closely monitored how the money was spent against the plan presented to them. With regards to end-of-the-year priorities, it appears the NCCC will be able to direct some of the year-end funding to facility improvements in Denver and Sacramento.

For the year 2011, the President's request for the NCCC is \$34.5 million. The budget for 2011 is in the final stages of refinement based on this request. However, CNCS will begin preparing several contingency scenarios including flat funding, possibly a 5% reduction and 10% reduction pro forma.

The corporation has received guidance from OMB for the 2012 budget submission. In 2012 we don't expect to ask for any increase outside of the funds to relocate Perry Point from the VA facility.

Election for the Chair of the Advisory Board of the NCCC

Kate Becker was unanimously elected to be the next Chair of the Advisory Board of NCCC.

CNCS, AmeriCorps NCCC Advisory Board Resolution for Richard Carver

Susan Braun read a resolution for Mr. Carver from the CNCS, the AmeriCorps NCCC Advisory Board.

Public Comment

Ben Duda congratulated Chairwoman Becker on her new position of leadership with NCCC. Mr. Duda spoke briefly about being an alumnus of NCCC. Ms. Becker responded that about 15% of NCCC staff is alumni, and about 25% are alumni of the national service in general.

Chairwoman Becker adjourned the public board meeting at 3:04 p.m.



Corporation for National and Community Service
AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps
Advisory Board

Resolution

WHEREAS, Richard E. Carver has served and led with distinction as Chairman of the AmeriCorps NCCC Advisory Board since December, 1996; and is concluding his term as Chairman of the Board at the June 11, 2010, meeting, held in Washington, DC; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Carver has provided steadfast leadership as Chairman of the Advisory Board's Executive Committee, established critical external support, and maintained consistent and strategic support to the NCCC leadership, as the NCCC systematically developed significant programmatic, operational, and sustainability plans; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Carver has demonstrated clearly a personal commitment to service and has been an exceptional leader for many years in promoting and extolling the important benefits of national service, for participants and communities alike, throughout the United States;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this 11th day of June, 2010, that the AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps and its Advisory Board, with great respect and affection, gratefully recognizes, and expresses its deep appreciation to Chairman Richard E. Carver for his inspirational and invaluable leadership, as well as for his tireless efforts to expand and strengthen the AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps' influence and impact in the national service arena.

Handwritten signature of Mikel Herrington in black ink.

Mikel Herrington
AmeriCorps NCCC Director

Handwritten signature of Kate Becker in black ink.

Kate Becker
vice Chair