

MISSOURI COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMISSION (MCSC)
3RD QUARTERLY MEETING
OCTOBER 21, 2021

Recorder of Minutes.....Christine Gardner

1. Call to Order.....John Albright, Chair

>>Call to order at 10:05 a.m.<<

2. Roll Call/Introduction of New Commissioner.....Scott McFarland

ATTENDED: John Albright, Gary Budoor, Jamie Crispin, Carrie Crompton, Christine Gardner, Cindy Heislen, Jennifer Ingraham, Christina Johnson, Jane K., Scott McFarland, Nina North Murphy, Kristen Schaben, Candice Smith, Skip Stephens, Russ Unger

3. Approval of May 20, 2021 Meeting Minutes

→ *North Murphy made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections/typos identified by Ingraham.*

→ *Motion was seconded by Ingraham.*

>>ALL APPROVED<<

4. Commission Chair Report.....John Albright

- a. Albright congratulated MCSC for hosting their first AmeriCorps Opening Day/Swearing In.
- b. Albright congratulated MCSC for launching a marketing plan which includes customized radio and TV ads.
- c. Albright gave his verbal support for MCSC to proceed with submitting an application to the Kauffman Foundation to obtain funds for the high school scholarship program.
- d. MCSC participated in ASC's Strengths Accelerator program earlier this month. This program is a peer network process that helps commissions to strengthen practices, enhance policies, and empowers leadership to be successful. It is anticipated that MCSC will receive a final report by end of November.
- e. Reminder that Missouri's NOFO is due by November 15th.
- f. Albright invited one organization (SLACO- St. Louis Association of Community Organizations) to apply for funding and has consistently provided outreach to the organization to apply. He attended an annual neighborhood conference that they have hosted for 25 years now.
- g. Albright informed the commissioners of a new SCALER tool that AmeriCorps is introducing. This tool is to help identify the most effective program innovations and develop a framework for successful scaling of evidence-backed interventions. Johnson will be attending the webinar (on November 3rd) to discuss the tool and report back to MCSC.

5. DED Report.....Scott McFarland

- a. Christina Carver has been hired as the new Business and Community Solutions Director.

- b. Rob Dixon, Department Director of the Missouri Department of Economic Development has turned in his resignation and taken another position. Maggie Kost will be acting as Interim; and is also an alum of AmeriCorps.

6. Federal Agency Report.....Jamie Crispin

- a. AmeriCorps’s CEO, Michael Smith is awaiting his confirmation.
- b. AmeriCorps is currently working DEI efforts for the agency to ensure that those components are reflective of not only the population served but representative of the Members who are serving.
- c. AmeriCorps is utilizing Members to encourage residents to sign up for the Child Tax Credit.
- d. The North Central Regional Office is hiring two more Portfolio Managers.
- e. The North Central Regional Office is currently working on distributing ARP funds to commissions.
- f. November 8th is the deadline to submit an application for the Public Health AmeriCorps funding.
- g. The North Central Regional Office continues to accept concept papers on a quarterly basis and full applications year round.

7. Executive Director’s Report.....Scott McFarland

a. Federal Update

- i. **Normal Federal Appropriations-** Refer to Executive Director’s presentation to review the anticipated breakdown of federal funding appropriations.
- ii. **Legislation**
 - 1. **American Rescue Plan (ARP)-** Through this funding, an additional \$1 billion will be spread across the country. CNCS has not released the allocations for the ARP funding except Formula. Those funds have been received but cannot be spent because MCSC does not have the appropriate spending authority to release the funds.
 - 2. **CORPS Act/Reconciliation**
 - Living allowance increase (and education award increase) would help programs with Member recruitment.
 - Reconciliation funds is estimated to be between \$.15 to \$3 trillion.
 - 3. **Civilian Climate Corps**
 - Both the Senate and the House support this initiative. However, they do not agree on the dollar amount to fund this initiative.
 - This would also including a living allowance increase for all AmeriCorps Members.

b. AmeriCorps Formula Funding 2021-2022

- i. **Supplemental Funding-** This funding comes from other state commissions that were unable to utilize all of their funding. It is redistributed to those who submit supplemental requests. Three out of the four new applicants who were placed on a waiting list (by board agreement) will be funded for the current program year of 2021. The funding will also be used to fill the gap of those programs that need to increase Member living allowance to \$16,000. Poplar Bluff agreed to take the remaining FTE available. The remaining funds will be distributed to other programs.
- ii. **American Rescue Plan-** Refer to ‘Supplemental Funding’ above.
- iii. **State MOUs-** Oklahoma is the first to sign the agreement. Kansas’s lawyer is currently reviewing the agreement. Iowa anticipates signing it soon. Still waiting to hear from the other states.

c. **Volunteerism**

- i. **Volunteer Generation Fund-** MCSC is planning on reapplying for these funds to hire a new Program Officer. This position will launch a service learning initiative, provide trainings for volunteer managers, increase access to the new volunteer search portal, and increase marketing efforts.
- ii. **9/11 Day of Service-** due to the experience of working with MCSC this year, the 9/11 Day Foundation wants to work only with MCSC as a main partner moving forward.

d. **Other Business**

- i. Commission Staffing Changes
 1. McFarland has officially been with MCSC one year!
 2. Gardner's position duties/responsibilities has changed with a promotion.
 3. Plan to hire an AmeriCorps Program Development Manager to start by the end of November. If not, will reopen for additional interviews.
 4. Plan is to also hire another Program Officer for AmeriCorps and one for the Volunteer Generation Fund program.
- ii. **Website, Twitter, and Facebook-** Paid for additional booster adds to increase exposure of MCSC and AmeriCorps. Refer to Executive Director's presentation to view report of increased visits of social media sites.
- iii. **Volunteer Portal-** Contracted with Galaxy Digital to become a central hub for organizations to post volunteer sites to connect them with Missouri citizens searching for volunteer opportunities.

8. Old Business

- a. **Strategic Plan/State Service Plan-** Regarding the State Service Plan, Scott would like to schedule a commissioner retreat for late March and early April to develop. The International Strategic Plan will be the framework to buildout a 3-year State Service Plan. It will be sent to the public to assess needs and resources of the state and, how that can help communities. The final step will be bringing it back to the board to finalize. Candice suggesting flipping the order as another approach to developing the plan.

9. New Business

- a. **AmeriCorps Formula Funding 2022-2023**
 - i. MCSC continues to encourage organizations to apply for funding to increase the number of intake; and to utilize the increased funds being issued to commissions.
 - ii. Public Health AmeriCorps funds come directly from CNCS but MCSC is responsible for monitoring those programs, as we do with Competitive sub-grantees.
- b. **Volunteer Recognition Plan-** Counties were redistricted to make it more equitable for youth to compete for scholarships.
- c. **By-Laws Amendment (10-21-21)-** Refer to handout provided to review suggested changes. Committees have been modified to build out activities throughout the year. Staff liaisons and Chair/Vice-Chair positions will be as follows:

Committee	Staff Liaison	Chair	Vice Chair
AmeriCorps	Gardner will serve as the liaison until the AmeriCorps Development Manager position is filled	Unger	
Executive	McFarland	Albright	
Legislative	McFarland	Stephens	
Resource and Development	McFarland (replaces the Public Relations Committee)	Ingraham	Crompton
Volunteerism	Gardner (replaces Service and Development Committee)	Budoor	

Executive Committee functions will remain the same. However, have added decision-making authority on behalf of the full Commission.

A motion was made to accept all changes outlined in the handout.

- *Motion made by North Murphy.*
 - *Motion was seconded by Ingraham.*
- >>**ALL APPROVED**<<

A motion was made to accept Jennifer as the Vice-Chair pending Nina’s resignation to the board.

- *Motion made by North Murphy.*
 - *Motion was seconded by Heislen.*
- >>**ALL APPROVED**<<

10. Public Comment

- a. No comments were offered.

11. Meeting Summary

- a. Key Decisions-
- b. Tasks
- c. Responsibilities

The following outlines the summary as the components are noted above-

Plan of Action	Responsible Individual(s)
Continue to work on obtaining new Commissioners to fill vacant seats.	McFarland
Securing Missouri Chamber of Commerce to serve as a fiscal agent for MCSC which would assist in obtaining grants and other funding for initiatives.	Ingraham
Restructured committees begin meeting monthly and start working on new initiatives going forward.	McFarland, Gardner
Editing by-laws to allow for more flexibility in decision-making.	McFarland
Executive Committee meeting to schedule calendar events for the year.	McFarland

12. Next Meeting- Next meeting is scheduled for December 8th from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

13. Adjournment

→ *Motion made by Ingraham to adjourn the meeting at 12:00 p.m.*

→ *Motion was seconded by North Murphy.*

>>ALL APPROVED<<