

**CONNECTICUT COMMISSION ON COMMUNITY SERVICE**  
**Record of Meeting – October 24, 2017**  
**450 Columbus Boulevard, Plaza North Hearing Room J**

**Members Present**

Stephen Becker, William Dyson, Matthew Farley, Meghan Gagnon, Trudy Higgins, Margaret McCreedy, Anne Ostberg, Cherlyn Poindexter, Sandra Santy, Theresa Strong, Patricia Tarasovic

**Members Absent**

Ericus Adams, Iona Black, Diane Briggs, Anne Ruwet, Linda Sandies, Nate Snow, Gayle Wintjen

**Others**

M. Georges (staff), J. Johnson (staff), S. Seepersad (staff), K. Scheuritzel (staff), S. Williams (CNCS staff)

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

Meeting called to order at 9:12 am

**Welcome, Announcements, Agenda Adjustments**

J. Johnson welcomed all Commission members to the meeting.

Minutes of March 28, 2017 Meeting

W. Dyson motioned to adopt the minutes. S. Santy seconded motion to adopt minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

**Business Reports**

A. Review of June CNCS Compliance Visit

B. Board of Governance

*1. Update on open seats and recruitment*

J. Johnson informed every one of the current vacancies on the commission board. There are currently 22 commissioners and J. Johnson is working with the governor's office on re-appointments.

*2. 2018 Meeting Dates*

J. Johnson distributed the 2018 meeting dates for approval. W. Dyson motioned to adopt the meeting dates. M. McCreedy seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. 2018 meeting dates are:

<b>MEETING DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
Tuesday, January 30	9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	1-877-960-4760; Participant Pass code 831154
Tuesday, April 3	9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	1-877-960-4760; Participant Pass code 831154
Tuesday, June 5	9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Connecticut Commission on Community Service office
Tuesday, September 25	9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Connecticut Commission on Community Service office
Tuesday, October 30	9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Connecticut Commission on Community Service office

C. Commission Capacity Assessment Preliminary Review

The survey was reopened so that additional Commissioners could complete the survey. The survey results are attached.

D. State Commission Succession Planning and Officers (tabled)

E. CNCS field office – Anne Ostberg (attachments included)

**Current status of Senior Corps:**

Almost 2,000 Senior Corps volunteers serve through one of the following projects:

- Six RSVP (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program): two in eastern Connecticut, one each in central Connecticut, Waterbury, New Haven and Danbury.
- Three Foster Grandparent projects located in New Haven, Waterbury and central/eastern Connecticut.
- Two Senior Companion projects located in New Haven and Waterbury.

**Current status of AmeriCorps VISTA:**

By the end of the year, an anticipated 63 AmeriCorps VISTA members will be serving in Connecticut through seven projects managed by CNCS Connecticut Office and five multi-state projects managed by other CNCS field offices.

We are currently seeking concept papers from interested nonprofits and public agencies for new AmeriCorps VISTA projects that would place members during the summer of 2018.

**Opioid Epidemic:**

We are looking for opportunities to engage Senior Corps and AmeriCorps VISTA resources in addressing the opioid epidemic in Connecticut.

**Outreach:**

The CNCS Connecticut Office welcomes opportunities to collaborate with AmeriCorps State programs for the Martin Luther King Day of Service.

CNCS will hold the sixth annual Mayor and County Day of Recognition for National Service in April 2018. Last year, 34 Connecticut mayors participated. We hope to engage more mayors in 2018.

F. CCCS Staff

1. *2016-2017 AmeriCorps\*State Year End Program Status (See attached)*
2. *AmeriCorps Launch – Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at the Trumbull Marriott*
3. *Finance and Administration (J. Johnson)* J. Johnson discussed the focus on succession planning and financial systems as critical to the Commission's work. Ideally, documented systems for operations (program, financial and communications) will be completed in the next six months.

**Commissioner Discussion**

1. *Senior Corps (Teresa Strong)* – Senior Corps Association meets quarterly and is finalizing an annual report that will be shared with the Commission membership.
2. *Campus Compact (Matt Farley)* – Student Leadership Conference is on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at Quinnipiac University. There are approximately 220 students registered to attend. The conference focus is on public discourse.

3. *AmeriCorps Alums (Anne Ostberg on behalf of Shannon Mykins)* – AmeriCorps Alums is looking for InterCorps Council members. Application deadline is October 27, 2017. There is a fundraiser in New Haven to benefit Puerto Rico relief efforts.

Pat Tarasovic – Valley United Way is hosting a “Communitini” with a James Bond “Diamonds are Forever” theme on November 17<sup>th</sup>. The event will feature live music, raffles, food and signature martinis. 15-16 local restaurants will create a signature martini and their unique appetizer to pair for guests. Restaurants will compete to win an award based on People’s Choice and Critics Choice on who had the best martini pairing with their appetizer.

Matt Farley highlighted the Connecticut Civic Ambassadors Initiative. Information materials will be distributed to the Commission membership. (e-mailed on November 1, 2017)

**Business Wrap Up**

Motion to Adjourn – W. Dyson; Seconded by S. Santy. Adjourn at 10:22 am

DRAFT