

VOLUNTEER LOUISIANA COMMISSION
PROVISIONAL MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
STATE LIBRARY OF LOUISIANA
701 NORTH FOURTH STREET
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

Commissioners Attending:

Voting Members

Karen Moss-Barnes, Secretary
Dr. Jennifer Falls
Kristan Gordon
Gene Grabbe, Treasurer
Ryan Haynie
Jenny Korner, Vice-Chair
Kathy Lenard
Ashley Mudd
Grant Shreiner
William Stoudt, Chair
Fabian Tucker

Ex-Officio Members

Vickie Schenk

Commissioner Absent

David Conner
BJ Gallent
Robert Lancon
Julie LaFleur
Monique Roux

Staff Attending:

Judd Jeansonne
Jawonna Mason
Stephanie Trahan
Nicholas Auck

Staff Absent:

None

Prior to the start of the meeting, Dr. Belinda Davis from LSU presented the findings of the recent volunteerism survey of Louisiana residents. The findings were significantly different from the Volunteering and Civic Life in America national survey, particularly on formal volunteering rates in the state. The LSU study uses a faith-based prompt that gets a higher response rate than the national study thus accounting for the difference. Another key finding was that time and lack of awareness of opportunities were the two greatest barriers to volunteering in Louisiana. Commissioners asked questions regarding the process, question content, and statistical accuracy. The results of the study will one of several data points used to create the 2016-18 State Service Plan.

CALL TO ORDER:

The Chair then called the meeting to order and asked that the roll be called. The above listed Commissioners were present, and a quorum was declared present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes were reviewed and the following corrections were notated: Mr. Ryan Haynie identified that his name in the Commissioner's Present list was listed as Randy Haynie, and Grant Shreiner noted that his name was misspelled as Mr. Garrett Shreiner in the body of the Chair's Report and Ms. Kristan Gordon noted that her name was omitted. Minutes were approved as corrected.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Gene Grabbe presented the Treasurer Report. Questions were asked regarding the budget and funding sources, and the Treasurer's report was accepted.

CHAIR & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

The Chair asked members to update any changes in employment, party, etc. Additionally, the Commission discussed the 2015 Listening Tour successes and the 2015 VGF grant awardees. Additionally, a discussion was held on having a January meeting as a Retreat rather than a business session. Options included a day and a half meeting at the regular meeting time or hold on Friday and Saturday meeting. The consensus preference was January 12-13 in Baton Rouge. The Chair also introduced the list of activities of the Staff since the last Commission meeting in September. The Executive Director discussed a meeting with the Lt. Gov. transition team. Discussion also provided suggestions for the Day at the Capital which included a possible luncheon and to scale down our focus areas to a coordinated message. The Commission then recessed for lunch and was called back to session with a quorum, although Commissioner Ryan Haynie was not present.

ACTION ITEMS:

The Chair then gave a brief overview of the process for funding National Direct and Formula AmeriCorps programs. City Year, Project Homecoming and Playworks were discussed as being a continuation proposal under National Competitive funding, and Teach for America is an Education Award Only proposal being considered for National Competitive funding as well. Ms. Stephanie Trahan discussed the four programs (Page one of the packet) that will be sent up for Competitive continuation funding. The AmeriCorps Committee recommended Project Homecoming, City Year, Playworks, and Teach for America for competitive funding. Additionally, Career Compass, Boys and Girls Club of Southeast Louisiana, Renew Schools and Communities in Schools were recommended by the AmeriCorps committee as new or recompute applicants for Competitive funding. It was moved to adopt the AmeriCorps committee recommendations, seconded for approval, and approved by a unanimous vote. The 2016 Election of Officers was postponed until the January meeting, subject to the discussion of when terms of Commissioners end and alignment with those appointments/retirements.

CALENDAR REVIEW:

The upcoming calendar events were reviewed.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.