

		<h1 style="margin: 0;">Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission Meeting Minutes</h1>		
Meeting Notes				
NOTE TAKER:		LOCATION:	DATE:	TIME:
Janet Schmidt		Omaha – In-person Lutheran Family Services	07-20-06	12:15 p.m.
PURPOSE:		ATTENDEES:		
Spring Commission Meeting		Present: Pat Beans, Cynthia Buettner, First Lady Sally Ganem, Doug Gibbs, Robert Hall, Barry Kriha, Jamie Moore, Rick Nation, Gerry Osborn, Nancy Wang and Lois Wine. Staff Present: Susan Burton, Peter Cales, Greg Donovan, Gale Jungemann-Schulz, and Janet Schmidt		
AGENDA ITEM	SPECIFIC DISCUSSION ITEMS			
1.	Meeting Called to Order at 12:15 p.m. by Cynthia Buettner, Chair of the Commission. Roll call was taken by Janet Schmidt.			
2.	Approval of June 2, 2006 Minutes: Gerry Osborn moved that the June 2, 2006 minutes be approved as sent. Rick Nation seconded the motion and the motion passed.			
3.	Program Presentation: Lutheran Family Services’ SUN—AmeriCorps program was represented by Kitcki Carroll, Director of Community Services and Mikki Chullino, AmeriCorps Program Manager. One of the main areas of programming is Heartland Refugee Resettlement in Omaha and New American Immigration Services in Grand Island. In addition for this year, one of their AmeriCorps members is serving at the Building Families Boutique in Council Bluffs, Iowa. This program has 16 sites across Nebraska and hosts 27.5 AmeriCorps member slots.			
4.	Committee Reports – Executive Committee: No report.			
5.	Organizational Development Committee: <i>The Commission Financial Report and Match Report</i> ending June 30, 2006 was distributed and discussed. Janet Schmidt, Commission Fiscal Officer, reported that she had a meeting on Friday, July 21 st with HHSS Financial Services to set up a budget status for the \$30,000 general funds allocation so the money could be accessed. The other topic to be discussed is how to enter a budget request for the next biennium 2007-2009. <i>Commissioner Skills Matrix:</i> The Organizational Development Committee will conduct an exercise for completing the commissioner skills matrix at the Commission Retreat in September. The Committee will also conduct a Commission Self-Assessment. <i>Membership:</i> An application for appointment to the Commission has been received from Robert Esquivel, Program Coordinator for Volunteer Programs at the Lincoln Area Agency on Aging. This application has been submitted to the Governor’s Office for approval. At this time all required slots on the Commission are filled.			
6.	Outreach Committee: <i>2006 Governor’s Conference Evaluation:</i> Peter Cales, PDAT/Disability Officer, highlighted the key results of the 2006 Governor’s Conference evaluation. The keynote speaker, Terrence McNally, was overwhelmingly received as an excellent speaker. The First Lady’s Luncheon generated some excitement and was well received. Participants’ favorite sessions were Brandaid, Disability Inclusion, and the Legislative Session with Senator Dennis Byars. <i>2006-07 AmeriCorps Member Outreach:</i> Two AmeriCorps member recruitment outreach events were held in Lincoln and Omaha. There was good attendance and some interest generated by these events. <i>Promotion of Nebraska #2 in nation for volunteering:</i> The Outreach Committee is continuing to develop a PR plan for the year. The Commission was part of one of the Governor’s weekly press conferences recently and a positive newspaper article about Nebraska being #2 appeared in the Lincoln Journal Star.			

7.	<p>Program Committee:</p> <p>Nancy Wang presented to the Commission a recommendation forwarded to the Commission by the Committee. The Committee asks approval for an amendment to Funding Scenario A approved by the Commission on January 26, 2006. The amendment is as follows: Due to the possible availability of unexpended formula funds in the 2005-06 grant year, the Commission will request return of said funds in order to support 23 total MSY's requested by Star City Treasures and the use of all 41 MSY's granted to the State of Nebraska. The Program Committee further recommends that the Commission request up to two additional MSY's for the MMI—AmeriCorps program to be used in their Autism Services area contingent upon sufficient unexpended formula funds and MSY approval by the Corporation for National and Community Service. The recommendation was approved unanimously.</p> <p><i>Citizen Corps Grant Review:</i> There is \$211,000 in homeland security funding to be distributed in Nebraska. Eighty percent will go to Nebraska counties. Thirty-six grant applications and one tribal grant application for funding was received. Susan thanked the Commission for its involvement in the grant review.</p> <p><i>AmeriCorps VISTA:</i> Greg Donovan reported that the Commission's AmeriCorps VISTA grant was submitted to the Iowa Commission. Some feedback from the Iowa Commission has been received and the Commission will be resubmitting the revised grant by the end of next week. The VISTA project will focus on outreach to western Nebraska with disaster preparedness training and distribution of information. Janet Schmidt has attended the AmeriCorps VISTA Supervisor's Training in Chicago. This topic generated a great deal of discussion. Chair, Cynthia Buettner, appointed Commissioners Jamie Moore and Rick Nation to an Ad-Hoc Committee to assist with developing a Commission AmeriCorps VISTA plan. She also asked NVSC Staff Susan Burton and Janet Schmidt to be a part of this ad-hoc committee.</p>
8.	<p>Cross Stream Reports:</p> <p><i>Citizen Corps</i> – The first college CERT training was held at University of Nebraska at Kearney. National Night Out sponsored by Nebraska's Neighborhood Watch groups is August 1, 2006. September 2006 is National Preparedness Month.</p> <p><i>AmeriCorps Vista & Senior Corps</i> – Gerry Osborn reported that an organizational meeting for Senior Corps in Ainsworth has been scheduled.</p> <p><i>Nebraska Learn & Serve</i> – No report.</p>
9.	<p>Unfinished Business –</p> <p><i>Executive Director Position Update:</i> Chair, Cynthia Buettner, reported that five persons were interviewed for the Executive Director position. Scoring of the oral interviews and written exercises has been completed and submitted to HHSS Human Resources along with a ranking of the candidates 1 to 5. There are a series of things that will need to be completed by Human Resources before the position can be offered to the best candidate. Rick Nation moved that the Commission move into a Closed Session to discuss further specific details regarding the interviewing for the Executive Director position. Jamie Moore seconded. NVSC Staff were instructed to leave the meeting room at 1:30 p.m. Rick Nation moved that the Commission resume the Commission Meeting. Jamie Moore seconded. NVSC Staff were asked to return to the meeting room a 1:45 p.m.</p> <p><i>Regional Commission & Commissioner Training in August:</i> This training has been postponed to later this year because some commissions could not get permission to attend due to budget constraints. Project TASC is hoping to reschedule the event sometime this fall.</p>
10.	<p>New Business – None</p>
	<p>Upcoming Important Dates & Announcements – The Commission Retreat has been rescheduled for Tuesday, September 26, 2006 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and will be held at the Governor's Mansion.</p>

Action Items

	DESCRIPTION	OWNER	TARGET DATE	STATUS
1.	Complete report of Actual vs. Budgeted expenses for the 2006 Governor's Conference and e-mail to all commissioners.	Janet Schmidt	08/31/06	In Progress

2.	Purchase thank-you gifts for commissioners going off the Commission board.	Janet Schmidt	07/20/06	Completed
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				

Submitted by,

Janet Schmidt
Fiscal Officer

Approved by the Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission, _____
Cynthia Buettner, Chair