

## ServeNebraska Commission Meeting Minutes

<b>NOTE TAKER:</b> Michelle Zinke	<b>LOCATION:</b> 1526 K Street Lincoln, NE	<b>DATE:</b> 4-29-2021	<b>TIME:</b> 9:29AM – 10:43AM (CT)	<b>DURATION:</b> 1 HR 14 MIN minutes
<b>PURPOSE:</b> <i>Serve as Quarterly Commission Meeting</i>	<b>ATTENDEES</b> <b><u>Commissioners Present:</u></b> Anastazia Bauer Scheer, C. Kelly Fleming, Amy Hall, D. Kare Heilbrun, Lisa Hiatt, Dawn Hovey, CJ King, Marjorie Maas, Ashely Mueller, Deborah Neary, Jennifer Worthington <b><u>Ex-Officio Members Present:</u></b> Patti Stengel <b><u>Commissioners Absent:</u></b> Matthew Blomstedt, Drew Graham, Ashely Hatheway, Stephanie Mueller, Wayne Nestor, Sheila O'Connor, Joseph Popevis <b><u>Staff Present:</u></b> Cathleen Plager, Audrey Jackson, Katherine Lacy, Rani Taborek-Potter, Michelle Zinke <b><u>Guests:</u></b> Carra Thompson			

### PROGRAM PRESENTATION

Prior to the Board meeting Carra Thompson with Nebraska Department of Probation- RISE AmeriCorps provided an overview of their program and member impact statements.

### BUSINESS MEETING – CALL TO ORDER

The business meeting was called to order at 9:29am (CT) by Commission Chair Maas.

### ROLL CALL

Program Officer Zinke called roll to determine whether a quorum was present. Eleven members were present, representing a quorum.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

### APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA – Marjorie Maas, Commission Chair

- July 17, 2020 Meeting Minutes
- April 29, 2021 ServeNebraska Commission Agenda
- Executive Director Report
- Committee Meeting Notes and Minutes

**Motion #1:** Commissioner Hall moved to approve the items on the consent agenda.

**Second:** Commissioner Fleming seconded.

No discussion. A roll call vote was taken.

**Vote:** - 11 Yes; 0 - No; 0 - Abstained. Motion carried.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- **Executive Committee** – Commission Chair Marjorie Maas  
**Strategic Goal: Commissioner Orientation and ongoing commissioner development**
  - Update on two Executive Committee Meetings  
Commissioner Maas reviewed key items from recent Executive Committee meetings, including two meetings that were conducted on behalf of the full Commission.
  - Commission Recruitment  
Three new Commissions have completed the onboarding process (Fleming, King, and Bauer Scheer).  
Four Commissioners are up for re-appointment this year. Please submit your applications to the Governor's Office (Fleming, Hovey, Graham, and Worthington).  
Commissioner Maas acknowledged Stephanie Mueller's time on the Commission and thanked her for her service.
  - ServeNebraska Appropriations – Structure  
Commissioner Maas reviewed the actions taken to this point regarding the possible restructuring of ServeNebraska. Senator McDonald's office has offered to introduce a Legislative Resolution (LR) that would provide for an interim study about the feasibility of restructuring. Materials were included in the packet re: the possibility and the anticipated funding amount to be requested from the Unicameral (\$380,000 annually). The funding would be used to meet the match required for federal funding.
  - Strategic Planning  
Executive Director Plager provided an overview of the strategic planning thus far and reminded Commissioners that this will be the focus of the July meeting.
- **AmeriCorps National Service Committee** – Commissioner Jennifer Worthington  
**Strategic Goal: Increase the quality and quantity of AmeriCorps Projects**
  - Commissioner Worthington provided an overview of the committee meetings held since the July full Commission meeting. These focused on policy revisions (Risk Assessment and Monitoring and National Service Criminal History Checks) and funding recommendations.  
  
Information is included on the Commissioner portal and in the packet, including a list of all funding recommendations since the July meeting. All but one have been voted upon by the Executive Committee, acting on behalf of the full Commission. This includes an operational grant that begin mid-year, Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln, and two planning grants, Lead for America and United Way of the Midlands.

There was a motion from the Committee to approve a staff funding recommendation regarding a planning grant application from Nebraska Department of Education for up to \$74,000, pending clarifications.

**Motion #2:** ASN Committee moved to approve the funding recommendation from staff. No discussion. A roll call vote was taken.

**Vote:** 10 - Yes; 0 - No; 1 - Abstained. Motion carried.

With these funding decision, there will be 10 operational programs in portfolio for the 2021-2022 program year. Two planning grants, United Way and NE Department of Education, would be active in both the current year (2020-2021) and the new program year (2021-2022).

- **Finance Committee** – Commissioner Dawn Hovey

**Strategic Goal: Increase funding and support for ServeNebraska**

- Commissioner Hovey reviewed the expenditures from all funding sources and where the organization stands for the year. Hovey also reviewed the proposed updated budgets. These budgets reflect carry over amounts from grants, information that was not available when the original budgets were approved. The carryover includes \$321,542 in the Commission Support Grant and \$209,152 in Commission Investment Funds, for a total of \$560,694. Detailed descriptions regarding use of the funds was included in the packet and on the Commissioner portal.

**Motion #3:** Finance Committee moved to approve the updated budgets as presented. No discussion. A roll call vote was taken.

**Vote:** 11 - Yes; 0 - No; 0 - Abstained. Motion carried.

- **Community Volunteer Committee** – Commissioner Kare Heilbrun

**Strategic Goal: Increase nonprofit capacity through Service Enterprise designations**

- Since the last Commission meeting, the organization has been certified and has the Service Enterprise designation. This will be in place for three years and then will need to be recertified.

**Strategic Goal: Increase corporate involvement in volunteerism**

- No report.

**Strategic Goal: Increase public awareness with key audiences of ServeNebraska**

- The Senators breakfast event was held this morning and was successful. Thank you to all who participated. Commissioners shared information about their visits. Commissioner Heilbrun provided an overview of the 2020 StepForward Awards event. Nominations are now open for the 2021 event.

LB197 has been passed and signed by the Governor. This bill allows any national service participant who is eligible for an education award to receive instate tuition in Nebraska.

The CORPS Act from last year may move forward this summer as part of a different bill.

National AmeriCorps received an increase of approx. \$1 billion. It is not yet known exactly how much will trickle down to the Commission, but it is estimated to be approx. \$100,000 for the Commission Support Grant and up to \$400,000 for the formula allocation. This would be per year for three years.

Commissioners were encouraged to participate in States for Service calls and events as part of our public policy efforts.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Election of Chair Elect

No additional nominations for the Chair-Elect position were proposed.

**Motion #4:** Commissioner Maas, on behalf of the Executive Committee, moved to elect Commissioner Heilbrun as the Chair-Elect.

No discussion.

A roll call vote was taken.

**Vote:** 10 - Yes; 0 - No; 1 - Abstained. Motion carried.

- ServeNebraska Board Assessment Report

Executive Director Plager provided an overview of the Board Assessment Report. This information also was in the packet. Plager provided a short presentation regarding operations and how staff implement various areas (i.e., program monitoring, fiscal management, resource development).

- Federal Monitoring of ServeNebraska

Executive Director Plager shared that ServeNebraska has been selected for monitoring by national AmeriCorps. Items were due April 28 and have been submitted. No major findings are anticipated.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

## **OTHER**

- Public Information Update

Public Information Officer Taborek-Potter provided an overview of recent marketing efforts, including the AmeriCorps Is campaign and the impact stories collected for a new blog on the website. She also distributed copies of the new annual report. There were three objectives for this report:

1. Highlight ServeNebraska accomplishments,
2. Highlight the 2019-2020 programs/subgrantees, and
3. Report ServeNebraska funding for calendar year 2020 and program funding for 2019-2020.

Taborek-Potter also described marketing for the 2021 StepForward awards, including radio and television PSAs and social media posts.

## **NEXT COMMISSION MEETING**

- July 22 & 23, 2021 Annual Commission Meeting/Training and Strategic Planning  
Hosted by ServeNebraska, Younes Conference Center, Kearney Nebraska

- **Key Up-Coming Dates**

- May 25 Give to Lincoln Day
- June 1-3 AmeriCorps Program Leader Launch
- June 7 AmeriCorps National Service Committee meeting
- June 15 Finance Committee meeting
- July 8 Executive Committee meeting
- July 13 Community Volunteering Committee meeting

**ADJOURNMENT**

There was no further business to address. The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 am (CT). The voting record is attached to these minutes.

Submitted by, \_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Zinke, Program Officer Date

Approved by, \_\_\_\_\_  
Marjorie Maas, Chair Date

## ServeNebraska Commission Meeting, April 29, 2021

### VOTE RECORD

NAME	Attendance	Motion 1	Motion 2	Motion 3	Motion 4
<b>Commissioner Name</b>	<b>P</b> = Present <b>NP</b> = Not Present  <b>NV</b> = Non-Voting <b>AB</b> = Abstain	Approve consent agenda	Approve AmeriCorps Grant Funding Recommendations	Approve Updated Budgets	Election of Chair-Elect
1. Bauer Scheer, Anastazia	P	Y	Y	Y	Y
2. Blomstedt, Matthew	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP
3. C. Kelly Flemming	P	Y	Y	Y	Y
4. Graham, Drew	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP
5. Hall, Amy	P	Y	Y	Y	Y
6. Hatheway, Ashley	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP
7. Heilbrun, D. Kare	P	Y	Y	Y	AB
8. Hiatt, Lisa	P (telephone)	Y	Y	Y	Y
9. Hovey, Dawn	P	Y	Y	Y	Y
10. King, CJ	P	Y	Y	Y	Y
11. Maas, Marjorie	P	Y	Y	Y	Y
12. Mueller, Ashley	P	Y	Y	Y	Y
13. Mueller, Stephanie	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP
14. Neary, Deborah	P	Y	AB	Y	Y
15. Nestor, Pastor Wayne	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP
16. O'Connor, Sheila	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP
17. Popevis, Joe (Joseph)	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP
18. Worthington, Jennifer	P	Y	Y	Y	Y
<b>TOTAL</b>	11	11 – Y, 0-N, 0-AB	10 – Y, 0-N, 1-AB	11 – Y, 0-N, 0-AB	10 – Y, 0-N, 1-AB

QUORUM REQUIRED by BYLAWS: 6 (1/3 of appointed members)

NUMBER PRESENT in Person: 10

NUMBER PRESENT by Teleconference: 1

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS: 1 (Patti Stengel)

NUMBER STAFF: 5

NUMBER GUESTS: 0

*Mobilizing Nebraskans to strengthen their communities through volunteering, collaboration, and national service programs.*