

SerVermont Commission Meeting
January 9, 2014
4th floor Pavilion Building
Montpelier Vermont, 05641
(Approved 4/10/14)

Members Present at the site: Peter Hayward, Chair, Lee White, Matt Mulligan, Matt McLane, Jim Coutts, J. Guy Isabelle, Jacob Borge and Thomas Hark (Tom apologized for being late)

Members Present by Phone: Betsy Ward, and Julie Lineberger

Staff Present: Philip Kolling, Executive Director, Sharon Hearne, Program Officer

Chair Peter Hayward brought the meeting to order at 10:05. He asked those present and on the phone to introduce themselves and to say who they represent.

Announcements and News

Phil announced that Annie Small, Annie is a former Chair and Co-Chair, is stepping down because of her schedule and that Susan Chessman has been out because of a family illness. She called to say she could not make it. He also stated that his wife is due any time.

Guy suggested that a letter be mailed to all outgoing Commissioners and that those leaving could be a good source for suggested replacements. Peter added that there should be an exit interview.

Officer Elections

Phil had mailed out the slate of officers offered by the Nominating Committee. He passed out the ballots to those who had forgotten them. The names on the ballot were Peter Hayward, Chair, Matt McLane Vice Chair, Lee White Treasurer and J. Guy Isabelle, Secretary. There were no other nominations from the floor. Jim moved to have the Secretary cast one ballot for the slate, Matt seconded. Motion passed with no abstentions or dissents.

Commissioner Expectations

Phil handed out the list of expectations that were developed at the retreat. There were a couple of pieces that folks thought were missing. The first was the location of meetings. (We said we would move around the state. Jim also added that we talked about meeting with the programs. Sharon added that folks talked about mentoring new Commissioners.

Matt suggested that more action verbs be used. Phil will re-write the document using those suggested additions.

Finances

Phil shared the event expenditures since 2010. This gave folks a glance at the cost incurred for those projects and will help those who are going to be working on events.

ASC Guiding Principles for State Commissions

Phil reviewed the document that was developed by the Association of State Commissions. After a brief discussion Matt McLane moved that we sign onto the document. Matt Mulligan seconded the motion. Jim suggested that it be reviewed by the Governor or his staff to keep them in the loop. Guy suggested it be shared with our National delegation. Motion passed with Jim Coutts abstaining

Virtual Meeting Options

Annie Small Skyped in and did a presentation on tele meeting options. She spoke about licensing, equipment needs and the virtues for those who are not able to be present at meetings. Those at the meeting saw it as a very viable option. Phil is going to have a Skype option for the next meeting and Peter encouraged the working committees to use it for their meetings.

AmeriCorps and VISTA Member Health Insurance

Phil brought the group up to date on this issue. VISTA have been caught up in beauracracy, Phil is working to see if the Vermont Health Connect office can come up with something that is Health Care Act compatible.

Governor's Service Awards

Phil reported on his meetings with the Governor's staff on this issue. The following are the results:

- They want a Governor's Service award
- They want an event
- They want to work with us
- They will need a program outline
- There is not a money commitment but it is still under discussion

Phil will continue to keep the Committee apprised.

The group broke for an abbreviated brown bag lunch because the meeting was running a little behind schedule.

We All Belong Program Presentation

Beth Truzansky, the Program Director for the We All Belong Program, gave a 40 minute presentation about the program. She went over the history, the accomplishments, how difficult the work is and the challenges they have faced. She answered questions and gave the Commissioners reading titles. Folks thanked her for a great presentation.

Brief Discussion of Commission Make Up

Phil and Peter pointed out that the Commission is mostly male, is 53% Democratic and has many members from the Central Vermont area. This information will be used by the nomination committee.

SerVermont Inc.

Phil brought folks up to date on this issue. After some discussion Matt McLane moved the SerVermont name be changed by the next Commission meeting. Tom seconded. Peter stated that there would be an electronic vote on this issue because some members had to leave and there was not a quorum.

The remainder of the agenda (mainly breakout action groups) was postponed because the lack of members. Matt moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:05.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. Guy Isabelle
Secretary