



NEW MEXICO COMMISSION FOR  
**COMMUNITY  
VOLUNTEERISM**



**New Mexico Commission for Community Volunteerism  
Meeting Minutes  
Friday, October 20, 2017**

**Commissioners in Attendance**

Elaine Graff, Chair  
Matthew Montoya, Vice Chair  
Bernadine Dallago, Second Vice Chair  
Jorja Armijo-Brasher  
Rebekka Burt, PED Representative  
Patricia Lee Chavez

Alice Garza  
Nancy Hughes  
Charles Humiston  
Renee Lowden  
Alice Perez  
Richard Safford  
Phoebe Suina

**Commissioners Absent**

Erin Atkins  
Dustin Chavez (Proxy given to Patricia Lee Chavez)  
Georgetta Kwasniewski

Jennifer Riordan

**2017 Ex-Officio Commission Members in Attendance**

David Chené, Acting New Mexico State Program Director, CNCS  
Samuel Sokolove, Executive Director, NMCCV

**Staff in Attendance**

Kristin Hsueh, Outreach and Events Officer  
Logan Rice, Program Officer

**Others**

Jessie Calero, Development Director, Mandy's Special Farms  
Alex Hadsell, Program Director of VAMOS and Everyone Can Work/Mandy's Special Farms  
Greg Hallstrom, Executive Director, Community Link



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### **Call to Order**

Chair Graff called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. She noted that Commissioner Dustin Chavez had given his proxy to Commissioner Patricia Lee Chavez for this meeting.

### **Roll Call**

Chair Graff called roll.

### **Approval of August 25, 2017 Minutes**

The August 25, 2017 minutes were sent out to the Commission prior to the meeting. Commissioner Dallago moved to adopt the minutes of August 25, 2017 as presented; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Garza. Chair Graff took a vote; approval was voted by all. None opposed, none abstained. The motion passed.

### **Public Comment**

None.

### **Motion on Multi-Year Funding**

Logan Rice explained that Teach for America, the Commission's only Professional Corps sub-grantee and currently the only Full-Time Fixed award in the Formula pool, is structured in such a way that it keeps the entire Formula portfolio's cost per Member Service Year (currently \$4,811.08 per MSY) well under the CNCS designated threshold of \$18,000. This allows the Commission to award a relatively high number of quotes for planning opportunities without significant concern of exceeding the cost per MSY threshold, should the Commission chose to continue the RFQ (Request for Quotes) planning process.

The Executive, Program Development & Grants Committees, therefore, propose that the Commission award a multi-year contracts/or grant agreement for Teach for America, as there would be continued benefits to Commission's the overall program portfolio.

The Executive Committee proposes that Teach for America receive a multi-year contract/or grant agreement amendment, effective upon the issuance of the amendment, to help keep the portfolio's cost per MSY low during the Formula competitions to continue to offer planning opportunities without significant concern of exceeding the cost per MSY threshold. This would require only a continuation application during the Formula competition. A multi-year contract/or grant agreement is not a guarantee of funding and is contingent on program performance and compliance.



Commissioner Dallago moved to accept the motion; Commissioner P. Chavez seconded. Vote taken, all; approved, none opposed, none abstained, motion passed.

**Motion To Remove Commissioner Georgetta Kwasniewski due to Inactivity**

As Commissioner Georgetta Kwasniewski has failed to attend three consecutive meetings, per the By-Laws (Section C. Vacancies and Appointments), Ms. Kwasniewski has been deemed “no longer active” on the Commission. Commissioner Graff called on the Commission to vote for the removal of the inactive member and declare her seat vacant.

Commissioner Safford moved to remove Commissioner Kwasniewski; Commissioner Humiston seconded. Vote taken, all; approved, none opposed, none abstained, motion passed.

**Sub-Grantee Updates**

Samuel Sokolove provided an update on the terminated contracts with Atrisco and Earth Care. Logan Rice announced that Rocky Mountain Youth Corps has received an augmentation award from CNCS in support of a hurricane relief response team.

**Planning Awards**

Commissioner Armijo Brasher announced that NMCCV has received responses from the following three offerors for the planning of AmeriCorps programs before the posted deadline of 4:00 p.m. on Friday, October 13, 2017:

- Not Forgotten Outreach (Based in Taos)
- Road Runner Food Bank (Based in Albuquerque)
- Santa Fe Botanical Gardens (Based in Santa Fe)

These quotes represent \$98,213 out of the available \$280,000 allocated from Formula 2017, and have been determined to be responsive to the terms and conditions of the RFQ announcements.

Commissioner Patricia Lee Chavez asked that a list of non-responsive programs be sent to the Commissioners for follow-up. Sam Sokolove responded that releasing this list would be dependent on procurement policies.

**Mandy’s Farm Presentation**

Jessie Calero and Alex Hadsell of Mandy’s Farms gave a presentation on the status of their planning process for their proposed VAMOS AmeriCorps program.



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### **CNCS Update, David Chené, Acting New Mexico State Program Director**

David Chené spoke for CNCS New Mexico, as Program Director Michael Garcia is currently conducting disaster service with FEMA in Austin. Mr. Chené announced the following:

- The VISTA NOFA is currently “live”, and accepting concept papers;
- CNCS State is currently advertising a Program Officer position, and hopes to fill the position by December

### **New Mexico Public Education Department Update**

Rebekka Burt, Director of Constituent Services for PED, discussed PED Priority and Focus Schools and targeted school improvements.

### **AmeriCorps Alums**

Sam Sokolove announced that a planning meeting for establishing New Mexico’s AmeriCorps Alums, the national network that connects the nearly one million alumni of all AmeriCorps programs, will take place on Saturday, November 4, 10:00am to 12:00pm at Starbucks: 2400 12th St NW in Albuquerque, NM 87104, across from the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center. Greg Hallstrom, Executive Director of Community Link, announced that his organization had agreed to serve as the fiscal sponsor for the Chapter. Mr. Hallstrom also provided an update on Community Link as the state’s Points of Light designee.

David Chené expressed support for this initiative, and emphasized the importance of different streams of service represented in the Alum Chapter.

### **Community Outreach Committee Report**

Commissioner Patricia Lee Chavez provided a report on ASC’s (America’s Service Commissions) 20th Anniversary event, which was held September 12, 2017 at the Kennedy Caucus Room in the Russell Senate Building in Washington, D.C. Commissioner P. Chavez announced that the event had been highly successful, and an opportunity for the New Mexico Commission to be recognized.

### **State Service Plan Presentation & Board Discussion**

Commissioner Matthew Montoya reported on the October 5th Opening Day ceremony, and announced that all FYI, RMYC, EcoServants and NISN were represented at the event, along with representatives from the offices of Senators Heinrich and Udall and Congressman Pearce. He then discussed the “Listening Tour” that had been held on the afternoon of October 4<sup>th</sup> in Ruidoso Downs, which was attended by 25 non-profit and community representatives.



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Commissioner Humiston and Samuel Sokolove then presented a status report on the 2016-2018 State Service Plan and discussed suggestions for approaching the 2018-2021 State Service Plan. Commissioner Armijo-Brasher expressed her hopes that the Commission will pursue multi-generational service opportunities in its planning.

**Next Meeting: January 5, 2018 at Wells Fargo**

Chair Graff proposed Friday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at noon as the date and time of next Commission meeting, to be held at Wells Fargo. Commissioner Humiston moved to approve; Commissioner Safford seconded. Vote taken, all approved, none opposed, none abstained.

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 2:52 p.m.