



Serve New Mexico Commission Board Meeting
October 1, 2021

Commissioners in Attendance

Erin Atkins (proxy given to Matthew Montoya)
Alicia Benavides
Jorja Armijo Brasher
Bernadine Dallago, Chair
Chanelle Delgado
Alice Garza
Elaine Graff
Nancy Hughes
Josefina Mata
David Medrano
Matthew Montoya
Sam Ojinaga
Alice Perez
Ryan Steinmetz
Phoebe Suina

Staff and AmeriCorps Representatives

Antonio Mendez, NCCC
Brian Wegner, NCCC
Dana Howard, Program Officer
Bradley Knipper, Program Officer
Sam Sokolove, Executive Director

Chair Dallago convened the meeting at 1:00 p.m., which was held on-line via Zoom due to state requirements on public gatherings during the COVID19 pandemic.

After roll call, Chair Dallago welcomed Sam Ojinaga, Deputy Cabinet Secretary of the New Mexico Department of Aging and Long-Term Services, to the Commission Board.

I. May 28, 2021 Minutes

Corrections were noted by Commissioner Graff, who was incorrectly noted in the minutes May 28th as having seconded her own motion, and by Commissioner Benavides, who was incorrectly not recorded as having attended the May 28th meeting.

With these corrections acknowledged by Executive Director Sokolove, Commissioner Graff moved to accept; Commissioner Mata seconded. May 28, 2021 minutes were approved with no objections or abstentions.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Presentation by NCCC

Antonio Mendes and Brian Wegner of AmeriCorps NCCC Southwest Region presented on the work of AmeriCorps NCCC, and their desire to partner with Serve New Mexico to amplify both our efforts to improve the lives of New Mexicans. AmeriCorps NCCC grants teams of 8-12 young adults to serve on community projects that address locally-identified needs; NCCC members can serve on anything from education projects to building affordable homes to trail building to improving local food systems.

Brian and Antonio discussed the Request for Applications for the 2021-2022 calendar, and offered to share the concept form and application instructions to Commissioners interested in AmeriCorps NCCC in their communities.

AmeriCorps Agency Update

Executive Director Sokolove shared the following remarks from Zanutta Gray, Senior Portfolio Manager, AmeriCorps Mountain Region, who was unable to attend the Commission meeting:

- All routine grant awards were successfully awarded for FY21. AmeriCorps is in the process of awarding various funds under the American Rescue Plan. Opportunities for additional funding are underway and other opportunities are anticipated in FY22.
- As noted during the May meeting, the American Rescue Plan provides AmeriCorps with an infusion of \$1 billion to support specific investments related to the pandemic during the next 3 years. Commissions have already been able to apply for funds to support increased member living allowances, replace cash match, and expand programming and service areas.

- A notice of funding opportunity is currently open for the new Public Health AmeriCorps (PHAC) program. PHAC is intended to:
 - Help meet public health needs of local communities by providing needed capacity and support in state and local public health settings and advancing more equitable health outcomes for communities who are currently or historically underserved.
 - Provide pathways to good quality public health-related careers by providing exposure through onsite experience, training, and more, with a focus on recruiting AmeriCorps members who reflect the communities in which they will serve.
- PHAC AmeriCorps members will serve either in public health departments or in service to them. As with all AmeriCorps programs, members cannot replace staff positions or duplicate staff roles. Applications to this competition are due November 8. A number of technical assistance sessions have happened and several more are planned in the coming weeks. The help of Commissioners is requested in getting the word out about this exciting opportunity.
- Since the May meeting, the Mountain Region has awarded new VISTA projects to Emerge Ministries and the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI) Board of Regents. The Mountain Region has received inquiries from several New Mexico organizations interested in applying for VISTA members in the new fiscal year and we look forward to receiving concept papers when they are ready. The next concept paper due date is November 3 and we also request your help in getting the word out for organizations that might benefit from anti-poverty or capacity building support.
- Lastly, the Mountain Region is searching for its next Regional Administrator. If Commissioners know a great candidate to lead the Mountain Region's efforts, please encourage them to consider applying.

State Service Plan

The National and Community Service Trust Act requires that a plan “be developed through and open and public process...that provides for maximum participation and input from national service programs within the state and other interested member of the public.” According to SEC. 178. [42 U.S.C 12638] State Commissions on National and Community Service, a State Service Plan must cover three years and be updated annually.

Sam Sokolove provided an overview of the 2019-2021 State Service Plan, including progress towards goals and objectives and areas where the Commission failed to meet both. During

discussion, Commissioner Mata asked that the Commission’s Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion work be integrated into the 2022-2025 plan.

Serve New Mexico Commission Committees

Committee	Current Members
State Service Plan	Alicia Benavidez Justin MacDonald Josefina Mata Matthew Montoya Ryan Steinmetz
Nominating	Vacant
By-Laws	Josefina Mata
Grants	Jorja Armijo-Brasher Chanelle Delgado David Medrano

Committees may be formed or terminated as deemed necessary by the Commission chairperson. All Committees will have the support and technical assistance of the Commission staff.

Sam Sokolove called the Commission’s attention to the following vacancies:

1. An Individual between the ages of 16 and 25, inclusive, who is a participant or supervisor of a service program for school-age youth; or of a campus-based or national service program.
2. A representative of the volunteer sector.

Next Meeting

Friday, December 17, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Commissioner Perez moved to adjourn; Commissioner Steinmetz seconded. The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.