



Serve New Mexico Commission Board Meeting
October 2, 2020

Commissioners in Attendance

Erin Atkins
Alicia Benavidez
Jorja Armijo-Brasher
Bernadine Dallago
Chanelle Delgado
Alice Perez
Elaine Graff
Jessica Harvey (Proxy given to Bernadine Dallago)
Nancy Hughes
Renee Lowden
Justin Paul MacDonald
Josefina Mata
David Medrano
Matthew Montoya, Chair
Ryan Steinmetz

Staff in Attendance

Bradley Knipper, Program Officer
Logan Rice, Senior Program Officer
Samuel Sokolove, Executive Director

Corporation for National and Community Service

Zanquetta Gray, Senior Portfolio Manager

Guests

Thenera Bailey, Consultant
Marina Arbetman Rabinowitz, Consultant

Chair Montoya convened the meeting at 12:00 p.m., which was held on-line via Zoom due to state requirements on public gatherings during the COVID19 pandemic.

May 22, 2020 Minutes

Commissioner Dallago moved to accept; Commissioner Hughes seconded. May 22, 2020 Minutes were approved with no objections or abstentions.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Motion to Reapply \$133,615 for COVID-19 Relief Efforts

Motion to enter Executive Session, Pursuant to Open Meetings Act was presented by Commissioner Atkins:

10-15-1 Formation of Public Policy; H. The provisions of Subsections A,B, and G of this section do not apply to: 6) That portion of meetings at which a decision concerning purchases in an amount exceeding two thousand five hundred dollars that can be made only from one source and that portion of meetings at which the contents of competitive sealed proposals solicited pursuant to the Procurement Code are discussed during the contract negotiation process. The actual approval of purchase of the items or final action regarding the selection of a contractor shall be made in an open meeting.

Commissioner Perez seconded, and asked that she be recused from voting. Discussion followed.

Motion to Exit Executive Session

Commissioner Atkins moved to exit Executive Session. Commissioner Steinmetz seconded. Commissioner Montoya took roll call.

Motion on Funding Recommendation

Motion to approve the funding recommendations, with a friendly amendment from Commissioner Graff, was presented by Commissioner Atkins:

The Serve New Mexico Commission Board will reallocate \$133,615 in Formula funding to Road Runner Food Bank of New Mexico (RRFB) to expand Seed Corps service activities into seventeen counties currently unserved by RRFB.

Commissioner Graff seconded. Chair Montoya called the vote; the motion was approved as presented with no objections and one abstention.

Program Response to COVID-19

Colby Wilson, CEO of Boys and Girls Club of Central New Mexico, discussed efforts made by his management team to continue service while adhering to COVID-19 protocols.

Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Thenera Bailey of the SISGI group presented on the steps the Commission will undertake to implement a “JEDI” policy that would potentially inform grantmaking going forward. In her presentation, Dr. Bailey noted that “Serve New Mexico” implies “everyone;” all of New Mexico is represented in our work. Per the initial discussions of the DEI Committee, the work of the Commission intends to: Identify and remove barriers; Celebrate diversity; Open opportunities; Seek diverse opinions; actively seek input and ideas from Communities; and build bridges and increase understanding. Moreover, the Commission will endeavor to be equitable with both opportunities and resources.

AmeriCorps Office of Regional Operations

Zanquetta Gray, Mountain Region Senior Portfolio Manager of the AmeriCorps Office of Regional Operations, announced that, in a significant milestone for the federal agency, CNCS has launched a rebrand which includes now doing business under the name “AmeriCorps” and a refresh of the agency’s visual identify. Another noticeable change is that the programs that previously fell under the Senior Corps banner are now operating as “AmeriCorps Seniors.” Ms. Gray affirmed that the unique programs of AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors will continue to exist with the same goals and parameters that they traditionally have. While the new brand identify was launched this month, the timeline for implementation at the commission and program level will be extended over the course of the next year.

Meanwhile, the AmeriCorps Mountain Region is celebrating its first anniversary this week. Staff have been involved in activities to reflect on the first year and look strategically toward the next year. The team is deeply appreciative of the relationships built with state commissions and other key partners. Moving into the second year of regional operations, Ms. Gray and her team will look for opportunities to strategically engage with the New Mexico Commission to collectively meet community needs through service, and break down silos as opportunities to collaborate are identified.

The federal government started fiscal year 2021 on October 1. AmeriCorps is currently operating under a continuing resolution through December 11. The continuing resolution includes level funding for AmeriCorps and its programs. Ms. Gray noted that the CSG, CIF and recently awarded AmeriCorps operational grants are funded out of fiscal year 2020 and are not impacted by the continuing resolution.

The AmeriCorps State and National Notice of Funding Opportunity was released a few weeks ago, and the Serve New Mexico staff will be leading the New Mexico RFA progress in the coming months. The most recently RSVP and AmeriCorps VISTA applications are currently being reviewed; once the review is completed, Ms. Gray will share the names of the organizations who are successful in these processes. In the next few weeks, the Foster Grandparent Program and Senior Companion Program applications will also be opened for competition, and it is anticipated that several geographic areas in New Mexico will be part of this competition.

Adjournment

Commissioner Atkins moved to adjourn; Commissioner Steinmetz seconded. The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.