

**VOLUNTEER LOUISIANA COMMISSION  
PROVISIONAL MINUTES**

WEDNESDAY, December 9th, 2020

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

**Commissioners Attending**

**Voting Members**

Amy Burris  
Kellie Duhon-Treasurer  
Sarah Mouton Floyd  
Carissa Graves  
Ryan Haynie  
Leslie Hill  
Gwen Hilliard  
Mitzi Hochheiser  
Angela Jouett  
Matthew Laborde  
Julie LaFleur  
Patrick Lawler-Secretary  
Shedonna Martin-Mason  
Paul Pratt  
Wendy Primeaux  
Grant Shreiner  
Gerren Sias  
DeRon Talley  
Kyle Wedberg-Chair

**Commissioners Absent**

Lee Jeter-Vice Chair  
Jay Blackmon Williams

**Ex-Officio Members**

**Ex-Officio Members Absent**

John Bel Edwards, Governor  
Billy Nungesser, Lt. Governor

**Staff Attending:**

Judd Jeansonne  
Stephanie Trahan  
Jawonna Mason  
Kori Chisham  
Amanda Smith  
Emma Espenan  
Jake Polansky

**Staff Absent:**

**Call to Order**

Chair Kyle Wedberg called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM. Roll call was conducted and a quorum was declared.

**Minutes**

Ryan Haynie made the motion to approve the minutes and Shedonna Martin-Mason seconded. A roll call vote was called and the minutes were approved unanimously.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The treasurer's report was presented. The Commission Investment Fund has been due to vacancies and underspending in travel. Some programs are having issues spending down their funds due to Covid-19.

### **Chairs Report**

The Chair reminded commissioners about the annual required ethics training and financial disclosures. A meeting list will be sent out shortly.

### **Executive Director's Report**

An audit may have found Boys and Girls Club of Greater Baton Rouge had improper expenditure calculations. If there is a cost for Boys and Girls Club, the cost will be passed on to the program. Life of a Single Mom may be non-compliant concerning background checks. The program never interacted with vulnerable populations due to their status of having a planning grant. If there is a cost to Life of A Single Mom then the Commission will absorb those costs.

Champions of Service was a success and had good Commissioner involvement at various award presentations throughout the State. The Champions of Service Gala was held virtually and included an appearance of AmeriCorps CEO Barbara Stewart. The Central Louisiana Region as an award was added for 2021 and nominations are being accepted. Next year's theme is "Who's next?".

Staff Members and Commissioner Angela Jouett traveled to Lake Charles to meet with the Blue Angels and Toys for Tots to help distribute toys to Lake Charles area children.

### **Commissioner Education**

Katherine Krehbiel the South Central Senior Portfolio Manager joined the commission to give an update on the newly opened regional office which has completed the transition to the new regional office.

Smaller programs are closing due to Covid-19 and they are looking for new programs. The new regional office has allowed more collaboration and has also helped with recruitment by allowing programs with excess quality applicants to direct those applicants to other programs who need AmeriCorps Members.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **AmeriCorps Committee**

- The consideration of programs for AmeriCorps competitive funding submission through AmeriCorps was considered.
- Formula is pending due to the adding in the current year for a Disaster Recovery Grant which requires submission and approval of an amendment from the new regional AmeriCorps Office in Austin, Texas.

- Increases in funding are being asked for by programs who operate outside and have been able to expand their scope and implement their model. Additionally, some programs, such as UL Lafayette, have transitioned to operating primarily outside as well.
- Some programs are requesting decreases due to Covid which is decreasing their needed MSYs' and AmeriCorps host sites.
- Julie LaFleur made a motion to approve the slate offered by the AmeriCorps Committee and Carissa Graves seconded the motion. A roll call vote was called and the motion was approved unanimously

**Volunteer Committee**

- Staff Member Kori Chisham has been working with the local VOAD's and GOSHEP to respond to the storm. Grants have also been made available through the Volunteer Generation Fund grant to local nonprofits. State CERT teams' have been recognized for their work nationally.

**Governance Committee**

- We are looking for new commissioners to replace those rolling off the commission in 2021. Currently, one nomination is awaiting review from the Lieutenant Governor's Office.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:59 pm.