

**CONNECTICUT COMMISSION ON COMMUNITY SERVICE**  
**Record of Meeting – April 23, 2019 at 10:00 AM**  
**450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford ~ Plaza North Hearing Room J**

**Members Present**

Ianice Andersen, Matt Farley, Carla Friedman, Trudy Higgins, Timothy Larson, Margaret McCreedy, Anne Ostberg, Sandra Santy, Patricia Tarasovic (9)

**Members Absent**

Iona Black, William Dyson, Cherlyn Poindexter, Eli Sabin, Kanwaljit Singh, Teresa Strong, Max Tanguay-Colucci

**Others**

A. Eckman (staff), K. Felix (staff), J. Johnson (staff), K. Scheuritzel (staff)

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

Meeting called to order at 10:08 am by Chairman, Janice Andersen

**Welcome, Announcements, Agenda Adjustments**

Janice Andersen welcomed all Commission members to the meeting. No changes or additions to agenda.

**Business Reports**

- A. Motion to approve the October 30, 2018 meeting minutes as circulated was made by S. Santy; seconded by P. Tarasovic. Motion carried with one abstention.
- B. Board Governance (Consent Agenda) – J. Andersen suggested to the members the concept of moving to a “consent agenda” and using it as a tool to use in meetings to save time and provide time to focus on priorities. T. Larson made a motion to accept the recommendation; T. Higgins seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Those members who are submitting reports for the meeting should be submitting them to J. Andersen 7-10 days prior to the meeting.
- C. Committee Structure: Call to Action - Janice would like to postpone this discussion and instead proposed doing a **retreat** with Commission members to discuss where we want to go, perhaps in the fall. Positively received by members in discussion. Matt suggested timing this to coincide with having all members. Jacqui said we expect a few more appointees in the summer and anticipates being at capacity in the fall. But, we are currently compliant. At next meeting, let’s look at what we want on that agenda. All should hold the day of October 29, 2019, when a Commission meeting is already scheduled. Matt offered space on Connecticut College campus.
- D. CNCS Transformation & Sustainability Plan: Anne suggested visiting [nationalservice.gov](http://nationalservice.gov) to learn specifics about the six-point T&S Plan. Part of the plan is to regionalize the agency, so

all state offices are closing and will be replaced by eight regional offices. Under new structure, there will be portfolio managers based in regional offices; the Connecticut Commission's will be in Manchester, NH, as of September 2019. Jacqui – We are currently in a “holding pattern” at this point as the impact of this plan on the Commission is unclear as we do not have all information about how the plan will flesh out. Jacqui – Suggested that this provides an opportunity to shine a light on the value of the work of the commissions in the area of accountability, and dovetails nicely with CT's new governor's initiative around efficiency and performance measurement. Matt – Wants to acknowledge Anne's contributions to the state and to the field on behalf of this body and hopes that whatever happens in the future, there will be opportunities to collaborate. All agreed.

- E. CNCS State Office Report: See handouts. 1) Highlighted new process for AmeriCorps VISTA project proposals. A link to submit concept papers on a rolling deadline basis is provided on the handout. All current AmeriCorps VISTA projects are currently recruiting. 2) Twelve Senior Corps projects are also running in the state – provided brochures and handouts and encouraged all to reach out to local programs if you have need of volunteers. 3) Received outreach from AmeriCorps NCCC looking to learn about priorities, potential partners, and project ideas; Commission staff also had a conversation with them. NCCC can do a host of projects from disaster relief to clean-up to renovation to beautification to food security, etc. It doesn't cost the organization outside of providing housing/access to bath/kitchen. 4) Shayla Williams is no longer with CNCS State Office; going back to school. Anne will be available in this function through September but will be working remotely; all contact information remains the same. Matt – Future conversation: Would love to have the Commission start to explore a statewide strategy around providing **housing to AmeriCorps national service members** from all streams to incentivize service here.

#### **Announcements:**

Jacqui – May 2020 the Connecticut Commission will host a **CT Conference on Volunteerism** at Mohegan Sun. Lots of excitement around the table. Details to come! Commissioner involvement in planning and execution is sought; ideally attendance will be free or very low cost. Celebrate 25 years of national service in the state and look at all and convening volunteer resources around the state.

Those attendees who parked at **Morgan State Garage** can have their parking validated.

Motion to Adjourn – P. Tarasovic; Seconded by M. Farley. Adjourn at 11:18 am

Next meeting June 25, 2019 at Commission offices.