



INDIANA COMMISSION ON COMMUNITY SERVICE & VOLUNTEERISM
Meeting Minutes

February 8, 2006
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

The Polis Center at IUPUI
1200 Waterway Boulevard
Indianapolis, Indiana

The meeting began at 10:10 AM with the welcome from David Reingold, Commission Chair. Due to several board members running late, the roll call was held until after their arrival.

Louis Lopez updated the Commission reference Corporation for National and Community Service in Indiana. Louis advised he visited with David Reingold in December reference initiatives with State Office programs, concepts, and ideas. He also mentioned their partnership with the Commission and OFBCI is as strong as it has ever been. We are one of the top five states in the country. Louis also stated they are working on a State plan, it is more important to do it than write about it. Their target date is July 1, 2006 to have a specific program set up with the Commission. He also spoke about various other programs, Learn and Serve, Higher Education and the RSVP project.

The meeting was called to order at 10:40 AM with the official roll call. Those Commission members in attendance were:

Gloria Ballerini
Rick Bentley
Harry Brown
Mark Dobson
Phyllis Kincaid
Louis Lopez
Amy Mendoza

Martin Moore
James Perry
Carter Phegley
David Reingold
Billy Sue Smith
Michele Sullivan

Also in attendance was Wesley Sims, representing Indiana Grantmakers Alliance, for Carol Simonetti.

A motion from Phyllis Kincaid was made to approve the minutes from the December 8, 2005 Board Meeting and a second by Carter Phegley. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Executive Director Paula Parker-Sawyers updated the Commission on the 2006 Governor's Conference on Service and Volunteerism, April 10-11, 2006, at the

Indianapolis Downtown Marriott Hotel. The theme for the conference is “Be The Solution.” Ms. Parker-Sawyers discussed the tracts of the conference as well as guest speakers and presenters. She then reviewed the grant application process. Through this process, OFBCI proposed to limit the size of the grants in order to increase the number of grants and expand the geographic coverage throughout the State.

There was discussion surrounding the Corporation’s new requirement that grantees maintain a 90% recruitment and retention rate. Chairman Reingold shared that in 2004, AmeriCorps grants were awarded to support 75,000 members, but only 54,000 members completed their term of service. This means a significant amount of AmeriCorps funding was committed but not used. The Commission discussed the need to do everything possible to reach the 90% threshold. One suggestion was to make sure grantees include outcomes for member development in their grant. Another suggestion was to start tracking the member profiles from the successful programs so the Commission can adopt a model member profile.

Following lunch, discussions began reference the approval of the 2006-2007 AmeriCorps Grant Applications. As a result of some concerns of the Commissioners, voting for the Formula Operating Grants was tabled until they could receive further information reference the comments of the panel committee, the individual programs, etc. The Commission agreed to reconvene on Monday, February 13, 2006 at 9:00 AM via conference call. Those Commission members who would like to may come to the OFBCI office to participate in the conference call.

Those grants tabled until then were: Boys and Girls Clubs of Indianapolis, Franklin College, Habitat for Humanity of Indiana, Harmony Education Center, Indiana State University, Indianapolis Housing Agency, Scott County Partnership and Substance Abuse Council of Vanderburgh County.

The Commission agreed to review and vote first on the applications that will be submitted to CNCS for competitive consideration. The results of the Competitive Operating Grant funding recommendations are as follows:

The City of Elkhart Grant proposal was voted on and passed, 9 – 2. The grant will be submitted to CNCS as Competitive with rationale in a cover letter. Motion was made by Harry Brown and seconded by Billy Sue Smith.

The Indiana University Grant proposal was voted on and passed, 10 – 0 – 1. This grant will be submitted to CNCS. The motion to pass the grant was made by Billy Sue Smith and seconded by Phyllis Kincaid. David Reingold recused himself from voting.

Paula Parker-Sawyers noted that Roger Jarjoura, Executive Director of Aftercare for Indiana through Mentoring, was present at the meeting and he could not be asked questions about his program.

The Peace Learning Center Grant proposal was voted on and passed, 11 – 0, and will be submitted to CNCS. Motion was made by Harry Brown and seconded by Michele Sullivan.

The Indiana Campus Compact Grant proposal was voted on and passed, 10 – 0 – 1, and will also be submitted to CNCS. The motion to pass this grant was made by Harry Brown and seconded by Amy Mendoza. David Reingold recused himself from voting. The Peer Review Panel recommended that several formula proposals not be funded. Because several Commission members recused themselves from voting on these proposals, the Commission agreed that these proposals would be voted on during the February 13, 2006 conference call to ensure that a quorum was present.

The Commission discussed the need to adopt policies related to the grant review process. Staff will draft policies for review by the Commission at the April meeting.

Chairman Reingold reminded Commissioners that the Commission meetings belong to them and that they should be setting the agenda. Commissioners were encouraged to share agenda items with the Chair.

The Commission will reconvene on Monday, February 13, 2006 at 9:00 AM. Materials will be sent out in advance.

Phyllis Kincaid made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Michele Sullivan. The meeting was adjourned at 2:41 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Simpson, Administrative Assistant
Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives