**Members in Attendance:** Amy Pinger, Ginger Williams, David Battey, Ben Jones, Stephanie Kupper, Cindy Miles, Melanie Haas

**Members Not in Attendance**: Barbara Hickert, Emily Riner, Linn Hogg, Carolyn Campbell

**Ex-Officio Members in Attendance:** Daniel Cruz

**Ex-Officio Members Not in Attendance:** Mark Stump

**Staff in Attendance**: Jessica Dorsey, Kat Seeley, Elaine Rodriguez, Tierney Kirtdoll, Haley Matherly

**Welcome & Commissioner Pledge**

Chairwoman Amy Pinger called the meeting to order at 1:00PM. The Commissioners recited the Commissioner pledge.

**Roll Call of Commissioners**

Kat Seeley led the roll call.

**Kansas Volunteer Commission Staff Updates**

* The visiting international teachers have all arrived and been placed in the communities they will be teaching in.
* The July in person AmeriCorps training was successful.
* The VGF grant is now open for applications.

**Small Working Groups**

**Breakout Group 1: Section 3 State Service Plan**

Amy Pinger, Haley Matherly, Melanie Haas, Daniel Cruz, Elaine Rodriguez, Tierney Kirtdoll

The group stopped at question 27.

**Breakout Group 2: Spring Event Planning**

Ben Jones, Ginger Williams, Kat Seeley, Cindy Miles, Jessica Dorsey

**Legislative Day Planning:**

It was discussed that the week of March 10-14 on the first floor of the capital building would be ideal for legislative day, right before spring break.

**Civic Engagement Conference Planning:**

The group was in favor of a fall conference in 2025. It was discussed that the conference should be a two-day event including a service project. The idea that one day of the conference is youth focused and the other day geared more towards adults was mentioned. Another benefit to having a fall conference is that we could recognize the new AmeriCorps members. The group agreed that the first week of October or early November would be a great time for this conference.

**Breakout Group 1: AmeriCorps Ambassador**

Jessica Dorsey, Kat Seeley, Tierney Kirtdoll, Daniel Cruz, Ginger Williams

The idea for a commissioner to become an AmeriCorps ambassador is to involve and support programs and involve commissioners in the work.…

The group discussed ideas on the expectations for the AmeriCorps Ambassador role that included:

* Executive summaries of all the AmeriCorps programs for the commissioners to familiarize themselves with the programs mission.
* E-Connect Commissioners with programs to introduce the commissioner and explain the role they will play in supporting the program.
* Across the board expectations for the role of AmeriCorps Ambassador. For example, clear guidelines on site visits. Expected frequency of contact could look like three times a grant year.
* The AmeriCorps Ambassador is expected to sign up for their program’s newsletter, follow and repost on social media platforms,
* Before a commissioner becomes an ambassador for a program there should be an orientation going over an executive summary of the program, bios of program directors and commissioners, policy and procedures regarding incident reporting, and potential Kansas volunteer commission staff member to e-connect the program and commissioner.
* An ambassador could have the opportunity to work with a new program each grant year or stay with the same program, but the expectation would be the commissioner in the ambassador role would promote or highlight the work of the program.
* After each site visit, we would like to use that opportunity to gather data through surveys.

**Breakout Group 2: Volunteer Recognition**

Elaine Rodriguez, Haley Matherly, Amy Pinger, Ben Jones, Cindy Miles

During this discussion the group agreed that they would like to move away from the presidential award. Cindy Miles offered to partner with the Kansas Volunteer Commission to create award. Some ideas for the award name are the Inspire Award, National Service Award, Excellence in Non-Profit Leadership Award, Lifetime Service Award, and Non-Profit Champion Award.

A possible time to present these awards could be the fall conference or create a more upscale ceremony with possible governor attendance. The idea is that we could have a fee for tickets or offer table sponsorship to generate funds for this event. A nomination period will be held where people can go on to the website and nominate a program or individual. After the nomination period is over a selection committee could be formed to choose the award winner.

**Adjourn**

Amy Pinger motioned to adjourn meeting.