

CONNECTICUT STATE EMPLOYEE CAMPAIGN
Committee Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, January 14, 2020
1:34pm – 2:20pm

Members Present

Betsy McDermott (Office of the State Comptroller)
Charles Kistler (State Retiree)
Cindy Cannata (Freedom of Information Commission)
Julie Bernoksy (Department of Administrative Services)
Kathleen Gensheimer (Judicial Branch)
Tim Newton (Department of Correction) – CHAIR

Members Absent

Peggy Gray (Office of the State Comptroller) – VICE CHAIR
Valerie Clark (Office of Policy and Management)

PCFO

Kelli Byrd (United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut)
Keyauna Smith (United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut)
Jesse Mejia (United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut)

Federations *Joined by Phone*

Sandy Wilder (Global Impact)
Kimberly Hernandez (United Way of West Central Connecticut)
Sophia Clark (Earthshare)
Jesse Beisler (America's Best Charities)
Candice Dixon (Community Health Charities)

Meeting Agenda & Minutes

Review of Previous Minutes – Tim Newton, CSEC Executive Committee Chair

Motion to accept – Minutes approved.

Campaign Update – Kelli Byrd, CSEC Partnership Manager

Core Upload: Jesse explained the first CORE upload was missed and the 2nd upload didn't upload properly. If there are no errors in the next upload, the first payroll deduction will be on January 31st. This means we will only have 25 pay periods to pull donations from. Errors in the upload are usually because of failure to designate donors because of no/incorrect email/employee ID. Jesse asked the committee if it is possible to retroactively charge donors for missing deductions? – Committee will check with Legal & Finance.

- Tim mentioned by law, we can't go back but he will check with legal.
- Kathleen asked if we send a letter to the donors asking if it is okay to double deduct them? Betsy mentioned we are unable to do this.

Agency Comparison: Agency comparison chart shows total donated dollars from 2018 vs. 2019. Document highlights agencies that are down from last year. Lt. Governor Bysciewicz reached out to the commissioners at every agency to discuss the campaign. Kelli is in contact with all commissioners. Keyauna is reaching out to coordinators to request Kelli go speak to employees at agency staff meetings. Some agencies do not have a coordinator still. Kelli asked the following questions to the committee: Is there a better way to contact agencies? Do any committee members have contacts at the agencies at \$0 or below from last year?

Any advice from the committee? Committee responses:

Cindy – Has a point of contact at Dept of Ethics & Elections Enforcement

Tim – The transitions of the campaign are important and may have caused this serious delay. The agencies at \$0 seem to just not be participating. The Lt. Governor is the best bet in getting agencies to participate.

Kathleen – The campaign needs more support from the Lt. Governor and the committee needs to be fully staffed.

Tim – The PCFO needs more support. There is no sense of urgency from these agencies. State employees are more giving in July, August and September.

Kathleen – Online giving relieves the pressure to give. We should solicit to state Retirees earlier than January.

Betsy – We only have 2 opportunities to put inserts into the retiree checks (January and July) and we may not be able to put it in the January check. Might have better luck at retiree union meetings with physical sign up form.

CSEC Night Out with the Hartford Wolf Pack: This event raised \$1,075 from ticket sales and \$26 from on site donations. We have been getting amazing feedback.

Increasing Donations: Kelli sent a “We Miss You” email to coordinators that were at or above \$5k last year.

Meetings scheduled with agencies:

CT Lottery – 1/17

Dept of Mental Health & Addiction Services – 1/21

Dept of Transportation – 1/24 (Kathleen mentioned she will join)

Consumer Protection Special Event – 1/30 (Julie mentioned she will join)

Dept of Economic & Community Development – 2/10

Roundtable – CSEC Executive Committee Members

Cindy – Freedom of Information Commission has 100% employee participation. First time!

Julie – Department of Administrative Services is having a bake sale to support the CSEC.

Roundtable – Federation Representatives

No comments.

Adjourned at 2:30pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 11, 2020

2/7/20 – These minutes were respectively submitted by Kelli Byrd (CSEC Partnership Manager) and Keyauna Smith (CSEC Administrative Assistant).