

# Minutes

## VSAC Programs & Services Committee Meeting

**March 25, 2019**

**10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**Boardroom, VSAC Offices  
10 East Allen Street  
Winooski, VT**

**Committee Members Present:** Martha Heath (Chair), Dave Larsen, Chuck Soule, Pam Chisholm, Dennis O'Brien

**Committee Members Absent:** Matt Trieber

**Other Members Present:** Dodie Mitchell, Chair

**VSAC Staff Present:** Scott Giles, Tom Little, Marilyn Cargill, Patrick Leduc, Mike Stuart, Jodie Ducharme

**Others:** N/A

Chair Martha Heath called meeting to order at 10:01 a.m., and a quorum was established.

### Approval of Minutes

*Upon a motion made by Dave Larsen and seconded by Pam Chisholm, the Committee Members voted unanimously to approve the Programs & Services Committee Minutes of January 28, 2019, as presented.*

### Grant Policy – Ongoing Annual Review

The following policies were reviewed:

- **Defaulted Loan Policy** – Marilyn reviewed the policy and noted there were no proposed changes.
- **Nondegree Audit Policy** – Marilyn reviewed this new policy which states that VSAC may initiate an audit of non-Title IV schools that participate in the Vermont Non-Degree Grant Program under certain conditions, as outlined in the policy.

The Committee made recommendations for revisions to clarify the Nondegree Audit Policy.

*Upon a motion made by Pam Chisholm and seconded by Chuck Soule, the Committee Members voted unanimously to recommend that the full Board approve the Defaulted Loan Policy, as written, and the revised Nondegree Audit Policy.*

### EFC cutoff for '19-'20

Martha then transitioned Members to the annual Expected Family Contribution Cutoff review.

*Upon a motion made by Dennis O'Brien and seconded by Pam Chisholm, the Committee Members voted unanimously to approve the Expected Family Contribution Cutoff, and to maintain the income cutoff for Fiscal Year 2020, as presented.*

**Operations Updates**

Marilyn provided updates on the Advantage Loan volume and Vermont Microgrants. She also referenced upcoming changes to the Advantage Loan origination process to make applying for a new loan easier for students and families.

Marilyn mentioned the first grant awarding scheduled for mid-April and reminded the Committee that we will be seeking permission from them to set funding levels prior to the first awarding.

Marilyn also shared information about VSAC's upcoming Scholarship Day on April 9, 2019 and extended an invitation for all Board members who would like to participate.

**Federal Update**

Scott Giles gave an update on the federal budget and state licensing.

**Vermont Update**

Marilyn Cargill provided an update on the Child Care Bill and the Dual Enrollment Stipend. She also shared information about the upcoming VSAC Day on March 28, 2019 at the statehouse and Scott Giles extended an invitation for all Board members who would like to attend.

Scott Giles gave a legislative update, highlighting the status of the \$1 million initiative to support expansion of the non-degree program.

Tom Little updated the Committee on the Blue Ribbon Commissions and Adult Career and Technical Education Study Committee.

Patrick Leduc provided an update on College and Career Pathways and stated the changes made to the events have resulted in a significant increase in attendees.

**Listen Up Vermont**

Scott Giles reported that VSAC has agreed to partner with the Listen Up Project. Patrick Leduc stated that in addition to helping with funding, VSAC will be assisting with the project's listening phase by going out in the field with the project team and speaking with students.

**Vermont School Closings**

Scott Giles provided an update on recent Vermont school closings and discussed ways that VSAC will provide support to impacted students.

**Other Business**

There being no other business, the Committee adjourned at 11:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Marilyn Cargill, Assistant Secretary