



NATIONAL COMMISSION ON MILITARY, NATIONAL, AND PUBLIC SERVICE

Public Minutes of August 2018 Commission Meeting

The National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service (the Commission) held a meeting on August 16-17, 2018, in Memphis, TN. The meeting concerned organizational and other pre-decisional and deliberative matters and was closed to the public pursuant to Public Law 114-328, section 554(b)(3).

Attendance

Commissioners present:

- Mr. Steve Barney (part of 8/16, all of 8/17)
- The Honorable Mark Gearan
- Ms. Avril Haines
- The Honorable Dr. Joseph Heck (8/16 only)
- Ms. Shawn Skelly
- The Honorable Debra Wada

Commissioners present by phone:

- The Honorable Dr. Janine Davidson (part of 8/16)
- Ms. Jeanette James (part of 8/16)

Commissioners absent:

- Mr. Edward T. Allard III
- Mr. Alan Khazei
- Mr. Thomas Kilgannon

Staff present:

- Kent Abernathy, Executive Director
- Paul Lekas, General Counsel
- Keri Lowry, Director of Government Affairs and Public Engagement
- Annie Rorem, Deputy Director of Research and Analysis
- Peter Morgan, Deputy Director of Operations
- Other Commission staff

August 16, 2018

Business Meeting

The Commission convened at 0735 CT to hold a business meeting. Present were Commissioners Heck, Gearan, Haines, Skelly, and Wada. Participating by phone were Commissioners Davidson and James. The Chairman moved to close this and other business meetings to occur on August 16-17 because pre-decisional and organizational matters would be deliberated. All Commissioners present agreed.

Chairman Heck then moved to approve minutes from the July 2018 Commission meeting. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the July 2018 minutes.

Ms. Rorem briefed the Commission on planning for meetings in October, November, and December, which would occur at the Commission's offices and be designed to provide time for Commissioner deliberation and briefings on substantive issues relevant to the Commission's mandate.

Ms. Rorem then briefed the Commission on the research team's review and analysis of public comments. She noted that the Commission had received over 1,300 comments through May 2018. Most of these arrived through the Commission's website and some were provided in direct response to the Federal Register solicitation.

Mr. Abernathy introduced new staff members to the Commission and noted that Mr. Barney would be joining the trip on August 17. Staff then briefed the Commission on the events scheduled for August 16 and 17.

Work Group Deliberations

Thereafter, Commissioners met in Work Groups to deliberate issues concerning the matters within the scope of their respective Work Groups. Accounts of these sessions are set forth in internal memoranda for the record (MFRs).

Outreach and Engagement Event

At approximately 1000 CT, Commissioners departed for a meeting with local business and philanthropic leaders to discuss corporate and philanthropic efforts to encourage service to address the needs of Memphis and its residents. An account of this discussion is set forth in a separate MFR.

Business Meeting

At approximately 1235 CT, Commissioners reconvened to continue their business meeting. Present were Commissioners Heck, Gearan, Haines, Skelly, and Wada.

Ms. Lowry briefed the Commission on the staff's engagement plan. She described the different facets of the engagement team: government affairs, to include congressional and federal, state, and local government officials; external affairs; and public affairs, to include strategic

communications. Ms. Lowry spoke to objectives for the Commission during the remainder of 2018, in 2019, and in 2020.

Outreach and Engagement Events

At approximately 1300 CT, Commissioners departed for two outreach and engagement events. First, Commissioners met with local, county, and state employees to address civil service reform and other issues within the Commission's mandate. Next, Commissioners held a discussion about service learning with trainers, implementers, and students. Mr. Barney arrived in time to be included in the second meeting. Accounts of these discussions are set forth in separate MFRs.

Public Meeting

Beginning at 1830 CT, the Commission held a public meeting at the National Civil Rights Museum. The theme of the meeting was "Building on a Legacy of Civic Engagement: Roles and Responsibilities in Modern America."

August 17, 2018

Outreach and Engagement Events

Commissioners Barney, Gearan, Haines, Skelly, and Wada participated in two meetings during the morning of August 17. These included a meeting on faith-based issues and the provision of health care to those in need and conversations with students of the Tennessee College of Applied Technology. Accounts of these engagements are set forth in separate MFRs.

Business Meeting

The Commission then held a brief meeting to review the Memphis trip. Attending the session were Commissioners Barney, Gearan, Haines, Skelly, and Wada. Vice Chair Gearan presided over this portion of the deliberation.

Meetings with Tennessee Air National Guard

In the afternoon, Commissioners Barney, Gearan, Haines, Skelly, and Wada met with representatives of the Tennessee Air National Guard. They held conversations with Guard leadership as well as Guardsmen. Accounts of these engagements are set forth in separate MFRs.

Prepared by Paul Lekas, General Counsel

Adopted by the Commission on September 19, 2018