Public Minutes of May 2018 Commission Meeting

The National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service (the Commission) held a meeting on May 9-11, 2018, in Boston, MA and Nashua, NH. Portions of the meeting concerned organizational and other pre-decisional and deliberative matters and were closed to the public pursuant to Public Law 114-328, section 554(b)(3).

**Attendance**

Commissioners present:

- Mr. Edward T. Allard III
- Mr. Steve Barney
- The Honorable Mark Gearan
- Ms. Avril Haines
- The Honorable Dr. Joseph Heck
- Ms. Jeanette James (5/10-11 only)
- Mr. Alan Khazei
- Mr. Thomas Kilgannon
- Ms. Shawn Skelly
- The Honorable Debra Wada

Commissioners absent:

- The Honorable Janine Davidson

Staff present for portions of meetings:

- Kent Abernathy, Executive Director
- Paul Lekas, General Counsel
- Keri Lowry, Director of Government Affairs and Public Engagement
- Peter Morgan, Deputy Director of Operations
- Annie Rorem, Deputy Director of Research and Analysis
- Amy Schafer, Military Propensity Research Team Lead
- Judson Crane, Selective Service Research Team Lead
- John Lira, National Service Research Team Lead
May 9, 2018

Business Meeting

From 1000-1030 ET, the Commission held a business meeting. The Chairman moved to close this portion of the meeting to the public because pre-decisional and organizational matters would be deliberated. All Commissioners present agreed.

Chairman Heck then moved to approve minutes from the April 2018 Commission meeting. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the April 2018 minutes with minor amendments.

Mr. Abernathy briefed the Commission on various administrative matters and reviewed the schedule of events for May 9-11.

Work Group Deliberations

From 1030-1200 ET, 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).

Discussion with Boston Business Leaders

From 1230-1400 ET, Commissioners held a public stakeholder meeting with representatives from the Boston business community and of Massachusetts elected officials. The discussion addressed the value of service to the private sector, connections between service and the private sector, and other topics. An account of this meeting is set forth in a separate MFR.

Visit to Military Entrance Processing Station

Following the discussion with representatives from the Boston business community and elected officials, members of the Commission’s Selective Service System Work Group traveled to the Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) at 495 Sumner Street, Boston, to meet with MEPS representatives and discuss the process by which individuals are enlisted or inducted into the armed services. An account of this visit is set forth in a separate MFR.

Visit to BoSTEM

Following the discussion with representatives from the Boston business community and elected officials, members of the Commission’s Propensity To Serve Work Group traveled to BoSTEM at 51 Sleeper Street, Boston, to meet with BoSTEM representatives. BoSTEM is a collaboration of the United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley, Boston After School & Beyond, and Boston Public Schools (BPS) to increase BPS students’ interest in STEM subjects and STEM-related careers. An account of this visit is set forth in a separate MFR.
Public Forum at Suffolk University, Boston, MA

From 1745-1945 ET, the Commission held a public forum on service at Suffolk University in Boston. Speakers and panelists at the public forum included Andrew Perlman, Dean of Suffolk University Law School; Dr. Marc Holzer, Distinguished Professor of Public Administration at Suffolk University; Dr. Robert Behn, Senior Lecturer in Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School; and Dr. Rachael Cobb, Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Government at Suffolk University. A full account of the public forum will be made available in a transcript.

May 10, 2018

Work Group Deliberation

From 0815-0915 ET, members of the Commission’s Ends, Ways, and Means Work Group met to deliberate issues concerning matters within the scope of the Work Groups. An account of this session is set forth in an internal MFR.

Discussion with Members of the Nashua Safe Stations Effort

From 1100-1230 ET, Commissioners held a public stakeholder meeting with representatives of the Safe Stations initiative in Nashua, NH. The session focused on Nashua’s response to the opioid crisis and addressing public needs of communities through service. An account of this meeting is set forth in a separate MFR.

Discussion with the Partnership for Successful Living

From 1330-1500, Commissioners held a public stakeholder meeting with the Partnership for Successful Living in Nashua, NH. The session focused on addressing public needs of communities through service and collaborations between government and non-profit entities. An account of this meeting is set forth in a separate MFR.

Commission Deliberation

From 1530-1630 ET, the Commission met in non-public session to deliberate issues related to the definition of service and key terms. An account of this session is set forth in an internal MFR.

Public Meeting at Nashua City Hall, Nashua, NH

From 1730-1930 ET, the Commission held a public meeting at Nashua City Hall in Nashua, NH. Speakers and remarks were delivered by Jim Donchess, Mayor of the City of Nashua; Jennifer McCormack, Nashua Public Library Director; and Matt Wilhelm, Director of Old Sol Alliance, Inc. A full account of the public meeting will be made available in a transcript.

May 11, 2018

Discussion with Academic Thought Leaders

From 0830-1030 ET, Commissioners held a public stakeholder meeting with Boston-area academic thought leaders. David Gergen and the Center for Public Leadership at the Harvard
Kennedy School of Government co-hosted the meeting. Participants included professors and administrators from Harvard University, Tufts University, Suffolk University, and Boston University. An account of this meeting is set forth in a separate MFR.

**Discussion with Service Community Leaders**

From 1130-1230 ET, Commissioners held a public stakeholder meeting with service community leaders, including representatives from Jumpstart, City Year, Social Capital, the Edward M. Kennedy Institute, Campus Compact, the Massachusetts Service Alliance, Citizen Schools, New Profit, The BASE, Police Assisted Addition & Recovery Initiative, the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation, the College of Social Innovation, Encore.org, YouthBuild USA, and New Politics. An account of this meeting is set forth in a separate MFR.

**Discussions with National Service Program Directors and Members**

From 1300-1500 ET, Commissioners held public stakeholder meetings with directors and members of various national service programs from around the Boston area to discuss motivations, barriers, and incentives to service and programmatic aspects of national service programs. Commissioners split into two groups to facilitate the discussions. Accounts of these discussions are set forth in separate MFRs.

**Business Meeting and Review of Trip**

From 1540-1615, Commissioners and staff reconvened to recap the May 9-11 meeting and discuss issues involving future Commission events. The Chairman closed this portion of the meeting to the public because pre-decisional and organizational matters would be deliberated.

**Executive Session**

Thereafter, Commissioners convened an executive session outside the presence of staff. Chairman Heck briefed senior staff following the conclusion of the executive session.

Prepared by Paul Lekas, General Counsel

Adopted by the Commission on June 14, 2018