



NATIONAL COMMISSION ON MILITARY, NATIONAL, AND PUBLIC SERVICE

Minutes of November 2018 Commission Meeting

The National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service (the Commission) held a meeting on November 14-16, 2018, at the Commission's offices in Arlington, VA. 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. Edward Allard
- Mr. Steve Barney
- The Honorable Dr. Janine Davidson (11/14 by phone)
- The Honorable Mark Gearan
- The Honorable Avril Haines
- The Honorable Dr. Joseph Heck
- Ms. Jeanette James
- Mr. Alan Khazei
- Mr. Thomas Kilgannon
- Ms. Shawn Skelly
- The Honorable Debra Wada

Staff present:

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

November 14, 2018

Business Meeting

The Commission convened at approximately 0830 ET for a business meeting. All Commissioners were present except for Dr. Davidson and Mr. Allard. The Chairman moved to close this and other business meetings to occur on November 14-16 because pre-decisional and organizational matters would be deliberated. A motion was made and seconded, and all Commissioners present agreed.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Heck then moved to approve minutes from the October 2018 Commission meeting. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the October 2018 minutes with minor technical edits.

Opening Remarks

Chairman Heck and Mr. Abernathy provided opening remarks. Chairman Heck discussed plans for Commissioner speaking engagements during 2019. Mr. Abernathy reviewed the agenda for the November meeting.

Interim Report Discussion

The Commission devoted the remainder of its morning session to a discussion of the draft interim report. Dr. Davidson and Mr. Allard joined the discussion part way through this session, with Dr. Davidson participating by phone.

Panel on Service Higher Education

From approximately 1230-1345 ET, the Commission held a discussion with a panel of experts on service and higher education. Attending were representatives from ALL IN Campus Democratic Challenge, the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, the Association of American Colleges and Universities, Campus Compact, and the Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education. An account of this discussion is set forth in a separate memorandum for the record (MFR).

Legal and Ethics Briefing

The Commission reconvened at approximately 1400 ET for a legal and ethics briefing. All Commissioners attended except for Dr. Davidson and Ms. Haines.

Rachel Rikleen, Deputy General Counsel, trained Commissioners on the Commission's anti-harassment policy, as a follow up to the No FEAR Act training that occurred in December 2017. She then updated Commissioners on implementation of procedures regarding Equal Employment Opportunity and the Rehabilitation Act.

Ms. Rikleen then provided a briefing on the legislative drafting process.

Work Group Deliberations

From approximately 1445-1730 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 MFRs.

November 15, 2018

Interim Report Discussion

The Commission reconvened at 0800ET on November 15, 2018 to continue its discussion of the draft interim report. All Commissioners were physically present for this session.

Meeting with Elaine Donnelly

From approximately 1100-1200 ET, the Commission held a discussion with Elaine Donnelly from the Center for Military Readiness. An account of this discussion is set forth in a separate MFR.

Briefings by Work Group Chairs

From approximately 1200-1500 ET, the Commission met in closed session to hear briefings by the chairs of the three Commission work groups: Vice Chair Gearan, Chair of the Propensity to Service Work Group (P2S); Vice Chair Wada, Chair of the Selective Service System Work Group (SSSWG); and Ms. Haines, Chair of the Ends, Ways, and Means Work Group (EWM).

Panel with Foreign Government Attachés

Thereafter, Commissioners traveled to the Norwegian Embassy to convene a panel discussion with attachés from Norway, Nigeria, Estonia, and Colombia. The discussion focused on the mandatory service programs those nations have adopted. An account of this conversation is set forth in a separate MFR.

November 16, 2018

Work Group Deliberation

At approximately 0800 ET, Commissioners Davidson, Haines, James, Khazei, Kilgannon, and Skelly held a meeting of the Ends, Ways, and Means Work Group. An account of this sessions is set forth in an internal MFR.

Interim Report Discussion

The Commission reconvened at 0900ET on November 16, 2018 to continue its discussion of the draft interim report. All Commissioners were physically present for this session.

At the conclusion of this discussion, Chairman Heck explained that staff would revise the interim report based on Commissioner feedback. Commissioners would then receive an updated draft for further consideration.

Executive Session

From approximately 1100-1205 ET, Commissioners held an executive session outside the presence of staff.

Update on Government Affairs and Public Engagement

From approximately 1215-1300, the Commission received a briefing from the Commission's Government Affairs and Public Engagement staff. All Commissioners except for Vice Chair Gearan were present.

Led by Ms. Lowry, staff briefed the Commission on current plans for the January 2019 release of the interim report; the status of engagement with congressional committees and Executive Branch agencies; the status of planning for the 2019 public hearings; and efforts around public affairs, including social media and the Commission's website.

Work Group Deliberations

From approximately 1300-1500, 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 MFRs.

Prepared by Paul Lekas, General Counsel

Adopted by the Commission on December 12, 2018