



CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

**Governor’s Advisory Council on Diversity and Inclusion
May 17, 2018
New Hampshire Department of Safety
Concord, New Hampshire**

MINUTES

Rogers Johnson, Chairperson
Commissioner John Barthelmes
Devon Chaffee
Commissioner Frank Edelblut
Sharon Harris
Elizabeth Lahey
Jose Luna
James Maggione
Dr. Salman Malik
Commissioner Ken Merrifield
Commissioner Jeffrey Meyers
Dottie Morris
Pawn Nitichan
Marianne Rechy
Sheriff Eliezer Rivera
Allyson Ryder
Andrew Smith
Chief Douglas Wyman

Board Members

Members Present: Commissioner John Barthelmes, Devon Chaffee, Commissioner Frank Edelblut (phone), Sharon Harris, Elizabeth Lahey, James Maggione, Dr. Salman Malik, Commissioner Ken Merrifield, Pawn Nitichan, Commissioner Marianne Rechy, Sheriff Eliezer Rivera, Allyson Ryder, Andrew Smith, Dr. Trinidad Tellez (DHHS designee), Chief Douglas Wyman

Absent: Rogers Johnson, Dottie Morris, Commissioner Jeff Meyers

Quorum: Yes

Others Present: Joseph Haas

Proceedings

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Andrew Smith, Vice Chair.

Review of draft minutes from April 19, 2018 meeting: Allyson Ryder proposed correcting Marianne Rechy’s name as listed in the minutes by removing the title of “Commissioner.” Members accepted the proposed change and adopted the revised minutes unanimously. James Maggione and Pawn Nitichan abstained from the vote because they did not attend the meeting on April 19, 2018.

Discussion regarding draft preliminary report: Elizabeth Lahey briefly presented the draft of the preliminary report due June 1, 2018, on behalf of the preliminary-report working group, before ceding the floor for an open discussion regarding the draft’s contents.

The discussion initially focused on the bulleted, sample public feedback from the first three listening sessions. Commissioner Edelblut thought that the included public feedback took too negative a tone and omitted “positive” comments shared by members of the public during listening sessions. The Council robustly discussed the general concept of positive feedback and its proper place in the report. During the meeting, no one identified any particular comment(s) that were made during the listening sessions that should have been included in the preliminary report; however, at least one member indicated that she would attempt to identify such language.

Elizabeth Lahey also highlighted that the working group intended for the included feedback to be a sampling of public comments and reiterated that they were not the conclusions of the Council. However, given the fact that there was some confusion on this point, Lahey stated that she would revise the section at issue to make clear that the bulleted items were not the Council's conclusions. Dr. Tellez stated that she would also provide some language on this point.

Pawn Nitichan proposed that in the upcoming year, the Council should identify opportunities to engage with and support ongoing community-based efforts related to diversity and inclusion. There was discussion about the contours of this proposal. The group seemingly agreed that the proposal should be included in the next draft of the preliminary report.

Sheriff Rivera moved for the council to seek leave from the Governor to extend the June 1, 2018 deadline to submit the preliminary report. Jose Luna seconded the motion. After discussion, Sheriff Rivera withdrew the motion so the Council could discuss the feasibility of scheduling a meeting for the next week to continue discussing the substance of the preliminary report.

The Council agreed to meet on May 24, 2018, to discuss the substance of the preliminary report further. Elizabeth Lahey stated that she would revise the preliminary report to reflect the discussed comments and circulate a draft by Friday, May 18, 2018.

Public Comment: Joseph Haas addressed the council regarding the need for it to focus on civil liberties and equities, rather than just civil rights.

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Next meeting: May 24, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. at the New Hampshire Department of Safety

Minutes submitted by: /s/ Elizabeth Lahey
Elizabeth A. Lahey

Date: May 24, 2018