



CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

**Governor’s Advisory Council on Diversity and Inclusion
May 24, 2018
New Hampshire Department of Safety
Concord, New Hampshire**

MINUTES

Rogers Johnson, Chair
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, Rogers Johnson (phone), Elizabeth Lahey, James Maggione, Dr. Salman Malik, Commissioner Jeff Meyers, Marianne Rechy, Sheriff Eliezer Rivera, Andrew Smith, Chief Douglas Wyman (phone),

Absent: Sharon Harris, Commissioner Ken Merrifield, Dottie Morris, Pawn Nitichan, Allyson Ryder

Quorum: Yes

Others Present: none

Proceedings

Meeting called to order at 5:45 p.m. by Andrew Smith, Vice Chair.

Review of draft minutes from May 17, 2018 meeting: Members adopted the minutes unanimously.

Discussion regarding draft preliminary report: The Council engaged in extensive discussions about the draft preliminary report. Commissioner Edelblut proposed a number of revisions, which the Council worked through on a revision-by-revision basis. Of note, Commissioner Edelblut reviewed the available listening session notes and identified “positive” comments to include in the preliminary report. The Council adopted some of these proposed changes. Commissioner Edelblut also proposed referencing member dissent from particular Council specific recommendations, which the Council did not adopt.

With regard to the Council’s first recommendation, the Council extensively discussed the wording, particularly whether to include the italicized language below:

First, the State is poised to amend the New Hampshire Law Against Discrimination to add gender identity as a prohibited basis of discrimination in employment, housing, and places of public accommodation. If enacted, there are a number of other state statutes that reference identity-based classes, such as the Civil Rights Act (RSA 354-B) and the hate-crime enhancement statute (RSA

651:6, I(f)), that do not expressly include gender identity as a protected class. *In order for New Hampshire and its communities to fully ensure and protect the civil rights of their transgender and gender non-conforming residents and visitors*, all statutes, ordinances, regulations, and policies that reference identity-based classes should be amended to include gender-identity as an express protected class, so as to align with the Law Against Discrimination.

The Council voted 7-6 to include the language.

Ultimately, the Council voted 11-1 to adopt the preliminary report as revised during the meeting. Jose Luna abstained from the vote.

Commissioner Edelblut moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Devon Chaffee seconded that motion.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:

/S/Elizabeth Lahey
Elizabeth A. Lahey

June 15, 2018

DRAFT