

Commission on Law Enforcement Accountability, Community and Transparency

Meeting Minutes for August 28, 2020

Meeting held via videoconference at the Attorney General's Office in Concord, NH.

Deputy Attorney General Jane Young called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and reminded participants that the meeting was being recorded.

Members were then asked to introduce themselves and state their present location for the record.

Deputy Attorney General Jane Young – from the Department of Justice in Concord, NH with Kim Schmidt, Nicole Clay and Tracey Riehl

Robert Quinn, DOS Commissioner – Concord, NH

Ahni Malachi, Executive Director, NH Commission for Human Rights – Penacook, NH

John Scippa, Director of Police Standards and Training Council – Concord, NH

Rogers Johnson, Chair of Governor's Advisory Council on Diversity and Inclusion – Stratham, NH

James McKim, President of NH NAACP – Goffstown, NH

Sawako Gardner, Justice of the NH Circuit Court – Rye, NH

Mark Morrison, New Hampshire Police Association – Londonderry, NH

Charlie Dennis, NH Chief Association – Hanover, NH

Ken Norton, Executive Director of NAMI – Penacook, NH (joined after 1:30 p.m.)

Joseph Lascaze, NH ACLU representative – Concord, NH

Julian Jefferson, Criminal Defense Representative – Manchester, NH

Ronelle Tshiela, public member and BLM organizer – Durham, NH

Eddie Edwards, public member – Dover, NH

The Deputy Attorney General requested the approval of the August 27, 2020 minutes. A motion to approve was initiated by Judge Gardner and seconded by Eddie Edwards. A roll call vote was taken and votes were cast as follows.

Deputy Attorney General Jane Young-Y

Commissioner Robert Quinn-Y

Director Ahni Malachi-Y

Director John Scippa-Y

Chairman Rogers Johnson-Y

President James McKim-Y

Justice Sawako Gardner-Y

Lt. Mark Morrison-Y

Chief Charlie Dennis - abstain

Director Ken Norton-N/A (joined meeting after 1:30 p.m.)

Joseph Lascaze-Y

Attorney Julian Jefferson-Y
Eddie Edwards- disconnected but later voted-Y
Ronelle Tshiela-Y

August 27, 2020 meeting minutes are approved.

Deputy Attorney General Jane Young noted the addition of edits to Section 3 to include 22-30 of public testimony recommendations.

Nicole Clay edits 22 after objection of language used by Attorney Ober.

Deputy Attorney General asks if anyone would like to move to accept 22-30 of public testimony as written.

Judge Gardner moves to do so, and the motion is seconded by Deputy Attorney General Young.

A roll call vote was taken and votes were cast as follows:

Deputy Attorney General Jane Young-Y
Commissioner Robert Quinn-Y
Director Ahni Malachi-Y
Director John Scippa-Y
Chairman Rogers Johnson-Y
President James McKim-Y
Justice Sawako Gardner-Y
Lt. Mark Morrison-Y
Chief Charlie Dennis- Y
Director Ken Norton-N/A
Joseph Lascaze-Y
Attorney Julian Jefferson-Y
Eddie Edwards -Y
Ronelle Tshiela-Y

Deputy Attorney General Young opened the meeting up to public members with a reminder that testimony was to be limited to 3 minutes and only those topics not previously discussed.

Linda Wojas gave call-in testimony: Ms. Wojas objected to being overlooked during a July 16th meeting and took umbrage with previous commentary made by Ahni Malachi and suggested Ms. Malachi apologize.

With no other members of the public seeking to testify, Deputy Attorney General Young concluded the public testimony portion of the meeting.

A discussion on recommendation #7 ensued. Julian Jefferson noted that the language edit from allocate to re-allocate would be irrelevant to the House Finance Committee.

Lt Morrison moves to vote on #7 as worded. Judge Gardner seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and recorded as follows:

Deputy Attorney General Jane Young-Y
Commissioner Robert Quinn-Y
Director Ahni Malachi-Y
Director John Scippa-Y
Chairman Rogers Johnson-Y
President James McKim-Y
Justice Sawako Gardner-Y
Lt. Mark Morrison-Y
Chief Charlie Dennis- Y
Director Ken Norton-Y
Joseph Lascaze-N
Attorney Julian Jefferson-Y
Eddie Edwards –N/A (Technical difficulties)
Ronelle Tshiela-N

Director Malachi initiates a discussion regarding #8 that would include the Commission remaining intact to ensure forward progress with the legislature. Judge Gardner concurs and noted that this would also provide the public with an entity to go to for assessing progress.

Director Scippa moves to vote on #8, and Joseph Lascaze seconded.
A roll call vote ensued with the votes cast as follows:

Deputy Attorney General Jane Young-Y
Commissioner Robert Quinn-Y
Director Ahni Malachi-Y
Director John Scippa-Y
Chairman Rogers Johnson-Y
President James McKim- absent
Justice Sawako Gardner-Y
Lt. Mark Morrison-Y
Chief Charlie Dennis- Y
Director Ken Norton-Y
Joseph Lascaze- Y
Attorney Julian Jefferson-Y
Eddie Edwards –Y
Ronelle Tshiela-Y

Director Ken Norton submitted a detailed augmentation to #17, and a discussion ensued. Commissioner Quinn moved to table the recommendation of Director Norton. The motion was seconded by Chief Edwards. A roll call vote occurred and was recorded as follows:

Deputy Attorney General Jane Young-Y
Commissioner Robert Quinn-Y
Director Ahni Malachi-Y
Director John Scippa-Y
Chairman Rogers Johnson-Y
President James McKim- Y
Justice Sawako Gardner-Y
Lt. Mark Morrison-Y
Chief Charlie Dennis- Y
Director Ken Norton-N
Joseph Lascaze- Y
Attorney Julian Jefferson-N
Eddie Edwards –Y
Ronelle Tshiela- Abstain

Deputy Attorney General Young reminded the Commission that their electronic signatures should be put to the recommendations in the report that would be completed and sent to them that evening.

Joseph Lascaze moved to adjourn. Director Malachi seconded. A roll call vote was taken and votes were cast as follows:

Deputy Attorney General Jane Young-Y
Commissioner Robert Quinn-Y
Director Ahni Malachi-Y
Director John Scippa-Y
Chairman Rogers Johnson-Y
President James McKim-Y
Justice Sawako Gardner-Y
Lt. Mark Morrison-Y
Chief Charlie Dennis- Y
Director Ken Norton-Y
Joseph Lascaze-Y
Attorney Julian Jefferson-Y
Eddie Edwards –Y
Ronelle Tshiela- Y

The meeting was so adjourned at 2:28 p.m. with concluding remarks from Deputy Attorney General Young that included a request for edits from the commission on the final report in time for Monday's meeting.