

Commission on Law Enforcement Accountability, Community and Transparency

Meeting Minutes for July 31, 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 9:02 a.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 with Kim Schmidt, Nicole Clay and Annie Gagne

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 – Exeter, NH

Rogers Johnson, Chair of the 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 PD

Charlie Dennis, NH Chief Association – Hanover, NH

Ken Norton, Executive Director of NAMI – Penacook, NH

Joseph Lascaze, NH ACLU representative – Bedford, 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 July 29th, 2020 minutes. The Deputy Attorney General noted that the last line of recommendation #3 that states "the actual training to be performed by Police Standards and Training Council (PSTC)" should be stricken. Motion to approve as amended by Rogers Johnson and seconded by Judge Gardner. A roll call vote was taken and the votes were 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

Mr. Joseph Lascaze – Y
Attorney Julian Jefferson – Y
Mr. Eddie Edwards – Y
Ms. Ronelle Tshiela –Y

The Deputy Attorney General informed the group that the Attorney General officially requested the 60-day extension from the Governor and we are hoping to have an answer on that by the end of the meeting. The Commission then discussed the body of the report and noted the following points and changes:

Director John Scippa

Has an area of concern that Joseph Lascaze will speak to.

James McKim

Has concerns about the specific charge as it is written and would like clarification.

Judge Gardner

Grammar note, on page 5, the sentence should read "or procedures" not "are procedures."

Attorney Julian Jefferson

On page 9, under policies to be created (recommendation #8),

Joseph Lascaze

On page 3, under the first paragraph, need to add and clarify that there is no finding that people of color are over-represented in the virtual training scenarios, but it is clear that people of color are used in the scenarios. (Commission members had several discussions about the addition of this sentence and how to grammatically word it to be inclusive of all minority groups.)

Lt. Morrison recommended the following wording of the sentence addition. Eddie Edwards moved to ~~add- accept the addition the following sentence as worded~~, Director Scippa seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken on the motion and the votes were recorded as follows:

The final wording of the sentence addition will be: “After a review, the simulated scenarios incorporate a fair cross-section of participants from various communities.”

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
Mr. Joseph Lascaze – Y
Attorney Julian Jefferson – Y
Mr. Eddie Edwards – Y
Ms. Ronelle Tshiela –Y

Motion carries.

The Deputy Attorney General next guided the Commission through the review of the specific recommendations to edit and wordsmith the sentences as needed. Various discussion was had regarding the recommendations, finalized changes are recorded as follows with the corresponding votes by Commission members:

[Refer to Section I, paragraphs 1 and 2 of the final report for this content]

Commissioner Quinn moved to technically adopt the revised recommendation as worded, Chief Dennis seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken on the motion and the votes were 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
Mr. Joseph Lascaze – Y
Attorney Julian Jefferson – Y
Mr. Eddie Edwards – Y
Ms. Ronelle Tshiela –Y

Continued discussion about wording, edits and

[Refer to Section 2, paragraphs 3 through 14 of the final report for this content]

Ken Norton moves to approve section 2, paragraphs 6 through 17 with the amendments. Joseph Lascaze seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken on the motion and the votes were 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
Mr. Joseph Lascaze – Y
Attorney Julian Jefferson – Y
Mr. Eddie Edwards – Y
Ms. Ronelle Tshiela –Y

Motion carries.

[Refer to Section III, paragraph 15 of the final report for this content]

Director Scippa moves to approve section 3, paragraph 20 with the amendments. Joseph Lascaze seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken on the motion and the votes were recorded as follows:

Deputy Attorney General Jane Young –Y
Commissioner Robert Quinn – Y
Director Ahni Malachi – N
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
Mr. Joseph Lascaze – Y
Attorney Julian Jefferson – Y
Mr. Eddie Edwards – Y
Ms. Ronelle Tshiela –Y

Motion carries.

[Refer to Section I, paragraphs 1 and 2 of the final report for this content]

Commissioner Quinn moves to approve section 1, paragraphs 1 and 2 with the amendments. Chief Dennis seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken on the motion and the votes were recorded as follows:

Deputy Attorney General Jane Young –Y
Commissioner Robert Quinn – Y
Director Ahni Malachi – ~~N~~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 – abstain
Mr. Joseph Lascaze – Y
Attorney Julian Jefferson – Y
Mr. Eddie Edwards – Y
Ms. Ronelle Tshiela –Y

Motion carries.

The Deputy Attorney General requested a roll call vote to submit the first report to the Governor with the edits recommended. A roll call vote was taken on the motion and the votes were 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 – abstain
Mr. Joseph Lascaze – Y
Attorney Julian Jefferson – Y
Mr. Eddie Edwards – Y
Ms. Ronelle Tshiela –Y

Motion carries and report will be submitted.

The Deputy Attorney General laid out the plan for the next month. Tuesday, August 4th at 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and Friday, August 7th at 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. These meetings would include presentations by the following:

Mary Georges
Mark Newport
Attorney Scherr
Attorney Robin Melone
Attorney Julian Jefferson

She would like to complete community relations next week, then schedule three meetings a week. During the week of August 10th, the first meeting would be public comment, then have a meeting to discuss recommendations, and the third meeting to go over final draft. During the week of August 17th, the Commission would address the section on police misconduct. This would also include three meetings during the week. The first meeting would be public comment, two meetings to discuss recommendations, and produce the final report August 31st.

Director Malachi moves to limit presenter testimony to 3 minutes, Judge Gardner seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken on the motion and the votes were 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
Mr. Joseph Lascaze – Y
Attorney Julian Jefferson – Y
Mr. Eddie Edwards – Y
Ms. Ronelle Tshiela – Y

Motion carries.

The Commission continued discussion about how to best utilize time while also allowing everyone who would like to address the Commission.

The Deputy Attorney General requested a motion to adjourn. So moved by Mr. Joseph Lascaze and seconded by Commissioner Quinn. A roll call vote was taken on the motion to adjourn and the votes were 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
Mr. Joseph Lascaze – Y
Attorney Julian Jefferson – Y
Mr. Eddie Edwards – Y
Ms. Ronelle Tshiela – Y

The meeting was adjourned at 1:59 p.m.

DRAFT