



NATIONAL COMMISSION ON MILITARY, NATIONAL, AND PUBLIC SERVICE

Public Minutes of October 2018 Commission Meeting

The National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service (the Commission) held a meeting on October 17-19, 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 (10/18-10/19)
- The Honorable Mark Gearan
- Ms. Avril Haines (10/18-10/19)
- 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 (10/17 only)
- Rachel Rikleen, Deputy General Counsel
- Annie Rorem, Deputy Director of Research and Analysis
- Jeffrey McNichols, Deputy Director of Government Affairs and Public Engagement
- Yolanda Hands, Deputy Director of Operations
- Other Commission staff

October 17, 2018

Business Meeting

The Commission convened at 0900 ET for a business meeting with eight Commissioners physically present and Mr. Khazei telephonically present. The Chairman moved to close this and other business meetings to occur on October 17-19 because pre-decisional and organizational matters would be deliberated. A motion was made and seconded, and all Commissioners present agreed.

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

Chairman Heck made several administrative announcements. Mr. Abernathy then reviewed the schedule for the October meeting.

Research Update

Dr. Jill Rough provided the Commission with an update on research efforts. This discussion concluded at approximately 1040ET.

Work Group Deliberations

From approximately 1045-1215 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 memoranda for the record (MFRs).

Legal and Ethics Briefing

From approximately 1235-1300 ET, Mr. Lekas and Ms. Rikleen briefed Commissioners on ethical issues relevant to special government employees and the status of Freedom of Information Act requests made to the Commission.

Presentation by DoD Office of Net Assessment

From approximately 1315-1415 ET, the Commission received a briefing from Mr. Ylber Bajraktari of the Department of Defense Office of Net Assessment. An account of this session is set forth in an internal MFR.

Roundtable at AUSA

Thereafter, Commissioners departed for the Association of the United States Army in Arlington, VA, to meet with representatives from various military and veterans service organizations. An account of this session is set forth in a separate MFR.

October 18, 2018

Business Meeting

The Commission reconvened at 0835ET on October 18, 2018 and held a business meeting until approximately 0925ET. All Commissioners were present except for Mr. Khazei (who arrived at 0900) and Ms. Haines (who arrived at 1025). The Commissioners received updates on the status of work related to the interim report, which the Commission intends to issue in January 2019.

Faith-Based Roundtable

From 1000-1200ET, the Commission held a roundtable discussion with representatives from different faith-based communities concerning the Selective Service System and military service. An account of this discussion is set forth in a separate MFR.

Constitutional Scholar Roundtable

From 1300-1430ET, the Commission held a roundtable discussion with constitutional scholars to concerning mandatory and universal national service. An account of this discussion is set forth in a separate MFR.

Work Group Deliberations

From approximately 1445-1645ET, 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.

Civic education Discussion

From 1700-1815ET, Ted McConnell of the Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools and Emma Humphries of iCivics spoke to the Commission about the state of civic education in the United States and its importance to the nation's civic health. An account of this session is set forth in a separate MFR.

October 19, 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.

Business Meeting

Beginning at approximately 0930ET, the Commission reconvened for a business meeting, beginning with a group photograph. Thereafter, Ms. Rikleen introduced the Commission to Judge James E. Baker. Chairman Heck explained that Judge Baker will join the Commission to hear presentations throughout the day. Following those presentations, he will facilitate a discussion among Commissioners about the Selective Service System. Chairman Heck then provided an overview of the day's sessions. This was followed by general discussion among the Commissioners.

Briefing by Army and Marine Representatives on Women in Combat Studies

From 1000-1200ET, the Commission received briefings on women in combat studies conducted by the Army and the Marines. Representatives from both Services provided these briefings. An account of the session is set forth in a separate MFR.

Business Meeting

From 1215-1300ET, the Commission held a business meeting over lunch. During this meeting, Commissioners discussed the presentations they heard earlier in the day among other issues.

Veterans' Perspectives on Women in Combat and Selective Service

From 1300-1415ET, the Commission convened a discussion with a panel of military service veterans to discuss issues related to women in combat and Selective Service. An account of the session is set forth in a separate MFR.

Facilitated Discussion on Selective Service

Thereafter, the Commission held a closed deliberation to discuss the Selective Service System, focusing on whether all Americans should be required to register. Judge Baker facilitated this deliberation.

Executive Session

Before concluding the October meeting, Commissioners convened an executive session outside the presence of staff.

Prepared by Paul Lekas, General Counsel

Adopted by the Commission on November 14, 2018