



NATIONAL COMMISSION ON MILITARY, NATIONAL, AND PUBLIC SERVICE

Public Minutes of January 2019 Commission Meeting

The National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service (the Commission) held a meeting on January 23-25, 2019, at the Commission's offices in Arlington, VA, and at other locations in the vicinity. Portions of this meeting concerned organizational and other pre-decisional and deliberative matters and were 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
- The Honorable Mark Gearan
- The Honorable Dr. Joseph Heck
- Ms. Jeanette James
- Mr. Alan Khazei (as indicated)
- Mr. Thomas Kilgannon
- Ms. Shawn Skelly
- The Honorable Debra Wada

Commissioner absent:

- The Honorable Avril Haines

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
- Other Commission staff

January 23, 2019

Interim Report Release Event

In the morning of January 23, 2019, the Commission convened at the Newseum in Washington, D.C., for a press briefing and public event to accompany the release of the Commission's Interim Report.

Business Meeting

From approximately 1150 to 1230 ET, the Commission convened at the offices of the Department of Labor in Washington, D.C., for a business meeting. The Chairman moved to close this and other business meetings to occur on January 23-25, 2019 because pre-decisional and organizational matters would be deliberated. A motion was made and seconded, and all Commissioners present agreed.

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

Commissioners then held a brief discussion about the Interim Report release event. Chairman Heck then informed the Commission that an updated website went live on January 22 and will enable the Commission to improve the amount and quality of information it disseminates to visitors. The Chairman then reviewed the agenda for the remainder of the January meeting.

Interim Report Briefings

Following the business meeting, Commissioners held discussion and listening sessions with representatives from an array of organizations. These sessions provided an opportunity for Commissioners to discuss the Interim Report and receive feedback from organizational representatives. Four sessions were held at locations across Washington, DC, and included the following participants:

From approximately 1330 to 1500 ET, Commissioners Allard, James, Skelly, and Wada met with representatives from the following organizations: General Federation of Women's Clubs, National Conference of State Legislatures, National Governors Association, United State of Women, Victory Fund, and Young Invincibles.

From approximately 1330 to 1500 ET, Commissioners Barney, Davidson, Gearan, Heck, and Kilgannon met with representatives from the following organizations: Arizona State University & McCain Institute for International Leadership, Aspen Institute, Bipartisan Policy Center, Brookings Institution, Cato Institute, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Heritage Foundation, and U.S. Global Leadership Coalition.

From approximately 1530 to 1700 ET, Commissioners Allard, James, Skelly, and Wada met with representatives from: All-Volunteer Force Forum, American Bar Association, Blue Star Families, Center for Military Readiness, National Women's Law Center, Student Veterans of America, and Veterans for American Ideals.

From approximately 1530 to 1700 ET, Commissioners Barney, Davidson, Gearan, Heck, and Kilgannon met with representatives from: ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge, Center for Civic Education, College Board, Education Commission of the States, iCivics, and Obama Foundation.

Accounts of these sessions are set forth in separate memoranda for the record (MFRs).

January 24, 2019

Work Group Deliberation

From 0800 to 0945 ET, Commissioners Davidson, James, Khazei, Kilgannon, and Skelly held a meeting of the Ends, Ways, and Means Work Group. An account of this session is set forth in an internal MFR.

Mock Hearing

From approximately 1000 to 1130 ET, the Commission convened at the offices of the United Way in Alexandria, VA, to hold a mock hearing in preparation for the public hearings the Commission will hold beginning in February 2019. Ms. Haines and Mr. Khazei were not present.

Legal Update

Commissioners reconvened at the Commission's office. From approximately 1300 to 1315 ET, Mr. Lekas and Ms. Rikleem provided a legal update and ethics training. Mr. Lekas provided a legal update, after which Ms. Rikleem provided regular ethics training to the Commissioners.

National Service Deliberation

From 1315 to 1445 ET, Commissioners Allard, Barney, Davidson, Gearan, Heck, James, Kilgannon, Skelly, and Wada convened for an internal deliberation on national service benefits and policy changes that could enhance the service experience and remove barriers to entry.

Work Group Deliberations

From approximately 1500 to 1630 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 MFRs.

January 25, 2019

Work Group Deliberations

From approximately 0800 to 1000 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 MFRs.

Civic Education Deliberation

From approximately 1015 to 1145 ET, Commissioners Allard, Barney, Heck, James, Kilgannon, Skelly, and Wada met to discuss civic education policy alternatives under consideration by the

Ends, Ways, and Means Work Group. Dr. Davidson joined the discussion at approximately 1130 ET. An account of this session is set forth in an internal MFR.

Executive Session

From approximately 1200 to 1300 ET, Commissioners held an executive session outside the presence of staff.

National Service Deliberation

From 1300 to 1400 ET, Commissioners Allard, Barney, Davidson, Gearan, Heck, James, Khazei (by phone), Kilgannon, Skelly, and Wada convened for an internal deliberation on methods to grow national service.

Interim Report Briefing

From approximately 1400 to 1530 ET, Commissioners held a discussion and listening session with representatives from national service organizations. This session provided an opportunity for Commissioners to discuss the Interim Report and receive feedback from organizational representatives. The session occurred at the Commission's offices with some participants joining by conference call. Commissioners Allard, Barney, Davidson, Gearan, Kilgannon, Skelly, and Wada attended, and Mr. Khazei joined by phone. Organizations represented at the session include the following: America's Service Commissions, Cities of Service, Conservation Legacy, Food Corps, Habitat for Humanity, Innovations in Civic Participation, National Legal Aid and Defender Association, Peace Corps, Service Year Alliance, Sisters of Notre Dame, The Corps Network, and Voices for National Service.

Prepared by Paul Lekas, General Counsel

Adopted by the Commission on February 20, 2019