

NORTH CAROLINA HUMAN TRAFFICKING COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

April 25, 2019, 10:00am to 12:34pm

North Carolina Judicial Center

901 Corporate Center Drive, Raleigh NC

Commission Members Present:

Libby Coles, JusticeMatters, Inc.
Jennifer Haigwood, NC Department of Labor
Jasmine McGhee, NC Department of Justice
Pamela Cashwell, NC Department of Public Safety
Suzanne Mauney Smith, Gaston County Police (by phone)
Caitlin Ryland, Legal Aid of North Carolina
Monika Johnson-Hostler, NC Coalition against Sexual Assault
William M. Nichols, Ret. Major NC Highway Patrol (by phone)
Thomas Bernard, Physician Wake Medical
Angelica Wind, NC Coalition Against Human Trafficking
Judge Sherri W. Elliott, NC Association of District Court Judges
Judge Claire V. Hill, North Carolina Conference of Superior Court Judges
Ryan S. Boyce, NC Administrative Office of the Courts
Dianne Layden, Public at Large (by phone)

Commission Members Not Present:

William "Billy" West, Cumberland County District Attorney

Commission Staff Present:

Christine S. Long, Executive Director

Members of the Public Present:

Please see public sign-in sheet.

Call to Order:

The Chair called the meeting to order and read the following State Government Ethics Act reminder:

- In accordance with the State Government Ethics Act: it is the duty of every North Carolina Human Trafficking Commission member to avoid conflicts of interest. If any HTC member has any known conflict of interest in respect to any matter coming in front of the HTC they must identify the conflict and refrain from any participation in the particular matter involved.

Chair Coles read into the minutes a State Ethics Commission letter regarding the Evaluation of Statement of Economic Interest Filed by Dr. Thomas Bernard to

- notify of a potential for conflict of interest. The letter states the potential does not prohibit service on this Commission.

Welcome and Introductions:

Chair Coles asked members of the Commission to introduce themselves.

Approval of the Minutes: March 26, 2019 meeting:

- A motion to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2019 meeting was made, seconded, and passed with no amendments.

Swearing in of New Members:

Judge Andrew Heath conducting the swearing in of new members Judge Sherri W. Elliott, Dr. Thomas Bernard, and Angelica Wind.

NC HTC Chair Report:

Chair Coles gave an update on proposed budget for the Commission within the state budget in fiscal year 2019-2020.

Staff Report and Action Item:

Director Long gave an update on activities conducted throughout the past month. NC State Bureau of Investigations Supervising Agent in Charge Carl Wall gave an update of training and outreach operations provided throughout the past couple months and future training in partnership with Director Long.

Commissioners decided not approve an awareness poster to be used in place of the original poster required. Commission staff will work on redesigns to bring before the Commission at the next meeting. Redesigns will contain attention grabbing headings and will move the current heading language down further, but within the body of the poster.

A Word from the Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts:

Interim Director McKinley Wooten, Jr. addressed the Commission and thanked Commissioners for their work over the past few years.

Break

The meeting was called back to order by Chair Coles.

Committee Reports and Action Items:

Committee on Policy and Legislation: Jennifer Haigwood

Committee Chair Haigwood gave an update on SB198 and other legislation the committee is following.

Ad Hoc Committee on Appropriations:

Committee Chair Haigwood brought two grantee projects for discussion. The Commission took no action on the first grantee project – the grant to NCHTCS - and will look for an update at the next meeting regarding their staffing and progress. Chair Coles and Commissioner Johnson-Hostler recused themselves from the discussion.

For the second grant brought before the Commission – Mecklenburg Youth and Family Services - Commissioners voted to rescind the grant due to the change of scope within the project. Director Long will reopen applications from previous grants for Commissioner review and will schedule a full Commission meeting next month, by phone, to vote on distribution of the remaining grant funds. Judge Hill requested to be on record that she would abstain from the grant review and scoring process.

Committee on Public Health:

Chair Coles appointed Dr. Thomas Bernard to chair this committee. Dr. Bernard summarized his intent for the committee and will begin formally inviting members.

Committee on Public Safety:

No update was given.

Ad Hoc Committee on Standards:

Committee Chair Johnson-Hostler updated the Commissioners on activities in which the standards will be disseminated, tested, and or implemented after the branding is finished to allowing issuing the formal version.

NC Coalition Against Human Trafficking:

Commissioner Wind updated Commissioners about the status and work of the coalition.

Public Comment:

Opportunity was given for public comment and two stakeholders addressed the Commission.

Adjournment

At 12:34pm the meeting was adjourned by Chair Coles. The next meeting will be held on a date TBD by Director Long in consultation with members, and formally noticed.