

2nd MEETING OF 2022 THE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION 30 JUNE 2022 COMMISSIONS SECRETARIAT

PRESENT:

Vaughan Carter Chairman
Dr. Christopher Williams Member
Annikki Hill Member

SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Shari Welcome Public Relations and Education Coordinator (for part)

Jackelin Connolly Administrative Officer
Megan Ramnarine Administrative Officer

1. Meeting Called to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 am.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The meeting minutes of 16 March 2022 were approved.

3. Outstanding Business

a. Curriculum Changes in Schools

It was noted that the Commission has provided input on a Year 6 Curriculum document and is awaiting a response from the Ministry of Education's representative. The Secretariat will continue to follow-up on this matter.

b. Constitutional Resources (including documents provided by Celebrate Cayman)

Members agreed to review the documents and provide their feedback prior to the next meeting.

c. Cabinet Manual

The Chairman advised that he had attended a productive meeting with the Cabinet Secretary. The Chairman reported that work on the Cabinet Manual has been progressing, with an emphasis on formalising the internal workings of government. The Chairman noted that this would supplement the Ministerial Code of Conduct that had already been published, but that it would not necessarily encompass matters relating to the formation of government following a general election and, in particular, where there was no clear winner in a general election.

Members were further informed that the Cabinet Secretary is interested in partnering with the Commission on future constitutional projects.

The Secretariat was instructed to prepare correspondence to send to the Cabinet Secretary to note the following:-

- 1) thank him for meeting with the Chairman and acknowledge the steps that have been taken thus far;
- 2) advise that the Commission looks forward to being kept updated on further developments with the Cabinet Manual; and
- 3) further advise that the Commission would be pleased to partner and collaborate with the Cabinet Office on future constitutional projects.

d. Publication of Children's Comic Book

The Public Relations and Education Coordinator advised Members that the comic book is currently being printed.

e. Annual Update

Members were informed that the cover letter, and the enclosed Constitutional Commission Update for Constitution Dayt on 4 July 2022, is to be sent via email to His Excellency, the Governor; the Honourable Premier; and to the Honourable Leader of the Opposition on 1 July 2022. The Update will also be circulated to the media and published on the Commission's website.

Additionally, the Chairman and Member Hill agreed to participate in a radio interview ('For the Record') to discuss the new Update publication, and the work of the Commission in connection with Constitution Day on Monday, 1 July 2022.

f. Commission's correspondence of 15 October 2021 (including constitutional provisions requiring additional legislation (and, especially, Advisory District Councils) and outstanding Commission recommendations)

Members discussed this item and agreed there no further action was required at this time, pending substantive responses from the recipients of this correspondence.

4. New Business

a. Parliamentary Code of Conduct and Enforcement

Members were advised that the Commission's Guidance Note on a Parliamentary Code of Conduct and its Enforcement had been published on the Commission's website.

b. Book Launch

Members discussed the book launch of the new publication, "The Cayman Islands: History, Politics, and Society - Essays in honour of J.A. Roy Bodden" held on 14 June 2022. Members had met with the guest speaker, Professor Cynthia Barrow-Giles (Professor of Constitutional Governance and Politics, The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus) and it was agreed that the Commission would look to keep in contact with Professor Barrow-Giles for future discussion.

c. Election Reports

Members discussed the election reports (Cayman Islands General Election, April 2021 and Cayman Islands General Election 2021, Domestic Observers' Report), links to which had been circulated, and Members agreed to provide comments at the Commission's next meeting where these issues would be discussed more substantively.

5. Any Other Business

a. Reflecting on the matters discussed in the meeting with Professor Barrow-Giles, Member Hill expressed her willingness to lead on developing an engagement strategy for the Commission in collaboration with the PR & Education Coordinator.

b. Upcoming Parliament Events

The Chairman advised that the Speaker of the House will be hosting two events: 1) a lecture with Dr. The Hon. Lloyd Barnett; and 2) a 50th Anniversary dedication of the Parliament Building. The Secretariat will reach out to the coordinators to request an invitation on behalf of the Commission.

6. Action List

Members were asked to:

a. Review resources as outlined in item 3.b. above.

The Secretariat was asked to:

- **a.** Draft follow-up correspondence to the Ministry of Education as outlined in item 3.a. above for the Chairman's review;
- **b.** Draft correspondence to the Cabinet Secretary as outlined in item 3.c. above;
- **c.** Coordinate an initial meeting with Member Hill and the PR & Education Coordinator to discuss the engagement strategy as outlined in item 5.a. above; and
- **d.** Request a formal invitation to the upcoming Parliamentary events to be held on 21 July 2022 for the Commission as outlined in item 5.b. above.

7. Items to be Discussed at the next Meeting

- **a.** Curriculum Changes in Schools
- b. Constitutional Resources (including documents provided by Celebrate Cayman)
- c. Cabinet Manual
- d. Publication of Children's Comic Book
- e. Engagement Strategy
- f. Lecture and 50th Anniversary Dedication Parliament Building

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be an 'extraordinary' meeting to discuss the engagement strategy as detailed in item 5.a. above, subject to the availability of Members. The next 'regular' meeting was scheduled on a preliminary basis for 8 September 2022, with the date to be confirmed via round robin.

9. Termination

The meeting was closed at 11:03 am.

Vaughan Carter

CHAIRMAN

CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION