

6th MEETING OF 2011 23RD MEETING OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION 5 APRIL, 2011 CONFERENCE ROOM COMMISSIONS SECRETARIAT

PRESENT:

Pastor Al Ebanks

Julene Banks

Chairman Member

Wil Pineau

Member

Secretariat members present:

Deborah Bodden

Manager, Commissions Secretariat

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 10:18am and a prayer was offered by a member of the Commission.

2. Confirmation of previous minutes

The minutes of the 31 March meeting will be forwarded to the Secretariat to be typed.

3. Outstanding Business

District Meetings

The dates for the district meetings in North Side, East End, Bodden Town and George Town have now been confirmed. Pastor Al has had contact with the district representative for North Side who is looking forward to their meeting. It appears as though there will be several district meetings over the next week with different representatives. Based on favourable public comments which have been made on Cayman News Service, the Commission believes that freedom of expression is alive and well in the Cayman Islands.

The Commission discussed its logistical needs for the district meetings which include having the meetings recorded (video and audio); sound system set up; use of a podium; copies of the Constitutional Commission brochure; use of the pull up banner; and refreshments.

The various issues which the Commission feels are important to discuss at the meetings include: the Electoral Boundary Commissions Report, the concept of "one man one vote", and Advisory District Councils.

Speaking notes for the Chairman are being prepared and a discussion was held surrounding the content of the notes. It was agreed that personal views need to be expressed as just those and should not be shared during a Commission forum if possible.

The Commission requested that the Manager also review the power point presentation to ensure the content is accurate. Member Wil Pineau will present the power point but will defer any legal questions to Member Julene Banks. It was agreed that the Commission wants to pose more questions that give answers so that members of the community can begin thinking about good governance.

II. Budget

The Commission enquired as to the funds available for the Commission's use in both the 10/11 and 11/12 fiscal year. The Manager will endeavour to meet the needs of the Commission but it was noted that the expenses were not allocated for in either of the budgets and the 11/12 budget has yet to be approved. Additionally, the Manager has committed to hosting Professor Jowell to assist the Secretariat and the Commissions during the week of 20 June. The Commission is requesting finances to pay for the district meetings and forums they are hosting as well as \$11k for printing publications.

III. UN Special Committee on Decolonization

The UN has invited members of the Commission to speak during the 2011 Caribbean Regional Seminar which is to be held in Cayman 24-26 May, 2011 in the Cayman Islands. The Commission has accepted the invitation and awaits the topic as assigned by the UN.

IV.Administrative Issues

The Commission has requested that the Secretariat source the creation of an electronic letterhead which has an embedded heading) and of an e-mail signature for all Commissioners to use. It was agreed that with the creation of a letterhead, all documents sent using the letterhead should be sent in a pdf format. The question of whether e-mails could be sent from the webpage so that Commissioners do not have to use their personal/work e-mail accounts was raised and recommended.

V.Correspondence

The Commission has received correspondence from both His Excellency the Governor and the Honourable Premier in regards to their constitutional remit. The Commission has responded to His Excellency the Governor and will now acknowledge the correspondence from the Honourable Premier.

4. Action List

The Commission will:

- i. prepare the opening remarks (Wil);
- ii. contact the district reps for West Bay and the Sister Islands to confirm their availability of meetings (Pastor Al); and
- iii. forward the finalized edited content of the booklets (Julene).

The Secretariat will:

- i. update the powerpoint presentation;
- ii. check on the availability of logistical equipment/set-up for the district meetings;
- iii. review the availability of funds in the 10/11 budget;
- iv. follow up on the administrative issues; and
- v. draft the response to the Premier.

5. Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting

District Meetings

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 26 April, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. at the Commission Secretariat Boardroom.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00pm

Pastor Al Ebanks

CHAIRMAN

CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION