

**7th MEETING OF 2012
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MINUTES
10 OCTOBER, 2012
CONFERENCE ROOM
COMMISSIONS SECRETARIAT**

PRESENT: Richard Coles Chairman
Rev. Nicholas Sykes Member
Sara Collins Member

APOLOGIES: Alistair Walters Member
Cathy Frasier Member

SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Deborah Bodden Manager, Commissions Secretariat
Michael Ebanks Analyst, Commissions Secretariat
Lise Hurlstone Analyst, Commissions Secretariat

1. **Meeting called to order**
The meeting was called to order at 2:40p.m.
2. **Confirmation of previous minutes**
The minutes of 3 September, 2012 were confirmed.
3. **Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**
 - a. **Migrants Policy**
The Commission will be organising meetings with the various representatives now that all relevant members are available.
 - b. **Implications of Rights Booklet**
All members have now had the opportunity to review and comment on the booklet. The Secretariat will make the last revisions and then send it to all members for a final read through before asking GIS to format the document. The Booklet will be made available for all public officials once it is finalised.
 - c. **Update on BoR Commemorative Book**
The commemorative book is now in the publication phase and subject to funding it is the goal of the Commission to present each primary school aged child with a book. The possibility of providing an electronic version of the book is also being explored as is an official launch for its release on 6 November, 2012.
 - d. **Electoral Registry Query**
All members have now had an opportunity to review and discuss the research presented on this matter. Correspondence to the relevant persons will be drafted for the Chairman's approval.

- e. **Prison No-Smoking Policy**

All members have now had an opportunity to review and discuss the research presented on this matter. Correspondence to the relevant persons will be drafted for the Chairman's approval.
 - f. **Sexual Harassment Bill**

As a matter of record, the Commission did not submit any comments on this draft bill.
 - g. **Correspondence to the Portfolio of Internal and External Affairs**

The Manager corresponded with the Portfolio as previously requested however that correspondence has not been acknowledged.
4. **New Business**
- a. **Approval of Updated Flyer**

With the implementation of the Bill of Rights being one month away, the HRC agreed to the changes which will update its informational flyer.
 - b. **International Human Rights Day (IHRD)**

The HRC discussed its inability to develop a large-scale celebration in the current economic climate and the celebration of Implementation Day. The Commission will continue to explore possible options for celebrating this internationally recognised day.
5. **Human Rights Complaints**
- a. **Update on Human Rights Complaint 004/2012**

Correspondence has been sent to the relevant public authorities requesting working policies relative to the matter to which the HRC is awaiting a response. The HRC will send follow-up correspondence in an effort to view those policies and move forward with this matter.
 - b. **Human Rights Complaint 006/2012**

All members have now had an opportunity to review and discuss the research presented on this matter. Correspondence was sent to the relevant public authority on three occasions, to which the Chief Officer has not responded. The HRC continues to await information from the Chief Officer so that it may move forward with this complaint.
 - c. **Human Rights Complaint 009/2012**

The Commission discussed the details of this case. Correspondence will be sent to the complainant accordingly.
6. **Constitutional Implementation Advisory Group Update**

The CIAG has now sensitised approximately five thousand public officials and are in the process of finishing these sessions over the next few months in preparation for the implementation of the Bill of Rights. It is anticipated that all public officials will be sensitised by November, 2012. Specialist training by a consultant hired from overseas is on-going with public officials who have powers of arrest, including police, immigration, customs, marine enforcement, and the animal welfare officer.

7. Any Other Business

a. Presentation by Data Protection Working Group

Members of the Data Protection Working Group conducted a presentation of the Draft Data Protection Bill as a means in which to familiarise the Commission with its impetus, general contents, and aims. The Commission is grateful to the Working Group's Chairman, Mr. David Archbold and his team for taking the time to discuss the matter with the HRC and field questions from members in what was an informative presentation. The HRC will, separately, provide their comments in writing to the Working Group.

b. Delay in Receiving Responses From Public Officials

The Commission continues to be concerned when there is a delay in receiving responses from public officials as it may impede their ability to investigate a matter. The Chairman will correspond with the Deputy Governor in this regard.

c. Cayman 27 Segments

Various members of the HRC attended Cayman 27 this week to be interviewed for their week-long series on the Bill of Rights, Freedoms and Responsibilities and the significance of Implementation Day. Copies of those segments will be uploaded to the Commission's website and Facebook page.

d. Volunteer Mediators

The Commission will now correspond with the Cayman Islands Association of Mediators and Arbitrators regarding suitable persons for this position.

e. GIS Spotlight

Members were asked to participate in filming a segment for the Implementation Day. Members are asked to send the Manager their availability.

f. Request for Media Interview

The Chairman has accepted a request by the Caymanian Compass to conduct an interview in relation to Implementation Day. The Chairman has requested that the Secretariat's Manager attend the interview.

8. Action Items

Members will:

- a. provide any further feedback on the educational booklet for public officials;
- b. provide any further feedback on the Draft Data Protection Bill; and
- c. confirm their availability to attend media events with the Manager.

The Secretariat will:

- a. arrange meetings to discuss issues related to Cayman's migrant policies;
- b. arrange for the formatting of the educational booklet;
- c. continue to coordinate the commemorative book, launch and Implementation Day in general;
- d. draft correspondence for the Chairman on the electoral register query;
- e. draft correspondence on the prison no-smoking policy;
- f. print the updated informational flyer and post it on the website and Facebook page;
- g. consider alternative options for IHRD;
- h. draft correspondence and follow up on all outstanding HRC complaints;
- i. draft correspondence for the Chairman's approval on the Draft Data Protection Bill;

- j. Upload the Cayman 27 Segments to the website and Facebook page;
- k. draft correspondence for the Chairman's approval to the Cayman Islands Association of Mediators and Arbitrators;
- l. confirm members attendance for GIS Spotlight segment on implementation day; and
- m. confirm and arrange the interview with the Caymanian Compass.

9. Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting

- a. Implementation Day
- b. Migrants Policy
- c. Draft Data Protection Bill
- d. International Human Rights Day
- e. Delay in Receiving Responses From Public Officials
- f. Volunteer Mediators
- g. Outstanding Human Rights Complaints

10. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 7 November, 2012 @ 3:30pm.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30pm.



Mr. Richard Coles
CHAIRMAN
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION