MINUTES MEETING OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION 17 DECEMBER 2014 CONFERENCE ROOM CAYMAN CORPORATE CENTRE

PRESENT: James Austin-Smith

Acting Chairman

Chelsea Frazier-Rivers Lisa-Ann Hurlston-McKenzie Member Member

Reverend Donovan Myers

Member

APOLOGIES: Alistair Walters

Chairman

COMMISSIONS SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Deborah Bodden Manager Josephine Hislop Analyst

Meeting called to order

The meeting was called to order at 1:18pm.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The 6 November 2014 minutes were approved.

3. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

a. Outstanding Research Projects

Deportation and Prohibited Immigrants

Due to members schedules they have been unable to offer submissions of this report. Members will continue to consider the matter and content of the report.

b. Annual Report

Members have now received the draft Report and have agreed to its contents with minor grammatical changes for tabling in the House. The Commission thanked the Secretariat for its work on this report.

4. New Business

a. 2015 Strategic Plan

Members were asked to consider, in time for the next meeting what goals/work the Commission wishes to achieve for the 2015 year. Consideration will assist in planning the work of the Commission and for the Manager when preparing the 2015/2016 budget.

b. Legal Ruling

A member of the public shared a legal ruling in a judicial review matter with the HRC indicating that he felt the ruling went against both the HRC and the generally accepted test of proportionality. The ruling was previously circulated to members and the Commission has noted the same.

c. Presentation to the OCC

The HRC has received a request for the Acting Chairman to make a presentation to the staff of the Office of the Complaints Commissioner on human rights and the complaints process. The Secretariat has collated the relevant information and the presentation will be conducted on 18 December 2014 and will focus on the role human rights plays in the complaints process and how staff of the OCC can ensure they are human rights complaints during that process.

5. Human Rights Complaints

a. Update on Human Rights Complaint 014/2013

Members were updated on this complaint. No further action by the Commission is necessary at this time as the public authority is awaiting action from the complainant in order to resolve the matter.

b. Update on Human Rights Complaint 019/2013

Members were updated on this complaint. No further action by the Commission is necessary at this time as the public authority whom the Commission is communicating with is considering the matter.

c. Update on Human Rights Complaint 006/2014

Members were updated on this complaint. The complainant will be updated as to the status of their case.

d. Update on Human Rights Complaint 013/2014

The Complainant has not supplied the information requested a second time by the HRC and as such the file will be closed.

e. Update on Human Rights Complaint 014/2014

Members were updated on this complaint. The Commission will now liaise with the relevant public authority in this matter.

f. Update on Human Rights Complaint 015/2014

The Commission reconsidered the information in this matter and agreed there was no evidence of a breach. Correspondence will be drafted and the file closed accordingly. It is noted that Reverend Donovan Myers recused himself from this complaint and therefore did not participate in the discussion or the decision making aspect of this complaint.

g. Update on Human Rights Complaint 016/2014

The Commission reconsidered the information in this matter and agreed there was no evidence of a breach. Correspondence will be drafted and the file closed accordingly. It is noted that Reverend Donovan Myers recused himself from this complaint and therefore did not participate in the discussion or the decision making aspect of this complaint.

h. Human Rights Complaint 017/2014

The Commission considered the information in this matter and agreed there was no evidence of a breach. Correspondence will be drafted and the file closed accordingly. It

is noted that the Acting Chairman James Austin-Smith and Member Lisa-Ann Hurlston-McKenzie recused themselves from this complaint and therefore did not participate in the discussion or the decision making aspect of this complaint. Chairman Alistair Walters had previously recused himself also from the complaint. The complainant has been notified of these recusals and has given permission for the two remaining members of the Commission to consider the documents/complaint.

6. Any Other Business

a. HM Prisons 2015 Inspection

The HM Prisons Inspectorate will return in the first quarter of 2015 and the Team has agreed to meet with the Chairman at 9am on 12 January, 2015 at of offices of the Commissions Secretariat. Other members of the Commission were invited to attend or communicate questions in advance to the Chairman.

b. Term of Chairman Alistair Walters

The Acting Chairman noted that the term of the current Chairman expires on 1 January 2015. The Commission thanked him for his time and expertise during his tenure.

7. Action Items

Members were asked to:

- a. Submit comments on the Draft Deportation and Prohibited Immigrant Report;
- b. Submit comments on the Draft Annual Report; and
- c. Consider the goals/work of the Commission for the 2015 year.

The Secretariat was asked to:

- a. Amend, if required, the draft Deportation and Prohibited Immigrants according to feedback when received;
- b. Amend, if required, the draft 2014 Annual Report according to feedback when received;
- c. Draft appropriate correspondence for HRC complaints.

8. Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting

- a. Deportation and Prohibited Immigrants
- b. 2014 Annual Report
- c. 2015 Strategic Plan
- d. New and Outstanding Human Rights Complaints

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the HRC is scheduled for 22 January 2015 at 2:30pm at the offices of the Commissions Secretariat.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:38pm.

James Austin-Smith

ACTING CHAIRMAN

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION