
PRESENT:

MARTIN R. CASTRO, Chairman
ROBERTA ACHTENBERG, Commissioner
GAIL L. HERIOT, Commissioner
PETER KIRSANOW, Commissioner*
DAVID KLASTEN, Commissioner*
KAREN K. NARASAKI, Commissioner
PATRICIA TIMMONS-GOODSON, Commissioner
MICHAEL YAKI, Commissioner*

MARLENE SALLO, Staff Director
JENNIFER CRON HEPLER, Parliamentarian

* Present via telephone
STAFF PRESENT:
IVY DAVIS, Director, ERO
PAMELA DUNSTON, Chief, ASCD
ANGELA FRENCH-BELL, Deputy Staff Director, OSD
DORIS GILLIAM
ALFREDA GREENE
PETER MINARIK, Director, WRO
LENORE OSTROWSKY, Acting Chief, PAU
ROREY SMITH, General Counsel
MICHELE YORKMAN, Director, IT

COMMISSIONER ASSISTANTS PRESENT:
ALEC DEULL
CLARISSA MULDER
JUANA SILVERIO
ALISON SOMIN
KIMBERLY TOLHURST

INTERNS PRESENT:
MELISSA BROWER
JEFFREY JOSEPH
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(9:31 a.m.)

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: I’m going to be calling the meeting to order.

It is 9:31 a.m.

This is a meeting of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights taking place on August 15th, 2014, at our headquarters, 1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest, in Washington, D.C.

I’m Chairman Marty Castro. The Commissioners who are present with us at this meeting of course are myself, Commissioner Heriot, Commissioner Timmons-Goodson, Commissioner Narasaki, and Commissioner Achtenberg, and Commissioner -- did I say Commissioner Heriot? If I didn’t, I’ll say it now. On the phone are Commissioners Kladney and Yaki. Is Commissioner Kirsanow on the phone?

(No audible response)

All right. Well, he’ll hopefully join us soon.

A quorum of the Commissioners is present. Is the court reporter present?

THE COURT REPORTER: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Yes. And is our
Staff Director present?

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: Present.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. So the meeting will now come to order.

But before we move on to the agenda items, there are a couple of things I want to be able to share with you and acknowledge. As most of you know, at the last meeting we were fortunate to have two new members join us at the Commission. They were appointed the night before the meeting by the President, and they got sworn in in a very luxurious and fancy way downstairs at a bank, the notary public and rushed up here and joined our briefing.

In all the rush, I neglected to allow them an opportunity to give welcoming remarks, although we welcomed them. So I’d like to be able to give them that opportunity now. Commissioner Narasaki?

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I am extremely honored to be asked by President Obama to serve on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. As Chair Castro has often pointed out, the Commission is the nation’s largest on civil rights. I very much look forward to working
with him, the wonderful staff, and my fellow Commissioners to carry out what I view as a very heavy responsibility.

When he signed the Civil Rights Act of 1957 into law, President Eisenhower said that in a democratic society the systemic critical review of social needs and public policy is a fundamental necessity. And this is especially true of a field like civil rights where the problems are enduring and range widely, and where a temporary, sporadic approach can never finally solve these problems, as we have seen recently play out in Ferguson.

My commitment to civil rights is rooted in my family’s experiences. My parents, both born in the United States, were sent into prison during World War II by their own government, to concentration camps because they happened to look like the Japanese enemy. My father volunteered out of one of those camps to fight in Army infantry in the famed 100th Battalion 442nd Regimental Combat Team, even though his mother, also a citizen, born in the United States, was still being held behind barbed wire.

I think that the beauty of America is that only one generation later someone whose
parents have been called enemy non-aliens would be given the responsibility of serving on a Commission that works to ensure that everyone in America has real opportunity and is treated with dignity and fairness that every human being deserves.

I am very mindful of the important role that the Commission has played historically, and I know that without a doubt the civil rights movement -- without the civil rights movement and the Commission’s work I would not be sitting here today.

When I first arrived in Washington, D.C., the Commission’s 1992 report on Civil Rights Issues Facing Asian-Americans in the 1990s was the first national government report to fully catalog the discrimination facing a community whose population had begun to explosively grow.

Its well-researched analysis and thoughtful recommendations formed the basis for the White House initiative on Asian-American and Pacific Islanders that was first launched by President Clinton and continues its important work today in highlighting the continuing challenges, and the effective best practices for both the public and private sector.
The recent events in Ferguson remind us that while our nation has made great progress since the Commission’s inception, there is much work yet to be done as we continue to form that more perfect union. And I am very humbled by this opportunity to work with all of you to help make that happen.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Thank you, Commissioner.

Commissioner?

COMMISSIONER TIMMONS-GOODSON: Yes.

Good morning. I am Patricia Timmons-Goodson. I humbly accept the President’s invitation to join this Commission.

I am the oldest of six children, born to a non-commissioned Army officer, a sergeant in the Army, and his homemaker wife. My father worked extremely -- parents worked extremely hard to ensure that they had a better life, but I believe they worked even harder to ensure that their six children had a better life. They were convinced -- and they convinced the six of us -- that that better life could be had through a good education.

We were taught to follow the rules, do the very best that we could, and that good things
would happen. And good things have happened in my life, but I don’t believe that my parents could have foreseen the fact that their oldest of six would one day serve on the Supreme Court of North Carolina, a state that was once a part of the old Confederacy.

Hattie McDaniel said once, as she accepted her Academy Award, “I believe I worked hard, but God did the rest.” Well, that’s the way that I feel about the opportunity that -- opportunities that I have been given professionally in this life.

I indicated that I was born to a homemaker and Army officer, non-commissioned officer. Let me say, though, that my father in his service in segregated Army, many of his colleagues fighting and dying in the Vietnam War and other conflicts, they were fighting in order to ensure that their children and grandchildren benefitted from and had the full measure of these United States. And so I have been mindful throughout my service in the judiciary of North Carolina, and I will be mindful here in my service, that there are many folks that fought and died so that a better day, a better life, the full measure of these United
States could be had and borne by all.

I look forward to making whatever contribution I can make here on the Commission. I know how strongly all of the Commissioners feel about civil rights. We may not agree and have not agreed on everything, but I know that each is committed in his or her own way.

And I pledge to add my shoulder to the wheel to make sure that the very important work that we have to do is done.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Thank you, Commissioner. And we are happy to have you both part of the family of the Commission, and we actually have a family here that continues to grow. We have a new member. Our new OCRE director, Angela French-Bell, who joined us this week, I believe.

MS. FRENCH-BELL: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: And so welcome. We are really pleased to have you in a position that has been vacant for many years. We’ve got some great staffers who have been in that acting position, but we’ve needed someone in a position that is now the full-time leader of that important
department for us. I don’t know if you wanted to say a couple words of welcome.

MS. FRENCH-BELL: Good morning. I just wanted to --

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: You’ve got to use the mike. I’m sorry. So that our court reporter can --

MS. FRENCH-BELL: I just want to say good morning and thank you so much. I appreciate your kind remarks, and I’m ready to start the great work of the Commission.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Thank you and welcome.

And, unfortunately, we recently lost a member of the extended Commission family. Today, the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights mourns the death of Vermont SAC member Marion Milne. Marion was appointed in March 2008 and was an active and vital member of that very important SAC, but perhaps Marion will be best remembered for her courageous vote on the 2000 Civil Union Bill in Vermont, which was the first in the nation.

The bill was controversial and Marion, a Republican legislator, supported the bill. She
knew it might mean defeat in the next election, but she voted her conscience and her vote was critical in passing the bill. She was ousted from office but knew that she was on the right side of history, so she never looked back.

On the day she died, Marion was planning to get her hair done to go to work and attend the Vermont SAC’s briefing that day. She will be missed, and we send our condolences to her family and friends.

With that, I would like to move on to the formal agenda. We have a proposed agenda. Is there a second on that proposed agenda?

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: Second.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. Are there any amendments? I believe we do have an amendment.

COMMISSIONER YAKI: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Yaki?

COMMISSIONER YAKI: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I wish to amend the agenda to include consideration by the Commission of a letter to the Department of Justice with regard to the recent events in Ferguson.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. Is there a second?
COMMISSIONER HERIOT: Second.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. Now, remind me, we’re going to have another amendment, too. Do we need to vote on these amendments separately? All together? Yes, separately, right? So we will vote on this amendment first. Any discussion? All in favor of the -- I don’t need to do a roll call on this, do I, Mr. General Counsel?

All in favor of amending the motion to add consideration of the letter involving Ferguson signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes)

Any opposed? Any abstentions?

(No audible response)

Okay. Do we have any other amendments? Is there going to be an amendment on the Virginia SAC? Pardon me? Yes.

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: Mr. Chair, I would at this point in time request that the Virginia SAC slate be removed from today’s agenda, as per my previous email to the Commission.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Is there a second?

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: That’s not a motion. She is not a Commissioner. So moved.

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: Thank you.
CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay.

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: I’ll second.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Any additional discussion or any discussion on that? Hearing none, all those in favor of removing the Virginia SAC from today’s agenda signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes)

Any opposed? Any abstentions?

(No audible response)

Okay. If there are no further amendments, let’s vote to approve the agenda as amended. All those in favor say aye.

(Chorus of ayes)

All those opposed? Any abstentions?

(No audible response)

Okay. So that motion passes unanimously.

The first item up is program planning. Well, actually, maybe what we should do is just take up the letter first. Commissioner Yaki, you have the floor.

COMMISSIONER YAKI: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. And, colleagues, I think all of us watched with dismay and a certain amount of horror as the events in Ferguson have unfolded over
the past week, first with the reports that the local
police shot an unarmed African American teenager
after he had raised his hands to surrender.

Obviously, the FBI is investigating, is
interviewing witnesses at this point, but shortly
thereafter the treatments -- the protests and the
resulting response by the Ferguson Police
Department escalated in a manner that I think most
of us have been unfamiliar with in our lives unless
we experienced it during some of the civil rights
demonstrations back in the ’60s where you had
police armed to the teeth tear gassing and dressed
to the nines in extreme militarized uniforms.

The result of this is that I have put
before the Commission a letter for us to send to
the Attorney General, and the letter is -- letter
is before you right now. And, in essence, it has
sort of three major points. One is we support the
Department’s investigation into the shooting of
Michael Brown and to insist on full transparency
and disclosure as it goes on, because of course one
of the major problems that has sparked the unrest
and the distress has been the reluctance until this
very morning of the Ferguson Police to name the
identity of the police officer who originally shot
Mr. Brown.

We also want to ask that Justice do whatever it can, whether through the Information Service or the U.S. Attorneys’ Office, to ensure that calm and tensions are alleviated between the police and the community.

At the same time, I think we also need to -- we need to step up. Even though we are the Civil Rights Commission, there were civil liberties involved as well during this. The tear gas attacks, the mass arrests, the arrests and assaults on accredited journalists, again, I think dismayed all of us.

The second point of the letter is to -- and I think the major point of the letter, quite frankly, is that what has come forward in the controversy over what is going on in Ferguson is that the community is, by all reports, over 60-some percent African American, and yet in the entire police department less than six percent are African American, and only one of the City Council is African American. And on its face, I believe that this warrants closer investigation and scrutiny by the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice, and this letter asks for that as well.
That pretty much sums up what this letter is about, and I welcome other colleagues’ comments on this letter. I would like to note that Commissioner -- Chairman Castro and I had a conversation about his concerns overall about the issue of police shootings of young minority individuals. And I think that the Chairman has -- I think I would support this Commission in the future also addressing that issue as well.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Thank you, Commissioner Yaki, for raising this important issue for the Commission. And as we conversed yesterday virtually, we did talk about the -- this situation in Ferguson, Mr. Brown, is just indicative of what appears to be a pattern and practice in some jurisdictions of young African American and young Latino men being killed in police custody or during arrests.

The NAACP Legal Defense Fund put out a letter yesterday outlining a number of incidents in the African American community that very much mirror what happened to Mr. Brown. We know that there are other areas.

So at some point in the not-too-distant future I think it would be important for us to take
a closer look at those issues. But given the
exigent circumstances of the Michael Brown case,
and what is going on in Ferguson, we felt it was
important to move forward right now on this letter.

So I will take Commissioner Yaki’s
statement as his motion. And if we can get a
second, we can have further discussion on this. Is
there a second?

COMMISSIONER KЛАДNEY: Second.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Yes. Who was that?

COMMISSIONER КЛАДNEY: Kladney.

Second.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: All right. Any
additional discussion?

COMMISSIONER KИRSАNOW: This is
Kirsanow. The characterization of some of the
events or facts are not something that I’m
ultimately prepared to sign on to. Particularly
with respect to this form of racial
proportionality. (Inaudible)

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner
Narasaki, and then Commissioner Heriot.

COMMISSIONER NАRASАKI: Well, I do
believe that there was a growth in the African
American population over the last decade. It
still started out something like 40 percent. So even with that, these numbers I think raise a question.

So I support the letter. I did circulate some amendments, friendly amendments, edits to the letter last night, mainly just to clean up a little redundancy and also to update it for the fact that actually the Community Relations Service is already on the ground and working very closely with the state and the city officials, and I think we should acknowledge that.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Were those changes included in the final version?

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: I sent them around like midnight last night, so the staff told me what I needed to do was to move the corrections --

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay.

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: -- formally here.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Because I don’t see them in here.

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: Yes. Well, they didn’t hand out.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay.
COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: So I could go line by line, or we could ask the staff to make a copy of the redline.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Yes. If we could get a copy of the redline, that would be easier. Save you the time of reading it.

And while that happens -- do we have copies? While that happens, Commissioner Heriot, you have the floor.

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to say that I share Commissioner Yaki’s concerns over the situation in Ferguson. Things do indeed look very bad there, and I support the concept of sending a letter like this. I don’t think I can sign on to this letter, but what I can do is send a letter that concurs in part with this letter, and I think that I would feel much more comfortable with a separate letter.

Perhaps Commissioner Kirsanow and I can collaborate on that or maybe we will send separate ones. But I concur with a lot of what is in this letter, and I can send a separate one. And I will abstain on this letter.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Is your concern also the same paragraph that --
COMMISSIONER HERIOT: I also have some wordsmithing problems in it, but the main problem is that paragraph.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. Any additional questions, discussion? Commissioner Achtenberg?

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: For myself, I just wanted to say that I do believe that the letter is constructed quite artfully under the circumstances, and I intend to support the letter as well as the friendly amendments from the Commissioner.

I think more than a prima facie case has been made that there is significant reason for the Justice Department to investigate, which is all the letter is calling for. And so as a result, I intend to support the letter in full.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: You’re welcome.

As soon as we get the revisions, we will go through that. Any other questions or comments? I’m sorry. Commissioner?

COMMISSIONER TIMMONS-GOODSON: Yes. I simply would like to say that the letter is very appropriate. I do not take issue with the way
anything is stated --

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay.

COMMISSIONER TIMMONS-GOODSON: -- and signing on.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. Well, while we wait for the copy, maybe we can just start by you indicating where the changes are. Commissioner, sorry to make you do that, but I want to --

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: Of course.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: -- move along.

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: So what I’ve done is in the second paragraph, I have broken that into two paragraphs, and the second paragraph starts with, “We urge the Department,” so it’s the third sentence.

In the second paragraph, I have moved up the discussion about the Department of Justice’s Community Relations Service and amended the sentence to say, “We also commend the efforts of the Department’s Community Relations Service to work with city officials and the community to help calm tensions in Ferguson.”

In the rest of the part of the second paragraph that I moved, I have changed the now
second sentence to say, "In addition, we are also concerned about reports of other potential violations of civil liberties and civil rights in Ferguson over the past few days." And then it continues on.

And then I have changed, "While we support your Department’s efforts," I have just simply changed it to, "Consequently, we urge strongly that the Department and the U.S. Attorneys’ Office are empowered to take whatever steps are necessary and appropriate to protect the constitutional rights of the citizens of Ferguson." So that’s partly taking into account that I moved the Community Relations Service sentence.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Right, right. And, Commissioners on the phone, you should have gotten this in your in box last night. So if you want to take a look at that before the vote, you have it virtually in your mail.

So, Commissioner Yaki, do you accept this friendly amendment?

COMMISSIONER YAKI: I have no problems with it.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. Any
additional discussion? If not, I will take a vote.
Commissioner Heriot, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: I abstain.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Timmons-Goodson, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER TIMMONS-GOODSON: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Yes. Commissioner Narasaki, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: I vote yes.

Commissioner Achtenberg, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Kladney, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER KLADNEY: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Yaki, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER YAKI: Aye.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Kirsanow, how do you vote? Commissioner Kirsanow?

You may be on mute, Commissioner. Okay. We’ll list you for now as not voting. You can always give us your vote afterwards. So the motion passes, three yeses, one abstention, one no vote.

Thank you. We’ll -- I’m sorry?
COMMISSIONER HERIOT: There was a no vote.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: There was a no vote? I’m sorry. I’ve got six yeses, an abstention, and a -- I said three? I’m sorry. I meant six.

COMMISSIONER KIRSANOW: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Yes.

COMMISSIONER KIRSANOW: This is Kirsanow. I lost the call and had to call back in.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Yes. We were waiting for you and we were just -- what is your vote on the letter on Ferguson?

COMMISSIONER KIRSANOW: I’ll abstain.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Abstain. So two abstentions and six yeses. So the motion passes. I would suggest that we finalize this letter as soon as possible today and have it issued. I think we should also have staff issue a press release along with the letter indicating that we’ve taken this step.

Moving on, next item is on program planning.

I. PROGRAM PLANNING

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Update on discussion of projects. The first item we have is vote on Part
A and B of the briefing report, increasing compliance with Section 7 of the NVRA. Part A is --

COMMISSIONER YAKI: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Yes.

COMMISSIONER YAKI: Mr. Chairman, this is Commissioner Yaki. I have to depart the meeting for a while. I may be able to get back on, but I don’t know if I will.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. Thank you. Well, let us know when you do -- if you do come on, so we know you’re there.

COMMISSIONER YAKI: Okay.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Thanks.

So, as you all know, Part A is the report, includes the substantive contents of introduction, summary proceedings, and discussion. Part B are the findings and recommendations put forward by Commissioners. Up for consideration are the findings proposed by Commissioner Kladney as well as the key issues and questions section offered by Commissioner Yaki.

Any discussions or motions?

COMMISSIONER KLADNEY: I make a motion that we accept Parts A and B, and I guess that
includes Commissioner Yaki’s Part B.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. There is a motion on that. Is there a second?

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: Second.

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: I think our procedures are to do this separately.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Yes. So Part A first. So a motion on Part A, which was --

COMMISSIONER KLADNEY: I make a motion on Part A.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: And seconded by Commissioner Achtenberg. Now, is there discussion? Commissioner Narasaki? Is there anyone who has any comments, discussion, before we take a vote on this? Do you want a little bit -- do you want some time?

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: Yes, I want some time. But if I’m the only one that --

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: I think you may be the only one.

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: So I apologize, because I haven’t been around for this, so there are just a couple of things. One is that this year is the 50th anniversary of Freedom Summer and the Civil Rights Act, and next year is the 50th
anniversary of the Voting Rights Act. And depending on when we plan to get this report out, it might be nice to acknowledge that somewhere in the text.

But I have to say, I have a number of concerns about the report. One is in the way it is written, which is very much like a summary transcript as opposed to something that is more user-friendly and easier to understand what the actual conclusions are.

So, for example, there is a lot of discussion about the numbers of registration, and whether the drops were caused by lack of compliance or other just social changes with the way that benefits are done. And you have to work your way through several conversations to figure out exactly what the pros and cons are of that argument. And I realize it might be too late, but it seems to me that it would be more usable if those arguments that are being made are actually grouped together in a cohesive way.

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: If I may, Chair, we will be changing the format of the reports. And I would be more than happy to discuss the idea that we have to make it more cohesive in nature, and not
so much a regurgitation of the transcript in a more summarized fashion.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner, you’re suggesting, though, that we hold off on approving Part A until that is done?

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: Yes. I feel that this is an important report. I don’t want to hold it up too much. I don’t know how long it would take just to reorganize some.

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: It won’t get out by the end of this fiscal year. That’s true.

COMMISSIONER Kladney: What was that?

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: To redraft it, will not allow me to get it out by the end of this fiscal year, meaning September 30th.

COMMISSIONER Kladney: It’s not a -- it’s not a statutory report. It’s been a couple of years, hasn’t it?

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: Therein lies the reason why I wanted to try to get it out, but I will do whatever is necessary. As long as everyone understands it may take a little while.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Yes. I mean, I think it’s -- this is obviously something we’ve been talking about for a long time anyway, and I
know part of it has been we haven’t had the staff bandwidth to do that, and we are bringing on folks now, as I indicated this morning, with our new OCRE head. This is an important -- they’re all important topics or we wouldn’t be looking at them.

And I think given what Commissioner Narasaki says about where this falls in terms of these important voting rights, milestones, I think we want to put out the clearest report that we can. And I would support putting it off in order to be able to clarify it as she has outlined and make it a stronger report.

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: Yes. I do understand the need for timeliness. We have an election coming up. I don’t know that that much attention will be paid to this while this -- because we are so close to that particular election. So we might actually get more traction after, and I do think that because people put so much time and effort into it, I’d like to see it get as much mileage as possible. And I think that will happen if it’s easier to read.

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: I appreciate that. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: All right. So --
COMMISSIONER KLANDNEY: I agree.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay.

COMMISSIONER KLANDNEY: If I have to, I’ll withdraw my motion.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: I don’t think the motion was seconded, so -- was it seconded?

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: Yes, it was.

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: It was.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. So we -- yes. You withdraw your motion? That’s -- we’ll just postpone this until --

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: I don’t think you can withdraw a motion that has been seconded. The group is now --

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. Well, we’ll table it then.

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: It’s for the group.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: We’ll table it then.

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: You’ve got to vote on that.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Yes. Is there a motion to table?

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: So moved.
CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. Is there a second?

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: Second.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. All those in favor of tabling --

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: Discussion? I have discussion.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Discussion? Go ahead. Anybody?

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: I guess I probably should say something. I mean, I have mixed feelings about all of this. On the one hand, I agree with Commissioner that -- the thing is that we summarize these briefings. And, you know, as a literary genre, it doesn’t work very well. On the other hand, if we put this off, it’s not going to just be the -- you know, beyond the end of the fiscal year. We’re not going to see this again for another year or so. That’s the way these things work. It takes a long time.

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: I do not plan on holding off another year.

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: You don’t understand, because what you produce I can pretty much guarantee you I’m going to have a lot of
comments on. So it will take a long time. And, you know, it’s -- you know, my instinct is just to go ahead with this one and, you know, try to change the format later.

But this has been like a recurring problem, and it’s a very, very serious problem. And you’re not going to solve it just by, you know, now we’re going to be more substantive, because it can be a lot more controversial at that point and there can be a lot more errors as well. So, you know, I’m of two minds.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: So that was one of the minds talking. What about the other one saying it’s a good idea?

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: It’s true that this format does not work very well. And, you know, I would very much like to see the format change. I actually think that, you know, we should put more emphasis on Commissioner statements, because those things have more -- there is more new in them. And that we could have like short summaries of what happened at the briefing when we actually go out and get new information, which we should do.

I mean, every single briefing that we
have should include some efforts not just to bring
a talking head in and have that person testify, but
also to reach out, you know, do FOIA requests, do,
you know, things where we are actually generating
new information that otherwise would not be
presented.

When we have a talking head come in, that person is already working probably for a
501(c)(3) and publishing in that area already. That’s why they got invited to present. And
whatever it is they said has probably been presented in some other form already, and that we
should try to be bringing in information that otherwise simply wouldn’t exist. And, you know,
that means having to design each one of these briefings very carefully and not just focusing on
getting a group of people to testify in front of us on a particular day, but being a bit more
organized in the way we do this.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: And that is clearly the intention. As you know, Staff Director has
indicated I think in the past that we will be bringing on some civil rights analysis that will
be able to help with that. We’ve got OCRE. So we are moving in the direction to have the staff that
would do exactly what you’re saying. We’re not going to have the kind we used to have back in the ’60s and ’70s, but at least we’ll be moving somewhat more in that direction than we have been capable of doing for the last several years.

Any other discussion?

COMMISSIONER TIMMONS-GOODSON: Is there a way that we can set a target, even stronger than a target, set a deadline for it to be completed? I mean, even though we’ll have various inputs coming, can we at least set some kind of deadline that takes care of the concerns that I have about another year or longer for this to get out?

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: I try -- staff and I work very hard to get the deadlines going. At the present time, we only have two staff members that can write a report. I’m hoping to bring in another staff member by the end of September. We have other reports in the pipeline, not -- obviously, this will take precedence. We are also in the process of preparing for a briefing in October and another one possibly before the year is out.

So I can try to turn this around within the next two months, is I believe the best that I
can do right at this moment.

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: Mr. Chair?

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Hold on. First, Commissioner Achtenberg, and then we’ll come back to you, Commissioner Narasaki.

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: I just wanted to say that I concur in everything Commissioner Heriot said about moving the process more toward substance and innovation, if you will. I like that all very much, and we will be grappling with changing our format so that our reports -- our hearings are more substantive and probing, and our reports are taken more seriously. So I like all of that.

But on the specific NVRA, I just wanted for my own -- for my own case to encourage Commissioners Yaki and Kladney to combine their -- given that we would be tabling Part A, and, therefore, Part B, is not before us, this might give them some time to perhaps combine their forces and present a unified document, which was going to be the recommendation I was going -- I was going to support both their proposals and ask that the staff be in charge of melding them together. But given that we perhaps will not be considering Part A right
now, that would give the others the opportunity to perhaps combine their efforts, because I found them to be both very probative and very helpful.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. Commissioner Narasaki?

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: Well, I had a question for staff, because I want to be respectful of the challenges in terms of capacity. I’m wondering if it makes it easier or not to maybe take care of it by having an executive summary that tries to do what I’m talking about.

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: As you were speaking, I was thinking of including that in the executive summary, but I’m hearing that perhaps the problems are a little bit more extensive than that. And so, as indicated, I am more than willing to retool the report.

COMMISSIONER Kladney: Yes. I think if we’re going to do it, we might as well go full bore and get it the way you suggested earlier.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. Any other discussion on the motion to table? No?

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: I’m still trying to figure out which of my two minds I’m going to go with.
CHAIRMAN CASTRO: All right. Well, you can decide when I do a roll call vote.

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: Let me vote last on this one.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. I’ll start over here then. So we’ll call a vote on the motion to table the consideration of the NVRA report. Commissioner Achtenberg, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: My soul person votes yes.

(Laughter)

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. I vote yes. Commissioner Narasaki, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: Having caused the problem, I vote yes.

(Laughter)

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Goodson-Timmons -- Timmons-Goodson, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER TIMMONS-GOODSON: This two minds is infectious.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Yes.

COMMISSIONER TIMMONS-GOODSON: Aye.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. Commissioner Yaki, how do you vote?
COMMISSIONER KLADNEY: He’s not here.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Kladney, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER KLADNEY: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Kirsanow, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER KIRSANOW: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Heriot, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: Oh, heavens. I think I’ll just vote yes out of a sense of camaraderie here. But I have real forbodance.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: All right. So we have seven yeses and one not voting. So the motion to table passes.

Next we are moving on to a -- well, we already did the vote on the letter. So we are now moving on to our management and operations report.

II. MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: You’re welcome.

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: In light of the fact that both new Commissioners may not be very well versed on our Strategic Action Plan, I will
present the following information following the five major areas of the Strategic Action Plan.

As we all know, Strategic Goal A refers to the issuance of our reports, and I just wanted to provide an update that we are currently on track to issue the Statutory Enforcement report as deemed necessary by our statute by September 30th. We also have in the pipeline the Arab and Muslim report, which will be issued, at least electronically, by the end of this fiscal year, as well as the Sex Trafficking report by the end of this fiscal year.

The Eminent Domain report will also be a part of our deliverables for this year, as well as the employment report that we issued -- the EEOC report that we issued earlier during this fiscal year. So we will have five deliverables for fiscal year 2014. So that is a positive.

In reference to Strategic Goal B, which deals with the Commission providing regular and objective information and analysis on the civil rights issues, the report that falls under this heading will be our upcoming briefing on October 17th in Orlando, Florida, which is the Stand Your Ground briefing.
As I indicated at last month’s meeting, which was literally three weeks ago, I will be sending out and circulating to everyone by the end of this month a -- I guess a project plan for the Stand Your Ground, which will list any confirmed speakers and logistics for what to expect at the upcoming briefing. So I wanted to provide everyone with that update as well.

We do have our social scientist, which will be starting on August 25th, and he is well aware of the upcoming Stand Your Ground briefing and he will be ready to hit the ground running to get us prepared for that as it applies with the data collection and analysis.

We now move on to Goal C, which is -- deals with the Commission will cooperative, where appropriate, with other federal agencies to apprise individuals of civil rights laws and policies and to raise public awareness of the civil rights.

Commissioners, we have the updated Uncle Sam that has gone to print, which will then be -- we will be able to disseminate that is our most popular publication, since it lists the contact information for any and all civil rights
agencies here in D.C., and we also list some state-based D.C. -- state-based civil rights agencies.

We are also -- we also continue improving our complaint process, and now that we have our OCRE director on board she will be charged with not only updating the way that we handle the complaints and how we post that information on our website, but she will also be overseeing the updates to our clearinghouse, which is scheduled to be a deliverable for fiscal year 2015. So we are in the process of doing that.

As it applies to Strategic Goal D, which also addresses our communicating with the public, we continue to reformat our webpage. We continue to update our IT system. We now have a portable TV/webcam system. So if we need to do any meetings in the future within the office with someone offsite we are able to use that portable webcam to see the person while we are speaking with them. And hopefully we will be able to start live streaming our meetings by the end of this calendar year.

So the goal is to live stream one meeting hopefully before the end of this calendar year.
year and another one next year at the very minimum.

We also have our Ready Talk, which was part in place, and our regional offices are using that to hold teleconferences with their SAC committees rather than having to travel, which does assist them in holding more meetings when necessary. We, as well, continue to improve the access to the Cloud, as we have indicated in the past. And we will continue to expand upon that just like everyone in the federal government is doing.

I now move on to Strategic Goal E, which has to do with strengthening our financial and operational controls. We have the Commission’s audit is -- will be commencing in the next couple of weeks, and so we will have our meeting, and we are preparing for that. We are also preparing to close out our books, which, as you know, is fast approaching. So if anyone owes HR anything, please make sure to submit that.

A review of our human capital plan has been completed, and we are now assessing the performance of our employees, and so everyone needs to also make sure that they follow up on that and get that in.
And, finally, we move on to Strategic Goal F, which is increasing participation of our SACs. Our SACs have been very busy holding meetings and/or briefings throughout the United States. As you know, we currently have 40 active SACs, so that’s a great thing for us. And I hope within the next year that we will see some reports coming out of all of the briefings and meetings that we have held, and we continue to update our webpage since we have now dedicated a page to the State Advisory Committees, and hopefully that will be up and running and completely updated by the end of this calendar year.

Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Any questions for the Staff Director?

COMMISSIONER KLADNEY: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Yes, Commissioner Kladney?

COMMISSIONER KLADNEY: I have two actually, two areas of concern.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: All right.

COMMISSIONER KLADNEY: One is in light of the NVRA vote we just took to retool that report. Are those pending reports also going to be written
in the new style?

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: Are you asking me to delay the two that we’ve already voted upon and adopted?

COMMISSIONER KLANDNEY: Not the ones that we voted on, but anything that is pending. I thought you said that there were some that were pending.

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: Yes. So, yes, it will have to be retooled in that sense. And we were aware of that.

COMMISSIONER KLANDNEY: My second area of concern is you have spoken about the video. Are we going to be able to take testimony from witnesses via video at our meetings? And if not now, how long will that be?

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: I can’t provide you with an answer to that question at this very moment, but I will be more than happy to readdress it with staff and get back to you with a response.

COMMISSIONER KLANDNEY: Are we working on that? Is that one of our goals?

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: The live streaming is one of our goals. And I can follow up with the others, because there are other issues
that we will need to address, so I’ll be more than happy to discuss that with all the Commissioners via email.

COMMISSIONER Kladney: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Any other questions of the Staff Director? Commissioner Achtenberg?

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: Mr. Chairman, thank you. I was noticing in reading the -- looking through the report and seeing where complaints that come to us -- I would be interested to know what subjects they deal with. I see -- you can see the numbers, and when they go up and down. I’m not --

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: There’s the subject matter one.

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: Yes. But when you have a category of 26 other, and 24 unknown -- and I understand that is maybe a difficulty in categorization. But one of the things essentially it reminded me of is that seeing where the -- you know, where these problems are emanating from, you know, maybe -- we may already have and I just don’t know. There is --

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: I guess great minds think alike?
COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: -- early
detection system or --

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: So great minds
think alike, because we just identified a mapping
program that we were going to start using, so that
we can input within a database the type of
complaints that we’re receiving and where they are
coming from. So that if we are getting group
complaints from a specific area or community, we
can then forward that en masse to DOJ as a potential
problem that they may want to investigate.

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: That is
terrific in light of -- I mean, they were saying
the -- in the newspaper, even in -- not U.S. News
& World Report. What’s that other rag?

(Laughter)

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: No. I’m
sorry.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: The Washington
Times?

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: No. It was
-- you know, it was saying the FBI database has,
you know, sort of these terrible problems with it,
and it doesn’t effectively track the -- you know,
the hundreds of young people who have been
assaulted recently via police departments, that kind of thing.

So, I mean, I was just observing that it would be important, at least for me, in trying to figure out what I want to see the Commission put emphasis on to know what the complaints are, where they are coming from, as well as to have a more -- an easier way to see what our SACs are -- what our SAC reports are emphasizing these days as a way of telling us what seems to be important in those -- in various locales.

Just looking through with that lens last night I saw that we have three or four SACs that are doing reports on collateral consequences, for example. We have other -- you know, and I have to say, I hadn’t been aware of the fact that, you know, at least three State Advisory Committees thought this was of such significance that they were, you know, using their precious resources to address that issue.

I found that quite compelling. So a format that allows us more readily to ascertain what kinds of complaints, where they are coming from, as well as what kinds of work the SACs are doing, might be helpful at least to this
Commissioner. So I just -- that’s only an -- it’s only an observation about --

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: No. I appreciate your observation.

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: -- the way the material has been presented.

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: We have done a lot of research for the past two months to identify an appropriate mapping system. That was one of my visions for fiscal year 2015, with the goal of actually having that resource on our website, so that folks can also access it as part of our clearinghouse. And that’s something that I am working towards and which our OCRE director was advised of even during the interviewing process, so that she could start hammering out ideas.

So will be working on that closely, and that will be one of our deliverables for fiscal year 2015.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Great. Thank you. Any other questions? Yes, Commissioner Narasaki?

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: I have a question about the extent to which these tools are available in English.

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: Oh, yes. Yes.
So, obviously, when we set up the databases, they will start out in English. Or we have until now been targeting the Latino community, because most of our non-English-speaking complaints are in Spanish. But as part of our strategic plan, we are also looking within fiscal year 2015 to identify the third language that we will need to include.

Obviously, translating documents, we can’t translate each and every one of them from the beginning, but we can work towards that. And once we set up the database, we can work towards also having translations be a part of it.

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: I have worked a lot on the demographics for Asian languages, and I’d be happy to help staff --

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: --

prioritize.

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Any other questions? Hearing none, thank you. I think it’s really important that you continue to update us specifically on how our strategic goals are being met, and it’s important for us to always keep that front of mind. So thank you.
We will now move on to the State Advisory Committee appointments.

IV. STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC) APPOINTMENTS

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: I am going to make a motion that the Commission appoint the following individuals to the Indiana Committee based upon the recommendation of our Staff Director: Diane Clements, Teri Cardwell, Elizabeth Cierzniak, Tammi Davis, Robert Dion, Morella Dominguez, Christopher Douglas, James Haigh, Robert Heidt, Leslie Hiner, Tony Kirkland, Billy McGill, Jr., Patti O’Callaghan, Ernesto Paolo, Carlton Waterhouse, Ellen Wu, and Catherine Zuckert.

Pursuant to this motion, the Commission appoints Diane Clements as chair of the Indiana State Advisory Commission. These members will serve as uncompensated government employees.

Under this motion, the Commission authorizes the Staff Director to execute the appropriate paperwork for the appointments. Is there a second?

COMMISSIONER KLADNEY: Second.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. Any discussion?
COMMISSIONER KLADNEY: Hello?
CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Yes?
COMMISSIONER KLADNEY: Hello?
CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Yes. Any discussion? Any discussion?

COMMISSIONER KIRSANOW: Kirsanow. I have a question of staff. There was at least one individual whose nomination was tabled the last time we considered the Indiana SAC, a professor at Notre Dame I believe, ___ ___, what happened, hello?

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: We should --

COMMISSIONER KIRSANOW: What happened -- hello?

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: Commissioner, I would request that names not be put on the record, please.

COMMISSIONER KIRSANOW: Can I move to executive session then?

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: So do I need to have any magic language to do that? Is there -- my recollection was that there was specific language we had to use last time that we didn’t use. Do you have it? Closed? Okay. Got it. I understand.

So, Commissioner Kirsanow, are you
making a motion to go into closed session?

COMMISSIONER KIRSANOW: Yes, I am.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Is there a second?

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: Second.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. All those in
-- well, so I’ve got to take a vote on that motion, then. Commissioner Heriot, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Timmons-Goodson, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER TIMMONS-GOODSON: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Narasaki, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Achtenberg, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Kladney, how do you vote? Commissioner Kladney?

COMMISSIONER KLADNEY: Are you asking Kladney?

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Yes.

COMMISSIONER KLADNEY: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Yaki, how do you -- Commissioner Yaki, how do you vote?
Oh, I forgot, he’s not on.

Commissioner Kirsanow, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER KIRSANOW: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: And I’ll vote yes, so the motion passes. We are going into closed session.

We will ask all staff and members of the public to please step out. The court reporter will remain, and General Counsel will stay with us. Of course, our Special Assistants stay with us. You can stay. OGC staff can stay.

(Pause)

All right. Commissioners, we need to -- we are going to need to move to a different room, given that this line is still public. We’re going to get you a phone number to call into, so that we can do this confidentially. So bear with us.

(Whereupon, the above-entitled matter went off the record at 10:29 a.m. and resumed at 11:21 a.m.)

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: We are now back in open session. We completed our closed session. It is now 11:21 a.m., and we are back on the record.

Prior to going into closed session, we were -- I had made a motion on the State Advisory Committee slate for Indiana. I believe that
motion had been seconded, and then we went into closed session. So I understand -- is there an additional motion before we proceed? Go ahead, Commissioner Achtenberg.

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: I would like to move to table the Indiana SAC.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Is there a second?

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: Second.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. Any additional discussion on that? Hearing none, we will take a vote on tabling the Indiana SAC.

Commissioner Heriot, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Timmons-Goodson, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER TIMMONS-GOODSON: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Narasaki, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER NARASKI: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Achtenberg, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Kladney, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER KLADNEY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Kirsanow, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER KIRSANOW: What are we voting on?

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Voting to table the Indiana slate.

COMMISSIONER KIRSANOW: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Yaki, how do you vote? He’s not on?

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: He said he was not coming back on.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. I just wanted to ask in case he was.

And then I vote yes, so the motion passes with seven yeses and one no vote.

I am now going to make a motion --

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: No. No vote. Because Yaki wasn’t on.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: No vote? Oh, he’s considered a no vote, then?

STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: No. Because you said one no.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: No. I said -- okay. Well, I meant there was a vote -- nobody voted on that one.
STAFF DIRECTOR SALLO: Okay.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: So --

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: Yes. That’s easy to misunderstand. So I think we needed different vocabulary there.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Yes. So Commissioner Yaki was not voting.

I am now going to move on to make a motion on North Carolina. I make a motion that the Commission appoint the following individuals to the North Carolina Committee based upon the recommendation of our Staff Director. Michael Gerhardt, Steven Greene, April Harley, Matty Lazo-Chadderton, Rick Martinez, Thealeeta Monet, Robert Numbers, Willie Ratchford, Robert Shaw, Sarah Cecelia -- sorry, Sarah Cecelia Taylor, Marilyn Tyler, Christopher Widmayer, and Olga Wright.

Pursuant to this motion, the Commission appoints Matty Lazo-Chadderton as chair of the North Carolina State Advisory Committee. These members will serve as uncompensated government employees.

Under this motion, the Commission authorizes the Staff Director to execute the
appropriate paperwork for appointments. Do I have a second?

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: Second.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. Any discussion? Hearing none, then we will take a roll call vote. Commissioner Heriot, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Timmons-Goodson, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER TIMMONS-GOODSON: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Narasaki, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Achtenberg, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Kladney, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER KLADNEY: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner Kirsanow, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER KIRSANOW: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Is Commissioner Yaki on the phone?

(No audible response)
And I vote yes, so we have a motion that passes with seven yeses and one Commissioner not participating.

Next, I am going to move that the Commission appoint the following individuals to the Oklahoma Committee based upon the recommendation of our Staff Director. Vicki Limas, Michael Barlow, James Bryant, Brian Corpening, Maria-Elena Diaz, Cara Cowan Watts, Adam Doverspike, Hannibal Johnson, Andrew Lester, Shani Nealy, Michael Owens, and Andrew Spiropoulos.

Pursuant to this motion, the Commission appoints Vicki Limas for chair of the Oklahoma State Advisory Committee. These members will serve as uncompensated government employees.

Under this motion, the Commission authorizes the Staff Director to execute the appropriate paperwork for appointments. Is there a second?

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: Second.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Any discussion? Seeing no requests -- I’m sorry. Commissioner Heriot?

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: I am going to be
voting no on this SAC. I don’t think it’s
ideologically balanced.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Okay. Any other
comments, questions? Commissioner Narasaki?

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: I would just
like to commend the staff for ensuring that there
is a healthy Native American representation.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Thank you. Any
additional comments? Hearing none, we will take
a roll call vote. Commissioner Heriot, how do you
vote?

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: No.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner
Timmons-Goodson, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER TIMMONS-GOODSON: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner
Narasaki, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner
Achtenberg, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner
Kladney, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER KLADNEY: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Commissioner
Kirsanow, how do you vote?

COMMISSIONER KIRSANOW: No.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: Is Commissioner Yaki on the phone?

(No audible response)

And I vote yes, so the motion passes, one, two, three, four, five yeses, two nos, and then a Commissioner not present and not voting. So the motion passes.

V. ADJOURN MEETING

I am now going to move that we adjourn the meeting. Is there a second? No?

COMMISSIONER NARASAKI: Second.

CHAIRMAN CASTRO: All in favor say aye.

(Chorus of ayes)

Okay. See you all next week. It is now adjourned at the hour of 11:26 a.m. And I meant next month, not next week. I’m just so anxious to come back.

(Whereupon, the above-entitled matter went off the record at 11:26 a.m.)