

COMMISSION FOR STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE
6th MEETING OF 2021
MINUTES
15 JULY 2021

PRESENT:

Dr. Sonia Bush	Chairman
Richard Addlestone	Member
Keith Blake	Member
J. Rosalie Twohey	Member

APOLOGIES:

Isatou Smith	Member
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SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marilyn Conolly	Manager, Secretariat (for part)
Lise Hurlstone	Research Analyst
Sheila Watler	Administrative Officer

1. Meeting called to order

The meeting commenced at 2:06 pm and the Chairman thanked all for attending. Apologies were offered on behalf of Member Isatou Smith who could not attend today’s meeting.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meetings of 17 June 2021 and 1 July 2021 were approved.

3. Outstanding Business

a. CSPL Code of Conduct

Members reviewed the proposed amendments to the Commission’s Code of Conduct (“the CoC”) discussed at the last meeting and agreed to accept all changes. The Secretariat will revise the CoC accordingly and recirculate to Members via email.

b. Amendments to the SPL Act and SPL Regs

The Commission continued its discussion on the comments submitted by Members on 10 June 2021 to the proposed amendments to the Standards in Public Life (“the SPL”) Act, and SPL Regulations and agreed on the suggested changes. Members agreed to research provisions for Schedule 1 of the Act and revert with their comments at the next meeting. In the interim, the Secretariat will liaise with the Senior Legislative Counsel (assigned to assist with drafting the revised SPL Act and Regulations) to request a meeting with the Commission.

c. Ministerial Code of Conduct

Members were informed that correspondence was received from the Hon. Premier on 13 July 2021, in response to the Commission’s letter of 16 June 2021, enquiring about the status of the draft Ministerial CoC and inviting him to meet with the Commission. In the said response the

Hon. Premier extended an invitation to the Commission to make a presentation to him and his colleagues in a Caucus meeting on 26 July 2021. Members agreed to accept the Hon. Premier's invitation and to prepare for the Caucus presentation in a meeting on 22 July 2021. The Secretariat will accept the Hon. Premier's invitation on behalf of the Commission and prepare draft speaking notes for the Chairman's review.

d. Correspondence from the PAC

The Chairman advised that correspondence was issued to the relevant party involved on 2 July 2021 and that the Commission currently awaits a response.

e. CSPL Work Plan

Members were informed that work on the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime's ("UNODC") Education For Justice ("E4J") educational programme will continue in January 2022 when the Public Relations and Education Coordinator returns from maternity leave. Members were asked to think about other subject areas that they would like the Commission to address in its Work Plan for discussion at the next meeting.

f. Election Observer's Report

The Commission discussed the locally produced report titled the Domestic Observers' Report (the "local report"), as well as the overseas report currently being prepared by the UK CPA BIMR Election Mission (the "Mission"); both of which were based on the Cayman Islands General Election 2021. Members agreed to issue a brief statement to acknowledge the reports and to indicate that the Commission will keep an eye on any progress made with implementing the recommendations. The Secretariat will assist by preparing a draft statement for the Chairman's review.

4. New Business

a. OfReg Matter

The Chairman advised that there are currently no further updates on this matter and that it will be deferred until the next meeting.

b. Register of Interests 2021

The Commission was informed that Declarations of Interest forms are currently incoming. The Secretariat is unaware of the number of forms received at present. To date, there have been no major issues with the online portal and all reports received from online portal users have been positive.

c. Advice from the AG's Chambers on "Persons in Public Life" Definition

This item was previously discussed in item 3. b. above.

d. Correspondence from the Constitutional Commission

The Commission discussed the Constitutional Commission's correspondence of 30 October 2020, to the previous Commission, wherein it queried if the SPL Act or Regulations requires further amendment. Members agreed to thank the Constitutional Commission for reaching out

to them, advise that the Commission is in the process of revising the SPL legislation and that they will provide the Constitutional Commission with a formal update as soon as one can be provided. The Secretariat will assist by preparing the draft response for the Chairman's review.

5. Any Other Business

- a. It was queried whether the Commission can liaise with the Anti-Corruption Commission on similar matters. The Chairman noted the query and advised that the Commission will revert to that question in a few months.
- b. Member Richard Addlestone noted that he attended the CCAICACB Virtual Conference on the 30 June and 1 July 2021. He commented on the Cayman Islands having not submitted a Country Report this year due to the short notice that was given and recommended that the Secretariat diarise it for next year. He further noted that one of the member countries performed an anti-corruption related song and suggested that the Commission do something similar.
- c. The Research Analyst acknowledged the appointment of Ms. Marilyn Conolly as the new Manager of the Commissions Secretariat.

6. Action Items

Members:

- Research provisions for Schedule 1 of the Act as outlined in item 3. b. above; and
- Consider other subject areas for the Commission to address in its Work Plan as outlined in item 3. e. above.

Secretariat Staff:

- Accept all proposed changes to the CoC as outlined in item 3. a. above and recirculate to Members via email;
- Liaise with the Senior Legislative Counsel assigned to assist with drafting the revised SPL Act and Regulations as outlined in 3.b. above;
- Accept the Hon. Premier's invitation on behalf of the Commission and prepare draft speaking notes for the Chairman's review as outlined in 3. c. above;
- Prepare a draft statement for the Chairman's review as outlined in 3. e. above; and
- Prepare a draft response for the Chairman's review as outlined in 4. d. above.

7. Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting

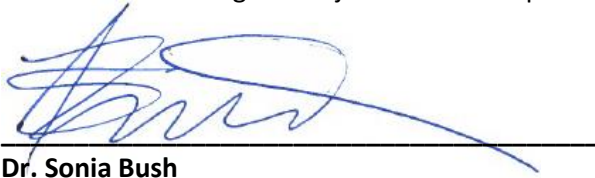
- a. CSPL Code of Conduct
- b. Amendments to the SPL Act and SPL Regs
- c. Ministerial Code of Conduct
- d. Correspondence from the PAC
- e. CSPL Work Plan
- f. Election Observer's Report
- g. OfReg Matter
- h. Register of Interests 2021
- i. Correspondence from the Constitutional Commission

8. Next meeting

The next meeting date will be held on 22 July at 2:00 pm.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:57 pm.



Dr. Sonia Bush

CHAIRMAN

COMMISSION FOR STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE