NEW JERSEY COMMISSION ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING

MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 21, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at approximately 12:30 p.m. by Chairperson Commissioner Dawne Lomangino-DiMauro.

II. SUNSHINE LAW ANNOUNCEMENT

Announcement of the Open Public Meeting Act, commonly referred to as “The “Sunshine Law,” by Chairperson Lomangino-DiMauro, which stated, “The meeting was noticed on April 13, 2021, by sending written notice to The Star-Ledger, The Bergen Record, Gannett, Town Square Media, Burlington County Times, Philly.Com. Additionally, the written notice was filed with the NJ Secretary of State.”

III. ATTENDANCE

PRESENT COMMISSIONERS: Chairperson Dawne Lomangino-DiMauro, Vice-Chairperson Angelo Onofri, Annmarie Taggart, Elizabeth Ruebman, Gina Cavallo, Bonny Fraser, Timothy J. Gallagher, Aldina Hovde, Ingrid Johnson, Angelo Onofri.

ABSENT COMMISSIONERS: William P. Monaghan, Marisol Rodriguez,

QUORUM WAS PRESENT.

OTHERS PRESENT: Kathy Friess, Deputy Attorney General Roman Guzik, Vicki Vreeland.
IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Chairperson Lomangino-DiMauro asked for a motion to accept the meeting minutes of March 17, 2021. Motion made by Commissioner Johnson. Motion seconded by Commissioner Taggart. Motion passed unanimously.

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Election of Officers

DAG Guzik explained an annual election of officers is required pursuant to the Commission's Bylaws. He advised the Commission could nominate and vote at the current meeting or submit electronic nominations and vote at a later meeting. The officer positions to be elected are Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary. Discussion ensued concerning the responsibilities of the officers' positions and whether or not the current co-chairpersons were interested in continuing to serve in their roles. Both Co-Chairpersons Lomangino-DiMauro and Onofri stated they were willing to serve again if nominated.

Motion: Commissioner Cavallo made a motion to conduct the election at this meeting. Motion was seconded by multiple members simultaneously and passed unanimously.

Motion: Commissioner Cavallo made a motion to nominate and re-elect Chairperson Lomangino-DiMauro and Vice-Chairperson Onofri to serve for a new one-year term. Motion seconded by Commissioner Johnson and passed unanimously.

Motion: Chairperson Lomangino-DiMauro made a motion to eliminate the position of Secretary. Motion seconded by Commissioner Ruebman and passed unanimously.

2. NJ Senate Bill 3433/Assembly Bill 5322

Vice-Chairperson Onofri provided an overview and status of NJ Senate Bill 3433 and Assembly Bill 5322. According to a letter of support from the County Prosecutors Association of New Jersey, the bills “provide a process to vacate and expunge certain arrests, convictions, other dispositions, and DNA records, committed because of a person’s status as a victim of human trafficking.” According to Vice-Chairperson Onofri, the goals of the bills are to offer survivors a “clean start,” and to have a state law which will require all counties to handle vacaturs the same way. He reported the Assembly bill passed in the Judiciary Committee 6-0 on March 15, 2021 and the Senate bill has been referred to the Judiciary Committee.
Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson for the Commission to express support for the bills. Motion seconded by Commissioner Ruebman. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Chairperson Lomangino-DiMauro made a motion to delegate authority to her and Vice-Chairperson Onofri to develop a letter of support to send to the Legislature with the Commission copied. Motion seconded by Commissioner Ruebman. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Human Trafficking Survivor’s Assistance Fund and Prostitution Offender Program (POP)

A letter prepared by Commissioner Ruebman to the Legislature alerting it to the problems with the intended funding sources for the Human Trafficking Survivor’s Assistance Program and a Prostitution Offender Program (POP) was reviewed. The general consensus was that the letter was well-written but it was suggested a line be added to suggest the possible identification of existing service agencies who may be interested in running a POP.

Motion: Motion by Commissioner Ruebman for Chairperson Lomangino-DiMauro to add the above described line and send the letter to the Legislature. Motion seconded by Commissioner Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

4. OAG-HT Program Summer 2021, CRDA, TAT

Commissioner Taggart reported the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) has agreed to put the Human Trafficking awareness poster on their electronic site and along locations on the Atlantic City boardwalk. Commissioner Taggart also reported DAG Guzik coordinated an effort to get a mass announcement out to massage businesses and licensed massage therapist to advise them that by statute, the Human Trafficking poster has to be displayed in places of business. In addition, the poster will be displayed on public transportation, including taxis and buses in Atlantic City. In August, 2021, a new program called Truckers Against Trafficking will kick-off in NJ. According to the TAT website, TAT is an organization “that exists to educate, equip, empower, and mobilize members of the trucking, bus, and energy industries to combat human trafficking.” The organization trains drivers to be eyes and ears on the road to look out for human trafficking situations and partner with law enforcement in investigations.

5. Discussion: Human Trafficking Through the Public Health Lens

Commissioner Hovde reported her and Commissioner Cavallo spoke with Dr. Hanni Stoklosa, founding CEO of HEAL Trafficking regarding approaching human trafficking efforts through the public health lens. She said Dr. Stoklosa recommended the Commission conduct a strategic planning session to set goals. Discussion by Commissioners of possibly having a professional organization such as Six Sigma or the
Office of Resiliency assist with strategic planning. Chairperson Lomangino-DiMauro suggested the Commission set planning goals at the next meeting or at a special planning meeting.

**Motion:** Commissioner Johnson made a motion to have a planning meeting to decide the structure and goal setting for the Commission for the next year. Motion was seconded by multiple members simultaneously and passed unanimously.

**VI. OLD AND NEW BUSINESS**

Chairperson Lomangino-DiMauro reported that the names of two individuals for Commissioner posts were submitted to the Legislature months ago and she noted the Commission is supposed to have 15 members.

**Motion:** Chairperson Lomangino-DiMauro made a motion to send out the chart of commissioner positions and identify what seats need to be filled. Motion seconded by Commissioner Ruebman. Motion passed unanimously.

In response to a question regarding the policy for removing members, DAG Guzik advised the Commission does not have removal powers; a letter must be sent to the Governor’s office with the request and the person who designated the Commissioner would be the individual to remove the person.

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

Members of the public in attendance: Ellen Ellowitch, Nancy Greening, Christine Guest, Sarah Lott, (973)

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** Commissioner Lomangino-DiMauro asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Hovde and seconded by Vice-Chairperson Onofri. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 2:18 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING: APRIL 21, 2021 @ 12:30 p.m.**