

Minutes for the June 18, 2021 Meeting of the New York City Racial Justice Commission

A duly noticed meeting of the New York City Racial Justice Commission was held via videoconference, telephone dial-in, and Internet livestream at 2:30 p.m. on June 18, 2021.

The Chair, Jennifer Jones Austin, was present and presided. Also present were the following members of the Commission:

- Henry Garrido, Vice Chair
- Ana M. Bermudez
- Fred Davie
- Lurie Daniel Favors
- Chris Kui
- Yesenia Mata
- J. Philip Thompson
- Jo-Ann Yoo

Regrets: Commissioners K. Bain, Darrick Hamilton.

The Chair called the meeting to order and acknowledged the presence of a quorum to conduct the meeting at 2:40pm.

The Chair gave welcoming remarks, introducing the Racial Justice Commission and noting the significance of Juneteenth and its continuing relevance to the Commission's work beginning the process of upending systemic racism.

The Chair introduced honored guest, Chirlane McCray, First Lady of New York City. The First Lady made remarks acknowledging the work of the honored guests, long time leaders in the movement for racial justice.

The Chair introduced Vice Chair Henry Garrido, and the Vice Chair delivered welcoming remarks honoring participants in the common struggle for racial justice.

The Chair introduced honored guest, Rev. Herbert Daughtry, and Rev. Daughtry delivered remarks about his work in the civil rights movement and the need to defend the progress that has been made.

The Chair introduced honored guest, Dr. Hazel Dukes, and Dr. Dukes delivered remarks about her work in the movement and the need to engage the young people in the struggle.

The Chair introduced honored guest, Rev. Dr. John L. Scott, and Rev. Scott delivered remarks on the important undertaking the Commission is embarking on.

The Chair welcomed honored guest, Bill de Blasio, Mayor of the City of New York. Mayor de Blasio delivered remarks honoring the work of civil rights leaders, and issuing a call to action to move the City towards racial justice through the work of the Commission. The Chair thanked Mayor de Blasio for his remarks.

The Chair introduced honored guest, Deacon Maurice Reid, and Deacon Reid delivered remarks outlining critical action areas necessary to challenge structural inequity.

The Chair introduced honored guest, the Honorable Una Clarke, and Hon. Clarke delivered remarks on the importance of addressing issues of mental health and early childhood intervention services in pursuit of achieving an equitable recovery from Covid-19.

The Chair thanked the honored guests for their remarks, and invited them to continue to participate in the work of the Commission. The Chair called for concluding remarks from Commissioners. Commissioners made concluding remarks, including

Vice Chair Garrido, who requested submissions from honored guests to assist the Commission in its work.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:16 p.m.