

Minutes for the July 12, 2021 Meeting of the New York City Racial Justice Commission

A duly noticed meeting of the New York City Racial Justice Commission was held in person at 22 Reade Street, New York, NY, 10007, with videoconference (for Commissioners only) and an Internet livestream for remote public viewing at 4:30 p.m. on July 12, 2021.

The Vice Chair, Henry Garrido, was present and presided. Also present were the following Commissioners:

- Jennifer Jones Austin, Chair
- K. Bain (via videoconference)
- Ana M. Bermúdez
- Lurie Daniel Favors
- Fred Davie (via videoconference)
- Chris Kui
- Yesenia Mata
- J. Phil Thompson (via videoconference and later in-person)
- Jo-Ann Yoo

Regrets: Commissioner Darrick Hamilton

The Vice Chair acknowledged the presence of an in-person quorum to conduct the meeting and called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m. The Vice Chair began with welcoming remarks and an overview of the meeting agenda.

The Vice Chair then called for a motion to adopt the Minutes of the June 9, 2021 meeting of the Commission. A motion to adopt the minutes was made by Chair Jones Austin, seconded by Commissioner Yoo, and subsequently adopted unanimously by all in-person Commission members present at approximately 4:45 p.m.

The Vice Chair called for a motion to adopt the Minutes of the June 18, 2021 meeting of the Commission. A motion to adopt the minutes was made by Commissioner Bermúdez and seconded by Commissioner Daniel Favors, and subsequently adopted unanimously by all in-person Commission members present at approximately 4:47 p.m.

The Chair introduced guest speaker Michael McAfee, President and CEO of PolicyLink, who joined the meeting via videoconference. Mr. McAfee gave remarks on the need for structural change in order to achieve racial equity. The Vice Chair facilitated a question and answer period after Mr. McAfee concluded his remarks.

General Counsel Melanie Ash shared with the Commission research on previous preambles to the New York City Charter and examples of different types of content that



a preamble may include. Members of the Commission then engaged in a discussion on preambles during which several Commissioners made remarks.

Policy Director and Special Counsel Jimmy Pan provided the Commission with the schedule and topics of the issue area panels. Public Engagement Director Jacqueline Kennedy shared with the Commission the schedule for public hearings.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 6:14 p.m.

A transcription of the entire Commission Meeting will be prepared and uploaded to <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/racialjustice/commission-meetings/past-meetings> page.