



Truth and Reconciliation Commission
FINAL Minutes – Public Meeting #11
July 2, 2024

The meeting was started at 5:04 PM by Commissioner Schultz.

Attendance: Melody Mackin, Mia Schultz, Faith Yacubian and Ann Miller. **Members of the public** included: Matthew LeFluer, Rich Holschuh, Rachel Lewis, Rhonda Besaw, Krista Coombs, Jayna Ahsaf, Amy Rose, Cheryl Van Epps and Van Dora Williams.

Commissioner Schultz facilitated the meeting and shared agenda. Language and accessibility rules were explained. Although no press in attendance, it was stated that if anyone from the press needs to be notified of our meetings in advance, please let us know so that we can make note. We ask that the public request access to any assistance needed in language translation or ASL via [our email](#) at least 72 hours in advance of any public meeting the VTRC holds.

Commissioner Mackin shared our land acknowledgement which is found here on our website: [Land Acknowledgement.pdf \(vermont.gov\)](#).

Commissioner Schultz reviewed the VTRC's working pledge which is posted on our website: [About Us | Vermont Truth and Reconciliation Commission](#). Also reviewed were the protocols of the open meeting and potentials for removal of a person in a meeting if it becomes contentious.

Commissioners vote and approve the June 3, 2024 public meeting minutes and June 11, 2024 Public Committee Member Meeting Minutes.

Executive Director Yacubian reviewed the budget criteria:

- 5 paid internships: 3 research interns, 1 legal researcher, and 1 social media/marketing assistant
- committee members per diem
- process of purchasing outreach material, such as table runner with our logo

- continued consultation with our social media partner

Executive Director Yacubian gave the VTRC Update:

- Attending community events, such as Abenaki Heritage Weekend and French Heritage Day (including Franco Americans)
- onboarding interns
- 3rd Ed Series (Black People in Vermont). Our next one is Wednesday, July 31st from 5pm-6:30pm and it will feature migrant Vermonters from Migrant Justice. [Educational Series: VTRC Narratives from History to the Present Day: Extending the Olive Branch through Education | Vermont Truth and Reconciliation Commission](#)
- meetings with Commissioners and Executive Directors of past Commissions
- watched a documentary as a team on the history of policing as a consequence of, for example, colonialism, slavery, and nationalism.
- Juneteenth events

Announcements:

- Get involved forms for those who wish to offer services, volunteer, or otherwise collaborate. [Who Can Get Involved? | Vermont Truth and Reconciliation Commission](#)
- Subcommittee meetings can be attended by the Public, July 3rd public committee member meeting at 3pm
- For those interested in doing personal/familial research, please visit our website: [Resources for Personal Research | Vermont Truth and Reconciliation Commission](#)

Commissioner Mackin reviewed the Commissioner deliberation with an update. Since last meeting, significant outreach to the community and individuals. Bringing in partners and discussing how to pull in the Committee Members as well as who we might partner up with. Commissioners met June 19th to prepare for Committee Member meeting. Shared outreach google document with Committee and staff. Commissions have been meeting with Canadian TRC and the ICTJ members. On Thursday, June 27th, Commissioners finished the Outreach plan. Friday, June 27th, meeting to prepare the Strategic Plan and reworked some sections.

Old Business - Commissioner Schultz reviewed the Building and Planning Committee Meeting from June.

New Business - Executive Director Faith Yacubian reviewed the in-person and Virtual **Accessibility Protocols** and the Commissioners voted to approve.

Commissioner Schultz went into details about the difference between public meetings and events that the VTRC holds. Public meetings are where Commissioner voting will take place as necessary and will be properly announced. Events are open to the public, but not necessarily facilitated by commissioners nor does voting take place in an event.

Commissioner Schultz opened the floor to the public and those that would like to speak.

Rich Holschuh thanked the Commission for coming to their area for an in-person visit and for the Commissions work.

Jayna Ahsaf asked about possible further education series. Potentially for those incarcerated. Commissioner Schultz explained that those communities are already part of the Act 128 Community as those of color, Native American, French-Canadian, etc. and we welcome the incarcerated community and their experiences.

With no further questions or comments, Commissioner Schultz closed the meeting at 5:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ann Miller, Administrative Assist
Faith Yacubian, Executive Director

NEXT Public MEETING is SCHEDULED for Tuesday, July 3rd – the third Committee Member Session- also a public meeting.

NEXT regularly scheduled PUBLIC MEETING is TUESDAY, August 6, 2024