**Louisiana Human Trafficking Prevention Commission**

**Unapproved Minutes**

**November 21, 2017**

**Louisiana State Police Headquarters Rm C&D**

**Member Attendees:**

Ellen Toney (on Behalf of James Bueche, Jr. Ph.D.)

Kenneth Burrell

Dr. Parham Jaberi

Sen. Ronnie Johns

Dr. Dana Hunter

Judge Joy Lobrano

Sec. Marketa Walters

Candice R. Forest ( on behalf of Supt. John White)

Janice Zubie ( on behalf of Supt. John White)

**Non members**

Justin Berry

Dustin Browning

Mike Bourgeois

Storm Ehlers

Richard Mahoney

Lisa Quijano

Sundee Winder

**Call To Order**

Executive Director of the Children’s Cabinet, Dr. Dana Hunter, called the meeting to order at 1:09pm.

She acknowledged, Chair Senator Ronnie Johns presence who is the designee by the President Senate. Senator Johns apologized for missing previous meetings due to his schedule but will make it a priority to be present at future meetings. He advised that this commission was formed by a piece of legislation in which he authored in the last session. Senator Johns requested introductions of attendees and the roll was called.

**Election of Chair**

Senator John advised that he does not need to chair this commission and nominated Judge Joy Lobrano, who has an extensive history of working with human trafficking. This nomination was seconded by Secretary Marketa Walters. There were no other nominations for chair and the board unanimously agreed to have Judge Joy Lobrano as chair of the commission.

**Facilitated Discussion on Priorities**

Dr. Hunter stated that at the last meeting there was a discussion about going through Act 181 and looking at the mandates as a group and deciding the priorities for this year and next year to ensure the mandates of the law are met. Dr. Hunter provided a form for the members with all (11) of the statues that are required of the commission. She stated that at the previous meeting, the commission decided to partner with the Governor’s Office and the National Criminal Justice Center, Amber Alert out of Texas. The National Criminal Justice Center has provided up to 150,000 dollars to host summits in each region in Louisiana and will complete a comprehensive analysis on the existing services for human trafficking victims, the gaps in services, challenges and barriers.

Priority discussion included the following:

* Judge Lobrano would like to obtain all of the commission members input on their priorities via survey model e-mail.
* Members discussed taking protocols for child abused that are already in place and adding different areas that will bring in the uniqueness of human trafficking victim and work with the department to have proper respite.
* Ellen Toney stated that the respite center should be set up where there are no negative consequences for leaving and coming back because the victims are going to run; it should always be a safe place.
* Staff for State Police advised whenever there is a placement issue, the victim runs away.
* Judge Lobrano would like to set up a separate agenda for children sex trafficking, adult sex trafficking and laboring trafficking for minors and adults to reduce confusion.
* Secretary Walters suggested that the commission learn more about trafficking before setting up priorities.
* Dr. Hunter advised that the Act 181 created the Human Trafficking Prevention Advisory Board which consists of experts in sex trafficking, child experts, advocacy, Eden House, and Free Indeed to give their advice and recommendations to the commission.
* Judge Lobrano stated that one aspect of labor trafficking is taxation; therefore, the board should have representation from the State Department of Taxation.
* Senator Johns advised that he passed legislation last session that dealt with seizing assets in human trafficking cases.
* Dr. Hunter advised that between now and March 2018, the commission can pull together every state law around human trafficking, as well as, some of the reports from the task forces throughout the state.

**Regional Trafficking Summits**

* Senator Johns advised that next spring, there will be World Wide Summit on human trafficking in Baton Rouge, coordinated by the Catholic Bishop out of the Vatican.
* Judge Lobrano stated that it is very important that the commission be in attendance at each of the regional trafficking summits to bring awareness of the commission and present summaries of the work that is being done.

Secretary Walters advised that there was no one on the board from Alcohol and Tobacco Control.

Judge Lobrano asked Senator Johns a question in regards to adding commission members. He stated that the information needs to be given to him by mid-February.

Dr. Hunter advised she will forward registration forms and links to the commission for the summits. She requested that they send the information to each of their groups and requested that they have representation. Dr. Hunter stated that they want the report to be as comprehensive as possible and that each entity voice is heard.

Dr. Parham Jaberi suggested that since there is a request for commission members to give remarks at the summits that the commission do a one pager talking point that the commission members agree on.

The Human Trafficking Prevention Advisory Board will have their first meeting on December 11. 2017 and the chair from this board with sit on the commission board.

The board discussed meeting every other month, for now, and the next meeting to be January 23, 2018 at 1:00pm-3:00pm.

State Police will present the first presentation at the next commission meeting.

**Discussion of Annual Report**

The Annual Report is due February 1, 2018 which will include the information from the

summits, the make-up of the commission, the reviewing of mandates and the discussion of

priorities.

**No Other Business**

Kenneth Burrell motioned to amend the agenda to approve the minutes from

September 8, 2017 and seconded by another member. The minutes were approved.

**Public Comments**

Mike Bougeois, retired from state government and now does public relations for Richard Mahoney who is an activist and also present, presented information from his research in an effort to help the commission and law enforcement to better address the discouragement of human trafficking.

**Motion to adjourn**

Member motioned to adjourn meeting and seconded by another member.