

CAMPUS SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
January 13, 2021

The Campus Safety Commission met on Wednesday, January 13, 2021 virtually via Zoom Video Conferencing. Co-Chair Frank Baumgartner and Acting Co-Chair Jim Herrington convened the meeting at 9:05 AM.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Frank Baumgartner, Jim Herrington, Branny Vickory, Saif Khairat, De'Ivyion Drew, Eric Muller, Charles Streeter, OJ McGhee, Josh Romero, Chris McClure (Chancellor's Office), Emily Blackburn (Chancellor's Office)

WELCOME AND RECOGNITION OF RECENT OCCUPATION OF THE US CAPITOL AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR CAMPUS SAFETY

Acting Co-Chair Jim Herrington thanked members of the commission for making the commitment to be at today's meeting. Herrington also acknowledged the importance of acknowledging the recent events that unfolded at our nation's Capital.

Co-Chair Frank Baumgartner echoed the importance of heeding the importance of last Wednesday's events at the Capitol. It is apparent that the country's perception of what type of people are "dangerous" has been severely misinterpreted and should shift to reflect the groups that were engaged in the Capitol riots.

Chief Perry, upon invitation from the Co-Chairs, provided remarks regarding the University's preparations for potential gatherings and protests leading up to the Presidential Inauguration. Today at 1 PM Chief Perry will engage in a call with the FBI Director to discuss intelligence related to events taking place throughout this month. UNC Police has created a plan to increase presence during this time, while there is currently no existing threats to our campus scheduled to take place. Chief will also be meeting with his leadership to reinforce the standards that should be portrayed during this time including clear communication, staying calm, etc.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Branny Vickory and a second by Charles Streeter, the minutes of the December 2 General Body Meeting were approved.

[A copy of these minutes is located at csc.unc.edu]

OPEN COMMENT PERIOD

No members of the public came forward to provide comment.

STATUS REPORT: CREATION OF CSC BY-LAWS

Joshua Romero has continued to draft the constitution for the Campus Safety Commission which include set rules to govern the commission in addition to the adoption of informal rules that have been used in precedence over the past two years of the commission's existence.

Romero has requested that the subcommittee chairs submit a description of their respective subcommittees in addition to membership and charge information. Co-Chair Baumgartner noted that perhaps a more general statement should be included that grants the commission authority to create and adjust subcommittee as needed. Charles Streeter agreed to this notion. Joshua Romero will change this portion to reflect a more general statement related to subcommittees.

Romero will also share the draft with Emily Blackburn, who will convey these details to the Chancellor for his assessment as to what details are inherent in the Chancellor's original charge to the commission. The goal will be for a final vote and approval in March after receiving initial feedback and edits during the month of February from the Commission and the Office of the Chancellor.

SUBCOMMITTEE STATUS REPORT

COVID-19 Response (Eric Muller, Desiree Rieckenberg, Saif Kharait)

Desiree is a member of the Roadmap Implementation Team and provided updates regarding the remote resumption of classes until February 8, tracing protocols, and testing requirements. The Chancellor continues to work closely with our infections disease experts to monitor the current status of the virus and the University's ability to overcome these challenges. Students are now required to provide accurate information regarding where they are residing and how to be contacting.

There is also a new requirement for prior-to-arrival testing which requires students to upload a negative COVID-19 test prior to their return to campus for instruction. The Carolina Together Testing Program initial sites have launched this week and supports our ongoing evaluation testing requirements that we ask of students. Faculty and staff are also invited to use this resource. Prior to working on campus each day, employees are required to complete a symptoms survey online.

Residence halls are still open for move in despite the online instruction schedule through February 8 – this will ensure that students are able to access and maintain safe housing. We are no longer using Alert Carolina to announce clusters of COVID-19 cases; these will instead be communication via the Carolina Together website and the University's official Twitter handles. The University is continuing to pursue means for distributing the vaccine to faculty, staff, and students. Campus Health has submitted an application for approval as an official COVID-19 vaccine site on campus.

Police Policy and Engagement (De'Ivion Drew, Saif Kharait)

De'Ivyion Drew noted that Black Caucus Listening Sessions and Carrboro/Chapel Hill NAACP Transformative Justice Plan meetings have taken place since our last general body meeting and notes have been circulated to commission members. Drew has been meeting with Chief Perry, Co-Chair DeVetta Holman, and Joshua Romero to assess the funding priorities of the NAACP as well as the UNC PD General Orders database. Drew also emphasized the need to ensure that the Conditions on Racism on African America Students remains an independent subcommittee.

Sexual Assault (Kim Strom, Branny Vickory)

Branny Vickory reported that Kim Strom and de facto member L.B. Klein have been active in the hiring of a Senior Prevention Officer at the University. Additionally, Branny noted the recent decision of the US Supreme Court not to hear an appeal for the release of sexual assault perpetrators at UNC-CH.

Conditions on Racism on African American Students (Charles Streeter, Latesha Harris, Quinton Smith, OJ McGhee)

Charles Streeter has worked alongside subcommittee members to identify key student groups on campus for the purpose of hosting listening sessions and gathering information.

Discrimination, Inclusion, and Belonging (Latesha Harris)

No updates were brought forth during this time. OJ McGhee expressed interest in supporting this subcommittees.

OPEN COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION FOR THE COMMISSION

Co-Chair Baumgartner encouraged subcommittees to continue to work and generate recommendations for the 2020-2021 Annual Report, which will be published in May 2021.

An open discussion occurred regarding the recent news of the DEA charges that were placed on several students of UNC-CH and the potential correlation between Greek life and drug use. Emily Blackburn asked Chief Perry of the current status of the sexual assault records whose release has been upheld by the United States Supreme Court. Chief Perry will seek out more information regarding this inquiry.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Co-Chair Baumgartner called for a motion to adjourn. Branny Vickory made the motion; Joshua Romero seconded, and it passed. Co-Chair Baumgartner adjourned the meeting at 10:15 AM.