



LOUISIANA CURE

Citizens United for Rehabilitation of Errants

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Minutes from the January 11, 2022, General Membership Meeting:

PARTICIPATING: Checo Yancy, Kelly Garrett, Jay Jackson, Avis Henderson, Betty Carter, Dan Krutz, Anquelia Berry, Tawanda Boatner, Doris Henson, Michael Hackett, Marianne Fisher-Giorlando, Chester Self

The monthly meeting was a “virtual” meeting conducted on ZOOM. Vice President Kelly Garrett welcomed everyone participating and requested that everyone introduce themselves. Introductions were followed by a moment of silence.

President Checo Yancy officially introduced Avis Henderson as the new Treasurer for Louisiana CURE. Avis succeeded Linda Fjeldsjo. Checo publicly thanked Linda for her time and dedication and also recognized and thanked another former Treasurer, Betty Carter who was participating in the meeting.

Guest Francis Abbott, Executive Director of Louisiana Board of Pardons & Committee on Parole, was introduced and talked about the continuation of Pardon and Parole hearings being held via ZOOM and YouTube. More people are able to participate, and more people are able to “watch” through this process. Mr. Abbott also expressed a desire of his office to be fair for both the victims as well as those convicted. Victims Outreach and Victim Assistance programs are provided to keep family members more aware of the upcoming proceedings.

Mr. Abbott also talked about what impact Legislative ACT 122 had by immediately allowing over 300 men and women to become eligible for a parole hearing. His office is finding that many currently incarcerated men and women are not prepared for a hearing because they were not expecting the change in the law. Seventeen Pardon hearings are scheduled for 2022. Traditionally, usually only 12 hearings are scheduled per year.

Secretary Jay Jackson read the list from last month’s meeting of some of the bills that might be introduced at the next legislative session based on earlier interest.

- Changes in prison sentencing...ending life sentences without parole eligibility
- Unanimous jury retroactivity
- Expanding medical parole
- Simplifying parole statutes and eligibility
- Principal accomplice liability
- Calculation of release dates
- Legalize marijuana and expanding the use of medical marijuana
- Clean slate expungement
- Fines and fees

- Speedy trials
- Solitary confinement study

A reminder that annual dues are open beginning January 1, 2022. Pay-Pal is in the process of being operational but until then, dues can be paid by check.

Members were encouraged to go to the DOC website and follow live pardon and parole hearings, to get a better understanding of how the system works.

Respectfully submitted,



Jay Jackson
Louisiana CURE Secretary