

Minutes of a meeting of the Parliamentary Select Committee on Elections held in the House of Assembly library on Friday, November 29, 2013 at 12.30pm.

PRESENT

Mr. C. Walton Brown, Jr., JP, MP—Chairperson

Mrs. Jeanne J. Atherden, JP, MP

Mr. Glen C. Smith, JP, MP

Ms. Kim N. Wilson, JP, MP

Ms. Susan E. Jackson, JP, MP

Ms. Meredith Ebbin—Committee Clerk

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 12.35pm.

He informed the committee that he had received a legal opinion about the issue of parliamentary candidates' declaration of interest.

The opinion was written by British QC James Goudie for the Parliamentary Elections Committee at the request of the Centre for Justice.

He presented copies to all members of the committee and said that the essence of the opinion is that there is a clear requirement for candidates to make a declaration of interest.

There was some discussion about the opinion, but it was agreed that all members needed time to fully review it.

It was also agreed that the scope of the final report would go beyond the declaration of interest issue. Members would be considering issues raised at the public hearings and making recommendations.

Electronic transcripts of the public hearings were available and will be emailed to members.

The chairman expressed concern that Mr. Jeff Sousa, Mr. E.T. "Bob" Richards, Mr. Sylvan Richards and Mr. Zane DeSilva had declined to appear before the committee.

He said it brought the whole committee system into jeopardy.

He has spoken to the Speaker about this.

The next meeting was scheduled for Friday, Dec 6 at 12.30pm. The meeting concluded at 1.30 pm.

CONFIRMED THIS

DAY OF

2013

CHAIRPERSON