

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration Commission Meeting

Wednesday, May 27, 2026, 6:00 P.M.
Bloomington City Hall, 401 North Morton Street

This meeting will be held in the Allison Conference Room (Suite 225), City Hall, 401 N. Morton St) and may also be accessed via zoom at the following link:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87885165070?pwd=tauuBRe8TpWez0beqKFw3hFaoReakT.1>

Meeting ID: 878 8516 5070

Passcode: 263131

Materials for this meeting can be found on the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration Commission's website, which is located at the following address:

<https://bloomington.in.gov/boards/mlk>

Agenda

1. Introductions / Call to Order - 6:12 P.M.

- A. Present: James Sanders, Brittany Talissa King, Gloria Howell
- B. Staff Present: Aubrey Seader
- C. Absent: Latonya Wilson, Julie Roberts

2. Approval of Agenda and Memoranda/Minutes

- A. [April 2026 Meeting Minutes](#) - Approved by consent

3. Reports (if any)

- A. Freedom Schools Project - Brittany Talissa King
 - a. It has been 1 month since the initial NAACP Freedom Schools Project committee meeting. They have been laying the groundwork for what they want it to look like.
 - i. Students will be 7th and 8th graders
 - ii. Any race, background, ethnicity, and religion.
 - iii. The curriculum will focus on Black history, including the diaspora.
 - b. The NAACP committee is looking at local and national resources to help them create their Freedom School.
 - i. Freedom school founder from Indianapolis came to April 28 meeting and broke down what a freedom school looked like in the 1960's when they were initially created and what his looks like today.

- ii. NAACP can use the visiting founder's curriculum, but if they do they cannot diverge from it at all. Costs \$300.00 per year to use.
- c. Renee Hill's programming at the Banneker Center is a resource for developing this program.
 - i. She uses MLK's framework for developing leadership: Intelligence + Character.
 - ii. Her programming creates excitement to learn. This is important because, Brittany said, this committee doesn't want kids to think of this program as just more school.
- B. NAACP Report - Gloria Howell (Chair)
 - a. Upcoming meeting on Monday, June 1 at 6:30 P.M. Virtual.
- C. CSBM Report - James Sanders (Vice-Chair)
 - a. Didn't have quorum during last meeting.
 - b. Planning to attend Juneteenth with their health initiative. Still trying to figure out what that health initiative will look like.
 - c. Planning for Million Father March 2026. This event happens on the first day of the MCCSC school year every year.
 - d. James gave CSBM 2025 Annual Report to City Council. It went well.
- D. Public Comment
 - a. No public in attendance.

4. Old Business

- A. MLK 2027 Event Planning - Aubrey Seader
 - a. Decide on theme - Did not decide on the theme, we wanted to wait for remaining commissioners to join us.
 - i. Discussed theme of Arts & Culture. Discussed possibility of collaborating with Resilience.
 - b. Decide on a budget for the speaker. Aubrey will bring speaker options to the June meeting based on this number.
 - i. Discussed finding a local person who would do this for a lower fee. Many names were put forth.
 - ii. Discussed including artists like Resilience Productions (Gladys Devane, Elizabeth Mitchell, Danielle Bruce) and Girls Rock Bloomington. Would like to pay them as we would a speaker.
- B. Notes from Staff Liaison Training
 - a. Reminder to sign up for the Commission Members training being offered by Jennifer Crossley and the Clerk's Office.
- C. Support for Anti-Racism Task Forces
 - a. Aubrey said she would investigate this, as commissioners expressed interest in supporting these local task forces during the April 2026 meeting.
- D. Tabling presence at June-September 2026 events
 - a. Brittany expressed that the commissioners working on the NAACP Freedom Schools Project would like to table at Juneteenth.

- i. They want to survey attendees, especially those with children, on what topics they'd like to study in a Freedom School format.
- ii. Aubrey asked Brittany to send her the survey and she'd get those printed.
- iii. Gloria and James discussed the details of Juneteenth. We need more concrete information about the schedule of the event to determine how many volunteers we need to run our MLK Commission Table.

5. New Business

- 1. Staff Liaison Report
 - a. Public Art
 - i. Gloria confirmed she would like to attend a meeting with Aubrey and Jane Kupersmith about how to create a proposal for a public art project.
 - b. 6 Principles of Nonviolence Event Partner Ideas
 - i. Did not get to this due to time constraints.

6. Adjournment - 7:06 P.M.

Board Membership

Pursuant to applicable law and policy, and in compliance with Indiana Code 5-14-9-6, the following details are provided regarding the officers serving on this committee:

Board Member	Appointed By	Appointment Date	Term
James Sanders	Common Council	2/1/2026	2/1/2026 to 1/31/2028
Brittany King	Mayor	4/30/2025	2/1/2025 to 1/31/2027
Latonya Wilson	Common Council	2/1/2025	2/1/2025 to 1/31/2027
Gloria Howell	Mayor	2/1/2024	2/1/2026 to 1/31/2028
Julie Roberts	Monroe County NAACP	2/1/2025	2/1/2025 to 1/31/2027
Vacant	Mayor	-	2/1/2026 to 1/31/2028
Vacant	Common Council	-	2/1/2026 to 1/31/2028

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