

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration Commission Meeting

Wednesday, July 22, 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 - 6:01 PM

Present (all in person): Lena Renae Williams, Brittany Talissa King, Julie Roberts, James Sanders, Latonya Wilson, Gloria Howell

Absent: None

2. Approval of Agenda and Memoranda/Minutes

A. [May 2026 Meeting Minutes](#) - Approved

B. [June 2026 Meeting Minutes](#) - Approved

3. Old Business

A. MLK 2027 Event Planning

a. Decide on: Theme, Possible Speakers, Musical Guest, Community Leader
Speakers

i. Featured Artists

1. Commissioners confirmed they want to include the following
arts groups: IU African American Choral Ensemble,
Resilience Productions

ii. Theme & Speakers

1. Decided on a theme celebrating the *200th Anniversary of the
Black Press / MLK & the Press*. To tie the theme firmly to
MLK, the commissioners want to highlight the way that MLK

interacted with and used the press as a part of his work. No title yet.

2. Interested in having a journalist or scholar of journalism speak at the event, perhaps someone local so travel expenses are not as high.

iii. Community Leaders Speaking

1. Commissioners would like MLK Legacy Award to be presented by a community elder, preferably someone who has won the award previously.
2. Guest presenters could include local Black journalists, including Clarence Boone, Nia Smith, Justin Crossley.

b. Review budget

- i. Did not review budget in depth, but agreed that it needs to be scaled back.

4. Reports (if any)

A. Staff Liaison Report

- a. No change in accounts.
- b. Mayor Thomson wants to visit the commission during September or October 2026 meeting. For the first 10 minutes. Is just asking to sit in and listen. Commissioners voiced a desire to ask her some questions.

B. NAACP Report

- a. Freedom Schools Project still coming along. No time for a big report on this.

C. CSBM Report

- a. Million Father March on August 5, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. at Fairview Elementary School

D. Public Comment

- a. No visitors from the public.

5. New Business

- A. Saving New Business for August 2026 Meeting

6. Adjournment - 7:00 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
Lena Renae Williams	Mayor	6/1/2026	6/1/2026 to 5/31/2028
Vacant	Common Council	-	2/1/2026 to 1/31/2028

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