Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration Commission Meeting

Wednesday, October 28, 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 - 6:04 PM

A. Present: Lena Renae Williams, James Sanders, Dr. Gloria Howell, Jatnna Ayala Ruiz, Julie Roberts, Brittany King (virtual), Latonya Wilson (virtual)
B. Absent: N/A
C. Guest: Shatoyia Moss (Director, Community & Family Resources)

2. Approval of Agenda and Memoranda/Minutes

A. September 2026 Meeting Minutes - Approved by Consent

3. New Business

A. Shatoyia is here to answer questions
    a. She is available at any time (Aubrey has her email/contact)
    b. Julius is leaving the OOTM.
    c. Lena asked for an introduction to Shatoyia
        i. Director of CFRD, the department that oversees this commission. She is Aubrey's boss and oversees 9 commissions, councils, and coalitions in her department.
        ii. Shatoyia is responsible for reviewing all the commission's work and making edits and changes to programming that keep us within our group's vision, the rules of the City, and the policies of the current administration.
        iii. CFRD commissions do a lot of advocacy work and it's sensitive work that sometimes requires oversight and a lot of discussion.

d. James discussed some concerns
e. Shatoyia offered her feedback and more clarification on her role.

B. MLK Legacy Award - Process Review & Outreach Plan
   a. Set December recipient selection meeting
      i. It turns out that Aubrey already did this. We'll go back and look, and Aubrey will send out the updated dates.
   b. Assign outreach duties
      i. Commissioners said they will reach out to their circles. Aubrey will send an email template she created.
      ii. Latonya suggested we look for groups that do cross-cultural, cross-religious friendship work.
         1. Montessori - Anti-Bias / Anti-Racist Group
            a. Glo can contact
         2. Boys & Girls Clubs of Bloomington
            a. James can contact
         3. Fairview Elementary School
         4. Trinity Episcopal Muti-Faith Alliance
            a. Julie can contact
         5. Sisters in Faith
            a. Aubrey can contact
         6. League of Women Voters
         7. Divine 9 Groups
            a. Zeta
            b. Deltas
            c. AKAs
            d. Alphas
         8. First United Methodist
      iii. Confirm with Toyia that we can nominate/select a religious-affiliated group.
      iv. It's a good time to go on *Bring it On!* to get some of those listeners to make nominations.
      v. Where can we make this award more visible?
         1. Send it to the NAACP Listserv
         2. Send it to churches
         3. Black Faculty Staff caucus
         4. Through Neal Marshall

4. Old Business

A. Review Progress of Asks Made to Office of the Mayor
   a. Upcoming meetings, communications guidelines, etc.
      i. Follow up on a date for the Comms Meeting promised in the email.
      ii. We discussed the list of words we received as guidance for content for our future events.

B. MLK 2027 Event Planning Updates

a. Action Items: Choose emcee, faith leader for closing remarks
b. Aubrey reviewed a list of program updates for the commissioners.

5. Reports (if any)

A. Staff Liaison Report
   a. See above.
B. NAACP Report
   a. NAACP Freedom Schools:
      i. 3 kids showed up for the first meeting
         1. Students were really engaged and excited. They voted to name the school "the Good Trouble Academy." The other option for the name was the Vi Taliaferro School.
      ii. Kids who went to *Tomorrow's Sentry* stayed for talkback
      iii. *AAAI Potpourri of the Arts* (11/7) - taking kids and 1 parent per kid to this performance via a block of tickets purchased by the NAACP.
      iv. November 15 at 2pm is the next workshop after the performance.
         1. Discussing AAAI event, hopefully at the NMBCC so Glo can give a tour and learn the history of the center. Maybe visit the AAAI studios and do stuff with the dancers?
   b. Freedom Fund Banquet (10/24)
      i. Audrey McCluskey won award
      ii. Banquet went really well
   c. Elections for the NAACP
      i. Trying to get people to run for president! Jim Sims is stepping down from the position.
C. CSBM Report
   a. Black Male Summit
   b. Winter Wonderland
      i. Toy drive and event - December 12, 12-3pm, Banneker Community Center.
      ii. Commissioners are welcome to volunteer and bring a toy for the toy drive.
D. Public Comment
   a. No public.

6. Adjournment

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
Jatnna Ayala Ruiz	Common Council	09/01/2026	9/1/2026 to 8/31/2028

The City of Bloomington is committed to providing equal access to information. If you encounter difficulties accessing this notice or related meeting materials, please contact the Community & Family Resources Department at cfrd@bloomington.in.gov or at 812-349-3430 and provide your name, contact information, and a link to or description of the document or web page you are having problems with.