



**CITY OF BLOOMINGTON**  
**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION COMMISSION**

**Wednesday October 24, 2018**

The meeting began at 4:32 pm.

**Commission Members:** Marcus Debro, Jaslynn Hides, Gloria Howell, Lily Kleinlein, James Sanders, Dianne Shewmaker

**Associates and Guests:** Dan Enslow

**Staff:** Michael Shermis

**Approval of Minutes:** Dianne motioned to approve the September minutes as written, Jaslynn seconded. All approved.

**Staff Liaison Report:** Michael shared that Activate (a program on WFHB, run by Lucy Schaich) is recruiting community members to share their stories of civic engagement on air. Anyone interested in taking part (5-minute interview) should reach out to Michael. Dianne volunteered. Michael handed out Save the Date cards for the MLK Day Celebration.

**Old Business:**

- A. MLK Birthday Celebration 2019 Speaker Theme:** Michael spoke with Janai Nelson and she replied that her speech will be titled "Making Real the Promises of our Democracy." This is a riff off of the "I Have a Dream" speech: "We have also come to this hallowed spot to remind America of the fierce urgency of Now. This is no time to engage in the luxury of cooling off or to take the tranquilizing drug of gradualism. Now is the time to make real the promises of democracy." She will touch on the ways in which incivility and disregard of custom, norms, and the rule of law in politics has infected our democratic structure and norms, and how we can restore respect and dignity and the pursuit of equality to make the promise of democracy real. It will remain non-partisan, one of the first principles through a racial justice lens.

In addition, Michael spoke with Calieel Muhammad about the IU Step show. He is choosing the music and will let Michael know how many performers there will be. Michael is meeting with Fairview about their programming.

**New Business:**

- A. Fund Development Review:** Michael announced that the fundraising letter went out and the response has been good. Donor commitments (\$3,650 so far) include NAACP, Lola Debro Family, Bloomington Human Rights Commission, Monroe County Human Rights Commission, IU Health, United Way, IU Credit Union, Frank Motley, Bahai'i Assembly, German American Bank, United Methodist Church Women's Group. Michael shared names of other potential donors for commissioners to follow up with and will send the list to the commission.
- B. Commissioner Terms Expiring 1/31/19- James Sanders, Lily Kleinlein, Reggie Johnson (Bloomington.in.gov/boards to renew):** Marcus announced that 3 commissioner terms are expiring at the end of January. Reggie needs to be nominated again by NAACP but other two need to re-apply through the city.
- C. Commission Accomplishments Review:** All commissioners should have received an invitation to a Commission Appreciation Event on November 16 at The Mill. This year the city is creating a presentation with photos and commission accomplishments. We discussed the year's accomplishments, including MLK Day in January,

**City of Bloomington Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration Commission**

City Hall · 401 N. Morton St., Suite 260, Bloomington, IN 47404 · [www.bloomington.in.gov/mlk](http://www.bloomington.in.gov/mlk)

Hrs: 8am-5pm MON-FRI · ph. 812-349-3471 · fax 812-349-3483 · [mlk@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:mlk@bloomington.in.gov)



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Bicentennial and Remembrance March in April, Nonviolence Civic Engagement Initiative Committee, Daryl Davis event, Million Father March welcome back to Fairview Students, Collaboration with Bloomington United and NAACP.

- D. Schedule December Meeting (Legacy Award Review):** Michael noted that the Commission should meet in December to review the Legacy Award nominations. Commission members determined that December 12 at 4:30 would be a workable date, in the Hooker Room.

**Public Comments:** None

**NAACP Update:** Dianne announced that the Freedom Fund Banquet is coming up on October 27. Dana Black is the speaker. The NAACP annual meeting/Christmas party is Tuesday 12/11 at 7:00 the Unitarian Universalist Church.

**Commission on the Status of Black Males Update:** James said that the group held elections at the last meeting and Brian Richardson is the new Chair. They've been assigned a temporary staff liaison, Shatoyia Moss. The commission is also working on Barber Shop Talks on Financial Literacy and Read for 200.

**Announcements:**

- Dan updated that the Noah's Ark dialogs started and the first session had nearly 60 participants. They are planning to meet once a month for 9 months.
- Dianne announced that Bloomington United is not planning to meet again until January.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 5:17 pm.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

November 28, 2018 4:30-5:30 p.m. (McCloskey)

December 12, 2018 4:30-5:30 p.m. (Hooker)