



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

**Wednesday October 23, 2019**

The meeting began at 5:02pm.

**Commission Members:** Marcus Debro, Gloria Howell, Lily Kleinlein, Treon McClendon, James Sanders, Dianne Shewmaker

**Staff:** Michael Shermis

**Introductions:** James introduced our newest Commissioner, Treon McClendon. Welcome, Treon!

**Approval of Minutes:** Dianne made a motion to approve September minutes as written, James seconded. All approved.

**Staff Liaison Report:** Michael announced an upcoming Boards/Commissions appreciation event. This year it is in the Cascades Golf Clubhouse November Friday 15<sup>th</sup> 5:30-7:30pm. All are invited! Michael reached out to IU with the recommendations brought up regarding an IU representative for the MLK Day Celebration (Dr. Valerie Grim or Jakobi Williams), but nothing has been confirmed yet. DEMA committed to funding \$2,000 for the event. Michael asked commissioners for suggestions for the closing speaker. Wanda Hosea and Dr. Abegande were suggested. Michael said that we have a nomination already for the Legacy Award and he encouraged other nominations as well.

**Old Business:**

- A. **Progress Report: 2020 MLK B-day Planning and Funding:** Michael shared that the planning is going well so far. Fairview is set, ACE is set, BCT is scheduled. All other plans are on pace. A very early version of the flier and poster were provided as requested at the last meeting, but updates will be needed when new donors come in. James asked if there are any holes to fill in the program, and Michael said we are pretty tight on time. We are not yet to the stage of naming the person to introduce the keynote speaker, but James and Gloria suggested Donte and said it would be good to have Commissioner representation in this role.
- B. **Letter Signing:** Michael handed out funding request letters and Commissioners signed personal notes on the letters.
- C. **Service Project Funding:** Michael is moving forward with the RFP for projects as discussed last month. He is sending out information to potential projects in the coming weeks. He hopes that at the December 4 meeting we will know all of the details and can determine funding levels. We have to find a 3-to-1 match for this funding, and Michael recommended we try to make it to the \$15,000 level to maximize our impact. Between media sponsors and in-kind we already have \$6,000, and another \$4,000 in donor support, leaving around \$5,000 more to get to the level we hope to reach. Organizations can also count in-kind that potential projects would bring (for example, an organization says that they've confirmed that they will receive \$250 in food donation for their service day from a restaurant, we can count that for the total).

**New Business:** None

**Public Comments (non-MLK Commissioners):** None

**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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**NAACP Update:** Dianne spoke of the successful Freedom Fund Banquet in October. She complimented the speakers on a job well done. She noted that NAACP is planning a December Annual Meeting and Christmas Party at the UU Church, on December 10. It is a pitch in dinner. James added that that the NAACP 2019 scholarship was offered to a young woman in the community but due to extenuating circumstances she couldn't accept the funds.

**Commission on the Status of Black Males Update:** James said the Commission is planning the Outstanding Young Black Male and Female leader of the year contest for this winter. He also shared that Commissioners are planning to attend the state wide conference next week. James said that the CSBM is supporting the Women's Youth Summit on November 14 by volunteering at the event. The commission is also planning a Cultural Christmas party at Banneker Center on December 14.

**Announcements:**

At a recent meeting, the Commission discussed writing a letter to Parks and Rec in support of funding facility improvements at Banneker Center. In the meantime, it was announced that the facility is already tapped for funding that will cover a large renovation and other equipment in the coming year.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 5:47pm.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

December 4, 5:00-6:00 p.m. (Hooker) **NOTICE DATE AND LOCATION CHANGE**

January 22, 2020, 5:00-6:00 p.m. (McCloskey)