



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

Commission Meeting

Wednesday April 27, 2016

Commission Members: Marcus Debro, Nicole Griffin, Lily Kleinlein, Dianne Shewmaker, Mary Stephenson.

Staff: Michael Shermis **Associates:** Dan Enslow, David Hummons, Debra Vance

The meeting began at 5:00 pm with introductions.

Approval of Minutes: Marcus made a motion to approve the March minutes, Dianne seconded, all approved.

Staff Liaison Report: Michael shared that we have \$1,208.13 in the account. Michael has already spoken with Andy Moher, new manager of the Honda Dealership, about sponsorship.

Focus Group on Process Improvement, Collaboration, etc.: Michael set a meeting date for the Commission, CFRD, IU, and various community agencies to discuss possible changes to the MLK grant process. The meeting is 2:00 on May 11.

Old Business:

Youth Involvement:

Stages Proposal: Stages sent a proposal for a theater production for \$750 and we would also have to pay BCT for lighting and sound. Barbara and others really liked the plan but questioned the \$100 supply line. We discussed the proposal and Nicole asked that they send us the audition call-out so that we can help make sure that it goes out to a wide range of youth to find a diverse cast. Mary and others asked that we be given advance review of the content to make sure it is appropriate for the event, and that we be able to attend a dress rehearsal. We will need to raise the funds to contract with this group but all agreed to move forward. Mary made a motion that Michael go back to Stages and ask them to create the 15 minute program for \$650 (eliminating the \$100 for supplies), we would like to share the audition announcement, review the content of the program in October, and attend a dress rehearsal in January to make final recommendations. Dianne seconded. All approved.

Video Project: Dennis reached out to North and South HS about collaborating with the students for video/photography of the service projects. Both Haley Sinn and Dan Kennedy were interested but concerned about a tight production time between the projects and the evening event. Lily and Nicole thought that photography would be more feasible in terms of editing. Michael and others agreed that the concept is great but logistically difficult. Michael will ask Lucy her thoughts on how realistic this collaboration is and all agreed that 1-2 minutes of footage per school would be adequate.

New Business:

Speakers: Michael provided materials on Dr. Robert Bullard. His fee is \$15,000 but would be a speaker IU might help sponsor. Michael is going to contact Dr. Bullard to ask about his speaking style (lecture might not fit well with our event), what topics he would envision speaking on (relating to MLK), and whether his fee is negotiable. He will then reach out to DEMA to discuss their interest in sponsoring. Other names included Loretta Lynch, Marie Johns, Kamau Bell, and Karen Freeman Wilson. Suggestions should be sent to Michael via email before the May meeting.

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

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



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

Bethel AME Collaboration Event: Dan and David are going to share an update at a future meeting.

Liaison Reports:

NAACP: Dianne noted that the Freedom Fund Banquet is scheduled for November 12.

Commission on the Status of Black Males: David presented an update on the Commission's recent activity. They are creating action committees which will include commissioners and community partners working together on initiatives and special projects. They are hosting a forum at BHSN on May 12. They will be revising the Barbershop Health Fair program to try to reach more community members. They partnered with several other commissions on a voter education event and will help plan other events leading up to the election. They are also reviewing guidelines for safety and civility between citizens and law enforcement and are attempting to join with other entities to make a formal statement about a false accusations against a black males in sexual assault cases.

Announcements: Mary shared that her last name is now Stephenson, not Tourner.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:02pm.