



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

Wednesday April 22, 2020

The meeting began at 5:06 p.m. via Zoom tele-conference call.

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

Associates: Dan Enslow, Debra Vance

Staff: Michael Shermis

Approval of Minutes: The March meeting was cancelled. Dianne made a motion to approve February minutes as written, Gloria seconded. All approved.

Staff Liaison Report: Michael shared that the city has been adapting to streaming meetings due to Coronavirus, and explained a few of those details. City hall has been closed and he also is having to adapt to the challenges of working from home.

Old Business: None

New Business:

2021 MLK Speaker Selection: All of the speakers suggested by the community were sent to the commissioners and we were asked to share top selections so that Michael could research costs/availability of a more narrowed down list. We've had two women speakers in a row. Debra asked about our budget and Michael said usually we need to stay between \$4,000-8,000. James suggested Angela Davis, Nikki Giovanni, and Melvin Carter. Gloria agreed that those were her top picks. Treon and Dianne like Yusef Salaam but he charges \$25,000, well above our fundraising capacity. Dan suggested Elizabeth Eckford from the Little Rock Nine. Michael will research this narrowed down list.

Public Comments (non-MLK Commissioners): None

NAACP Update: Debra updated that they are meeting first Tuesdays, including for the summer (online for now). They tentatively set up Freedom Fund Banquet for October 17 at Ivy Tech.

Commission on the Status of Black Males Update: James shared that the flagship event was cancelled at the end of March, so they've developed a series of videos (short messages from black men in the community) they will post to their Facebook page. They are working on a physical event in the future but aren't sure how these things will play out. The Million Father March when school starts in August is also in the works, tentatively. Dan suggested the commission create Zoom calls for people to connect, and James said while they considered this they were concerned about access. Michael said that CFRD is in the process of creating online gatherings for nonprofits but it is still in exploration phase.

Announcements: James thanked Gloria for writing an editorial for the April 6th *Herald Times* and our newsletter. Debra agreed to send a link to the Commission. Commission on the Status of Black Males is going to create a similar editorial. James encouraged continued connection of the Commission during these difficult times.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Upcoming Meetings:

May 27, 2020, 5:00-6:00 p.m. (McCloskey)

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

June 24, 2020, 5:00-6:00 p.m. (McCloskey)

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

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