



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

Tuesday June 29, 2021

The meeting began at 5:02 p.m. via Zoom call, with introductions.

Commission Members: Jess Davis, Gloria Howell, Lily Kleinlein, Tréon McClendon, Malik McCluskey, James Sanders, Dianne Shewmaker

Staff: Michelle Moss, Barbara McKinney, Michael Shermis

Approval of Minutes: We discussed the May minutes. Jess suggested a correction on a statement of funding, moving the note about \$1000 from IU to the Mobile Museum instead of the Curriculum section. All agreed that this was an error and Michael agreed to amend the minutes, noting that we also needed a vote on approving funding for the Curriculum Initiative. Lily made a motion to approve the May minutes with the noted correction. Jess seconded, all approved. There was also a mistake in the May minutes regarding the date for a future meeting, and Michael said he would begin sending meeting invites via email to help us stay on track. Malik asked about whether as a commission we should be voting via roll call, and Barbara clarified that in general all votes should be done over roll call if the meetings are virtual.

Staff Liaison Report: Barbara McKinney attended to share news that with the expiration of the emergency order allowing for virtual meetings due to Covid-19, a new state order has come out that all governing bodies are required to return to in-person meetings in July, or must approve a hybrid policy moving forward. The policy on electronic meetings must meet all state laws regarding hybrid meetings. She shared some of the details about what this hybrid model is, and answered questions. She noted that it is optional to adopt an electronic meeting policy, but if we do not then all meetings must resume in-person. In addition to the notes below, she shared a template that Michael will send to the group.

- In general all MLK meetings could be held hybrid/virtually, but there are certain instances (budgetary meetings for example) where they must be held in person.
- At least 50% of members must be present in-person to meet quorum. If a meeting is electronic, this must be noted in the minutes and the public must still be able to attend and participate.
- Virtual attendees may not attend more than 2 meetings in a row virtually, and they must attend in-person at least 50% of the time, with few exceptions. Virtual attendees may not participate as part of quorum or vote unless they are sharing camera and audio feed. Members must notify the liaison 3-days in advance if they will attend virtually.
- There must be a roll call vote for all voting items on the agenda. In addition, it must be noted who is in-person, virtual, or absent for each meeting.

James asked for clarification of the options and if there are exceptions for people who do not feel safe meeting in-person at all. Barbara clarified that the two options are hybrid (50% present) or totally in-person, and that the state did not provide exception to the attendance policy due to personal preference or comfort. Jess asked for feedback from Lily and Michael regarding the extra work a hybrid model would entail for note taking and set-up. Both agreed it would be more work but were open to whatever is most convenient for the group. Barbara said that any approved policy would need to be signed but that could be done later. Jess made a motion to approve Policy 21-01 to allow for hybrid

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meetings going forward, meeting the state law requirements. Gloria seconded. James called for comments. Lily commented that it would be potentially challenging to determine who is able to attend in-person each month. Michael said he would have to keep track of attendance via a spreadsheet to make sure everyone is attending in-person enough and in the right intervals. James expressed concern that the new policy seems to force people to meet in-person even if they don't feel safe due to health concerns. Michael asked everyone to share their personal preference for how they'd like to meet: virtual as much as possible, or always in-person. We discussed preferences and James called for a roll call vote:

Voted yes to approve the new policy: Sanders, Kleinlein, McCluskey Howell, Shewmaker, Davis

Voted no: N/A

Did not vote: McClendon

Michael noted that he is still being trained on the new hybrid technology and will let the group know where the next meeting will be held.

Old Business:

- A. Black History 101 Mobile Museum/Khalid el-Hakim:** Gloria shared that she and Michael have been in discussions about the groups that will be meeting with Dr. Khalid and his museum visit. She plans to come up with at least 40 IU students through Black Culture Center, Student Support Groups and Organizations, Freshman Leadership Academy, Groups Scholars, and various Scholarship Programs. In addition, she and Michael agreed that it would be generous to reach out to Dr. Wise and invite the AACE since they are a diverse group who regularly support our MLK Celebrations. Gloria and Michael are starting to reach out to leaders in each of these areas, and Michael shared a registration form that he is working on to make it easy for participants to reserve their spot. In addition to the 4 IU groups, there will be 4 groups of younger students (middle/high) and community members. Michael is working with MCCSC, Harmony, and Project School for the youth and Bloomington United for the adults. Jess asked about age range for the youth, and Michael said he is leaving that up to the schools. She asked how Harmony was chosen since it is a private school, and Michael said it was because both Harmony and Project School are frequently involved with MLK Day projects through the Commission. Malik asked if we plan to invite Ivy Tech students and Michael said he could reach out to Debra Vance, but reminded that all community members would be welcome at the Saturday morning tours. Michael noted that commissioners could come to any session but only as an observer.
- B. Eddie Cole:** Michael said that the usual challenges of contracting are coming up. Part of his contracting is through the UK, requires a notary, and it has been complicated but he expects it to become official any day now. Dr. Cole and Michael discussed potential topics, focusing on action: "The challenge of action and the challenges of action."
- C. Curriculum Development:** Jess said that she's plugging away at the curriculum. She reminded that last month we discussed funding for materials, but we need to take a formal vote. Jess made a motion that we approve \$200 in spending potential for this curriculum project. Gloria seconded. James called for discussion. Jess said that Montessori is coming up with quarterly "spotlight nonprofit" to ask parents for contributions and she will send the application to Michael in case the MLK Commission would like to apply to be spotlighted. James called for a vote: Voted Yes on funding of \$200: Sanders, Kleinlein, Howell, Shewmaker, McCluskey, Davis, McClendon
Voted No: None

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Abstained: None

New Business: None

Public Comments (non-MLK Commissioners): None

NAACP Update: Dianne noted that their next meeting is July 6 over Zoom. She is on the banquet committee, and they just found out that it will take place October 30 at Ivy Tech. The speaker is TBD. They are considering locals who could share the history of the NAACP in this community.

Commission on the Status of Black Males Update: James noted that in their meeting, the commission voted to move forward with a Hybrid Meeting option. They are also deciding how to proceed with the Million Fathers March at the start of the school year.

Announcements:

- None

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 5:58 pm.

Upcoming Meetings:

July 27, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

August 31, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

September 28, 5:00-6:00 p.m.