



**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

**Commission Members:** Gloria Howell, Lily Kleinlein, Malik McCluskey, James Sanders, Dianne Shewmaker

**Associates and Guests:** Dan Enslow, David Hummons (Commissioner Emeritus)

**Staff:** Michael Shermis

**Approval of Minutes:** Commissioners reviewed the previous meeting minutes via email. Dianne made a motion to approve the minutes from June, Gloria seconded. All approved.

**Staff Liaison Report:** Michael noted that Jess was unavailable to attend the meeting today but shared that she is making progress on approximately 10 grade level curriculum sets. These will be ready to review in the fall. Michael said that, as of today, our August meeting will be in-person, room assignment TBD. Zoom will be available to a limited number of participants, first come basis. He recommends reaching out one-week prior if virtual attendance will be preferred. Dianne asked for clarification on who may attend virtually, and Michael reviewed the criteria we approved at the last meeting. She expressed concern about the Covid variants, and Michael clarified that this is a determination at the state level unless an emergency mandate is continued. Others expressed understanding of the concern.

**Old Business:**

- A. Black History 101 Mobile Museum/Dr. Khalid el-Hakim:** Michael shared that things are progressing, and he is currently working with the schools to lock-in spots for the Thu/Fri presentations, and he will then send open spaces to Gloria to fill with IU community. Publicity and press release are forthcoming, and remaining legal and logistical details will be completed soon. Michael reminded the commission that Dr. el-Hakim is available for Thursday or Friday night dinner. He is also open to lunch on-site if a commissioner wants to bring lunch and chat informally. James was open to either day, Gloria prefers Thursday, Dianne prefers Friday. Michael said that 10-12 max can attend the dinner in order for it to stay conversational. We decided to have an evening dinner Thursday September 9, probably 6pm, probably at Uptown Cafe. Michael clarified that any social media posts will be for the Saturday morning community walk-thru. Commission members who are interested may come that day, or may come to any day as a side-lines observer of the formal presentations. Michael said that Saturday would be a perfect opportunity for commissioners to be present to talk to the public. Malik asked about the possibility for brochures to hand out, and Michael said that it will be part of the welcome table.
- B. Dr. Eddie Cole:** Michael said that we have all legal documents returned and materials have arrived that will allow him to create the publicity and press release. He will start moving forward with the other components of the event soon. Dr. Cole has said to Michael that he wants to engage with commissioners and the community as much as possible that day/weekend. Malik asked what the extra activities have been in the past, Michael shared that after the event the speaker typically has dinner with the commissioners and during the day he would spend time at IU,. This year is unique because of Dr. Cole's local connections, so other activities and his travel itinerary are TBD. Gloria

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

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suggested we reach out to the School of Education to be a sponsor because they love Dr. Cole and she offered to help with this connection. James knows him from undergrad, so there are lots of opportunities for connection!

**New Business:** None

**Public Comments (non-MLK Commissioners):** Dan Enslow shared appreciation for the work the Commission is doing.

**NAACP Update:** Dianne said that the next meeting is Tuesday, August 3 at 6:30 (on zoom). She or Gloria could share the link to anyone interested. The fundraising banquet will be at Ivy Tech on October 30, at 6:00, \$50 for adults. She and Gloria are part of the planning committee for this formal event.

**Commission on the Status of Black Males Update:** James said that they are working on how to move forward with the Million Father March event when school starts and are in talks with Fairview to determine whether an in-person meet and greet is possible.

**Announcements:**

James announced that Dr. Gloria Howell will be recognized at the Chamber's "10 Under 40" celebration. Congrats!

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 5:29 pm.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

August 24, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

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

October 26, 5:00-6:00 p.m.