



**District of Columbia Commission on the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
Meeting Minutes
200 I Street SE Washington, DC 20003
May 7, 2014**

Participants:

Commission Members: Chairman Cynthia Brock-Smith, Denise Rolark Barnes, Charles Hicks, Aaron Jones, Lee Brian Reba, Judith Terra. Ex Officio Members: Jamila Felton, Burnell Holland, Lionell Thomas

Staff: Sharon Anderson, Office of the Secretary

Noted absences: Clarence Fluker, Earle Fowlkes, and Douglass Sloan.

General Discussion

- Chairman Cynthia Brock-Smith called the meeting to order at 1:37 PM, noting that a quorum was present.

Review Minutes – April 2, 2014

- Minutes from the April 2, 2014 meeting were reviewed and approved with corrections.

Program Planning Committee Report; Lionell Thomas, Chair

- The Program Planning Committee recommends an event for August 2014 entitled: Bayard Rustin and James Baldwin-Freedom Fighters and Friends. The proposed location is the Historic Lincoln Theater. This would be a reprisal of a production held at Arena Stage in February 2014. It is a multimedia production focusing on the works of these two figures in the Civil Rights movement followed by a panel discussion.
- The target audience includes: alums of the 1963 March on Washington, Civil Rights organizations, DC Public School area colleges and universities, Greek organizations, faith-based institutions, statehood advocates, the international community, etc.
- To engage young people, it was suggested to live Tweet the panel discussion. Also ensure that young people are asked to evaluate the event to help shape future events for their participation.
- Action Item: Reconsider the date based on engaging youth and based on opportunities to get other groups to co-sponsor.
- Action Item: Follow-up call between Program Planning Committee and Development Committee to discuss funding.
- Action Item: Commission members to recommend panelists. The goal is a diverse panel representing roles, ages, etc.
- Action Item: Plan to advertise the event before DC Public Schools close (June 20, 2014).
NOTE: Summer school begins on June 30.

**Commission on the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2014
Page two**

Development Committee Report; Lee Brian Reba, Chair

- Mr. Reba noted the Trumpet Awards as a model for the Commission. (<http://trumpetfoundation.org/>)
- Committee will seek donors who share the interests of the Commission.
- Want to partner with not compete against other groups and events. Commission members have noted the wide variety of groups that celebrate Dr. King's birthday.
- Action Item: The spreadsheet of previous donors that was e-mailed to the Commission will be updated by the Development and Program Planning Committees. Will target the type of support needed such as food and beverage, in-kind services, etc.

New Business

No new business items were identified.

Next Meeting

The Commission will meet Wednesday, June 4, 2014, 1:00 PM at the Office of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities, 200 I Street, SE, Washington, DC 20003.

The meeting adjourned at 2:42 PM.