

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Office of the Secretary of the District of Columbia



Commission on the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Meeting

Date: Tuesday, January 10, 2023 - 6:35PM - 6:50PM

Platform: Web Ex –

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=m78479a6e48229401881a6f1476f6adad>

Facilitator/ Lead: Special Assistant/Public Information Officer Joshua Collins

In Attendance: Staff - Deputy Secretary Alma Candelaria, Special Assistant/Public Information Officer Joshua Collins, Editor Gina Henderson

Commissioners: Denise Barnes, Carlos Davis, Felicia Davis-Hipkins, and Thomas Bowen

Agenda:

1. Welcome/Call to Order

- Joshua Collins called the meeting to order at 6:35; Provided a brief introduction of himself, as well as outlined the role he will be playing in the office and at MLK events this weekend.
- Joshua Collins announced that he would be facilitating the meeting and that notes would be available at the conclusion. (will be posted on the website)

2. Determination of Quorum

- Commissioners Barnes, Davis, Davis Hipkins, and Bowen were present.
- Staff Members Candelaria, Collins and Henderson also attended for the Office of the Secretary.

3. OS Update/MLK Events

- Joshua Collins outlined the five currently scheduled events over four days (Friday, January 13-Monday, January 16) for which Commissioner support is requested including:
 - United Planning Organization (UPO) MLK Breakfast - Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center - 1300 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20004 - Friday, January 13, 2023 at 8:30 AM – www.upo.org/MLK39
 - MLK Commissioner Wreath Laying and Photoshoot - Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial - 1964 Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC

20003 - Friday, January 13, 2023 at 2:00 PM

- Serve DC Day of Action - Arthur Capper Community Center -1000 5th St SE, Washington, DC 20003 – Saturday, January 14, 2023 at 10:00 AM - <https://servedc.galaxydigital.com/mlk/>
- Mayor’s Office of Religious Affairs: Martin Luther King Jr. Glove Drive at Franklin Park - 1332 I St NW, Washington, DC 20005 - Sunday, January 15, 2023 at 3:00 PM - [Warm Hand Warm Hearts | Serve DC \(galaxydigital.com\)](#)
- Martin Luther King Day Parade - Assembly taking place at RISE Demonstration Center – R.I.S.E. Center at St. Elizabeth’s - 2730 Martin Luther King Jr Ave SE, Washington, DC 20032 - Monday, January 16, 2023 at 10:00 AM - <https://mlkholidaydc.org/>

4. Open Discussion/Questions and Concerns

- Joshua Collins shared that Secretary Bassett has one ticket available for the MLK UPO Breakfast scheduled for Friday. If any Commissioner would like to attend, please share your interest to her or Joshua asap. The ticket will be offered on a first come first serve basis.
- Director Bowen provided insight about the MLK Commissioner Wreath Laying and Photoshoot. Specifically, he stated that the program would be between 30 – 45 minutes and likely consist of a prayer and song. He also shared that the Glove Drive would potentially have music and the run of show would be wreath laying, prayer and song, likely “We Shall Overcome,” then the photo will be taken. Shared ride service is recommended to arrive at the MLK Memorial because parking is difficult along the mall.
- Director Bowen shared additional details on the “Warm Hands: Warm Hearts campaign scheduled for Sunday. He shared that the Glove Drive would potentially have music. He recommended that supporters set up boxes in their places of work to collect winter related gear for this drive.
- Deputy Secretary Candelaria asked whether any Commissioners had any additional events to share for our general information or that the Commission should support. She offered that Joshua Collins’ role and title as Special Assistant to the Secretary and Public Information Officer include handling social media, taking photographs, and providing logistical support to the Secretary and Commissioners, as needed.
- Deputy Secretary Candelaria shared that the Serve DC Day of Action event would be focused on preparing kits for seniors; she also shared that the event would be indoors in an auditorium setting, and Serve DC usually provides water and snacks for volunteers toward the end. Parking at this site is generally easy.
- Commissioner Denise Barnes shared that Mayor Bowser’s Youth Leadership Institute would be having an Essay Reading for youth from elementary to high school from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM at the Department of Employment Services on Saturday, January 14, 2023.

- Commissioner Denise Barnes also shared that Ron Moten is coordinating a youth conference at the ARC from 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM on Saturday, January 14, 2023.