



**District of Columbia Commission on the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
Meeting Minutes
200 I Street SE Washington, DC 20003
April 2, 2014**

Participants:

Commission Members: Denise Rolark Barnes, Earl Fowlkes, Charles Hicks, Aaron Jones, Lee Brian Reba, Douglass Sloan, Judith Terra. Ex Officio Members: Clarence Fluker, Lionell Thomas

Guests: James Simmons, The Memorial Foundation, Inc.

Staff: Sharon Anderson, Office of the Secretary

General Discussion

- Commissioner Lionell Thomas called the meeting to order at 1:10 PM, noting that a quorum was present. He announced Chairman Brock-Smith's absence due to a family matter.

The Memorial Foundation

- The Foundation promotes awareness about The Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial.
- The Commission is invited to participate in a Candlelight Vigil on Friday, April 4, to acknowledge the day that Dr. King was assassinated.
- Mr. Simmons also provided information about activities being planned by the Foundation during the year and welcomed the Commission's participation.

Review Minutes – March 5, 2014

- Minutes from the March 5, 2014 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Program Planning Committee Report; Lionell Thomas, Chair

- During a joint conference call with the Development Committee on March 31, it was agreed to focus on events for August 28th and October 14th in order to allow for sufficient planning, fund raising, and event preparation, the committee recommended focusing on August 28th and October 14th.
- Commission members discussed additional activities that could be held during the year: the upcoming Emancipation Day celebration (April 16); May 17th marking Dr. King's speech at the Prayer Pilgrimage for Freedom in Washington DC on May 17, 1957; re-introducing the January parade, and partnering with the MLK Memorial Library.
- Action Item: By April 18, Commissioners are asked to provide ideas for an August 28th celebration of the March on Washington.
- Action Item: Commissioner Thomas will contact Council Member Vincent Orange regarding the Great Debate that will be held for Emancipation Day.

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Commission Web Presence; Sharon Anderson, Office of the Secretary

- Official notifications of the Commission meetings are posted in the *D.C. Register* the Friday before the meeting.
- Commission minutes and agendas will be posted on the Office of the Secretary website.
- A Facebook page will be developed to provide social media outreach.

Development Committee Report; Lee Brian Reba, Chair

- Reviewed the spreadsheet of previous donors that was e-mailed to the Commission.
- Future discussions will be held about requesting “seed money” to plan programs, special events, and activities as well as Commission fundraising logistics.

New Business

No new business items were identified.

Next Meeting

The Commission will meet Wednesday, May 7, 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 2:16 PM.

Corrected version approved: May 7, 2014