



**District of Columbia Commission on the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday  
Meeting Minutes  
200 I Street SE Washington, DC 20003  
June 4, 2014**

**Participants:**

Commission Members: Chairman Cynthia Brock-Smith, Denise Rolark Barnes, Earl Fowlkes, Lee Brian Reba, Douglass Sloan. Ex Officio Members: Clarence Fluker, Crispus Gordon  
Staff: Sharon Anderson, Office of the Secretary

**Call to Order**

- Chairman Cynthia Brock-Smith called the meeting to order at 1:13 PM.

**Review Minutes – May 7, 2014**

- Minutes from the May 7, 2014 meeting were reviewed and approved.

**Program Planning Committee Report; Cynthia Brock-Smith**

- In Mr. Thomas' absence, Chairman Cynthia Brock-Smith provided the update.

*Bayard Rustin and James Baldwin-Freedom Fighters and Friends*

- Planning continues for the August event, *Bayard Rustin and James Baldwin-Freedom Fighters and Friends*. The proposed date is August 29, 7:00-8:30 PM at the Historic Lincoln Theater. This date is the day after the anniversary of the March on Washington.
- Funding for the event is being provided by the District government though the Office of the Secretary and the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities.
- This event is an opportunity for public awareness about the work of the Commission on the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday. Also an opportunity to invite potential sponsors and donors for the January King event.
- Concern was expressed about this date since it is the Friday before Labor Day.
- **Action Item:** Mr. Thomas will be notified about the concerns raised regarding the date.
- **Action Item:** Commission members to provide list of people and organizations that should be contacted about this event.

*January 2015 Event*

- Discussion on whether to target Dr. King's Birthday on January 15, 2015 or the Holiday on January 19, 2015.
- If the Commission event is held on January 15, this could serve as a kick-off for other celebrations and lead into the Day of Service on January 19. Commissioner Fluker described the 2014 Day of Service which focused on assisting the elderly.

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**Education Committee Report; Clarence Fluker, Chair**

- Mr. Fluker noted the Education Committee's goal of promoting public awareness of Dr. King and to assist with public-private partnerships to advance the Commission's education programs.
- The Education Committee met and is proposing four outreach activities:
  1. Create a handout highlighting Dr. King's relationship with the District of Columbia; which would be distributed at all Commission events.
  2. Develop DCN and Channel 16 "Did You Know" factoids about Dr. King and his relationship to the District of Columbia.
  3. Creating content for Facebook Page and social media.
  4. Create voter education campaign: why it is important to vote and a voter registration effort (in partnership with other organizations.)

**Development Committee Report; Lee Brian Reba, Chair**

- Mr. Reba identified the following action items:
- **Action Item**: Commission members to identify additional potential donors and identify the kind of support that can be provided (for example, food and beverage, advertising, in-kind services, etc.)
- **Action Item**: Work with the Program Planning Committee to consider fund raising activities to support the August 2014 and January 2015 events.

**New Business**

No new business items were identified.

**Next Meeting**

The Commission will meet Wednesday, July 2, 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 2:11 PM.