Minutes
Meeting of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission

October 24, 2013

Call to Order
The Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission met on October 24, 2013 in Conference Room 3106T of the Department of Administration (DOA) Building, 116 West Jones Street, Raleigh, NC. Mr. Clarence Henderson, Chairman of the Commission, called the meeting to order.

Chairman Henderson requested that Commissioner Dr. Dumas Harshaw open the meeting with a prayer. After the prayers, meeting attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members of the Board in attendance were Chairman Clarence Henderson, Commissioners Anitra Bailey, Dr. Dumas Harshaw, Dr. Troy Kickler, Ms. Jacque Jeffers, Mr. Larry Jones, Ms. Melissa Martin, Dr. Tony Mitchell, Mr. David Prince, Ms. Vancine Sturdivant, Mr. Warren Turner, and Mr. Douglas Williams.

Commissioners Kenneth Freeman, Donnie Garris, Shakeal Moore, and Bennett McCoy Taylor were absent.

Also attending were Bill Daughtridge, Secretary of Administration; Bill Bryan, Deputy Secretary; Josh Arant, Office of the Governor/Boards and Commissions; Emily Williams, Executive Director of the NC Human Relations Commission (NCHRC); Mary Curtis, NCHRC/Martin Luther King, Jr. Program Coordinator; Kevin Daniels, Office of the Governor/Volunteer and Community Services; and Alisha Johnson, Office of the Governor/Community and Citizens Services.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting
The minutes of the last meeting were not available, so Dr. Dumas Harshaw, past Chairman of the Commission, agreed to present these minutes at the next meeting of the Commission.

Committee Reports
None reported

Unfinished Business
None reported
New Business

Swearing In of New Commissioners

The seven new Commissioners, Anitra Bailey of Durham, Clarence Henderson of High Point, Troy Kickler of Cary, Shakeal Moore of Tarboro, Vancine Sturdivant of Anson County, Warren Turner of Charlotte and Douglas Williams of Greensboro, were recognized. Following introductions of all Commissioners, the new Commissioners were sworn in by Justice Paul Newby.

The swearing in of Commissioners Shakeal Moore and Warren Turner will be scheduled at a later date.

Events

Emily Williams, Executive Director of NCHRC, discussed upcoming events associated with the observance of Dr. King’s birthday, including the State Employees Martin Luther King, Jr. Observance Program and John R. Larkins Award Ceremony, and the Let Freedom Ring, bell ringing ceremony. Ms. Williams noted that the State Employees Martin Luther King, Jr. Observance Program ceremony will be held at 12:00 noon on January 17, 2014 at First Baptist Church, Salisbury Street, Raleigh. A motion was moved by Commissioner Mitchell and seconded by Commissioner Williams, to schedule the bell ringing ceremony at 11:30 am on January 17, 2014, prior to the State Employees’ observance program. The motion was carried.

The Triangle Interfaith Prayer Breakfast, sponsored by the Raleigh-Wake County Martin Luther King Celebration Committee, is scheduled for January 20, 2014 at 7:00 am in the Sheraton Hotel, Research Triangle Park, NC. A motion was moved by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Mitchell, for the Commission to participate in the Triangle Interfaith Prayer Breakfast by paying the table fee (s) associated with a reserved table for the Commissioners at the breakfast. The motion was carried.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Grant Program

Information about the FY2014 Martin Luther King, Jr. Grant Program was presented by Emily Williams, Executive Director of NCHRC. Director Williams reported that, as a result of a post-FY 2013 grant award of $700.00 and recaptured grant funds of approximately $2,700.00, the
funding available for the FY 2014 Martin Luther King, Jr. Grant Program will be approximately
$7,000, rather than $5,000.

A motion was moved by Commissioner Mitchell and seconded by Commissioner Bailey, for the
Commission to remove Rating Factor 4, Leveraged Resources, from the Request for Proposal.
The motion was withdrawn.

**General Discussions**

Donna Cassell, DOA’s Office of Fiscal Management, explained the MLK Jr. Commission’s budget
and the reimbursement process to the Commissioners.

Alicia Johnson, Office of the Governor/Community and Citizens Services, provided the
Commission with updated information regarding the State Employees Martin Luther King, Jr.
Observance Program and John R. Larkins Award Ceremony. Ms. Johnson presented an
overview of the proposed contest for the design of the cover of the commemorative booklet.
The theme for the cover art contest is “Content of Character.” The competition to design the
cover will be available to K-12 students in North Carolina. The deadline for submission of
design entries is December 2, 2013.

Chairman Henderson suggested that the Commission get involved in various communities
across the State. A number of Commissioners and staff offered the options for involvement of
the Commission, including:

- Commissioner Prince suggested that the Commission coordinate a bell ringing
  service across the state. Commissioner Prince shared with the Commission that the
  three-day celebration, sponsored by the Raleigh-Wake Martin Luther King
  Celebration Committee, Inc., is another opportunity for the Commission to be
  involved across the State.
- Commissioner Martin volunteered to explore costs associated with reserving a
  table at the Triangle Interfaith Prayer Breakfast, sponsored by the Raleigh-Wake
  County Martin Luther King Celebration Committee. Commissioners Harshaw and
  Martin will details about the breakfast to the Commission.
- Commissioner Martin recommended that the Martin Luther King, Jr.’s website
  needed to be updated to reflect current events.
- Commissioners recommended recognizing Commissioners in local newspapers.
- Commissioner Jeffers shared information and items (posters, DVDs, pamphlets,
  and book markers) that she received from the Martin Luther King, Jr.’s website
  ([http://www.mlkjr.com/](http://www.mlkjr.com/)). Commissioner Jeffers encouraged the teaching of
  “Character Education.” Commissioner Jeffers also shared with the Commissioners
  the “Share the Dream” program that is based on “good character,” and has events
  throughout the year.
• Commissioner Jones shared with the Commission that, for the past 12 years, Warren County youth participate in a scholarship program; and, on the third Sunday during the MLK celebration month, these youth deliver an essay that they authored as the basis for their scholarship award. Commissioner Jones suggested that the Commission facilitate a Martin Luther King, Jr. event. Commissioner Jones will provide ideas regarding activities and events that the Commission can facilitate at the next meeting.

• Secretary Daughtridge shared with the Commission that there is an annual speech contest during the MLK celebration, at the Dunn Center in Rocky Mount.

• Commissioner Sturdivant noted that, during the MLK celebration, there is an essay program for Anson County.

• Commissioner Williams suggested that the Commission utilize “Google Ads” and no-cost public service announcements promote the Commission.

Discussion about the Martin Luther King, Jr. Grant Program

• Commissioner Harshaw suggested that each Commissioner focus on their respective locations and encourage organizations to apply.

• Commissioner Prince encouraged fellow Commissioners to utilize their resources to encourage people to apply.

• Kevin Daniels, with the Office of the Governor/AmeriCorps suggested the Commission look into an email distribution list.

• Josh Arant, with the Office of the Governor discussed with the Commissioners about a “listserv account.”

• Commissioners Kickler suggested the Commission utilize NC newspapers, to encourage people to apply for the grant.

• NCHRC Executive Director, Emily Williams will explore the idea of the MLK listserv with DOA’s IT department, and report back to the Commission.

Designation of Teams for the Review of Applications Submitted for FY 2014 Funding

Director Williams and Commissioner Harshaw explained the MLK Grant Criteria for this current year. Chairman Henderson recommended that review teams be comprised of a Commissioner with experience reviewing grant applications and a non-experienced Commissioner. The following teams were selected:

Team 1 - Dr. Dumas Harshaw and Dr. Troy Kickler
Team 2 - Dr. Tony Mitchell and Mr. Douglas Williams
Team 3 - Ms. Jacquie Jeffers, Mr. Shakeal Moore and Mr. Larry Jones
Team 4 - Mr. David Prince and Chairman Clarence Henderson
Team 5 - Ms. Melissa Martin and Ms. Anitra Bailey
Team 6 - Mr. Warren Turner and Ms. Vancine Sturdivant
The Commission agreed that, if a Commissioner had a previous affiliation with an applicant or a location, that Commissioner would recuse himself/herself from the review of the respective application. Commissioner Prince suggested that the Commissioners introduce themselves and note the location of their residence and/or affiliation.

The Commissioners agreed to convene a meeting on December 5, 2013 at the Department of Administration to review all applications submitted for FY 2014 funding. The next meeting of the Commission will be held on December 5, 2013 in Conference Room 3106T of the Department of Administration Building, 116 West Jones Street, Raleigh, NC.

Announcements
No announcements were made.

Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Henderson.

Mary Curtis         10/30/2013
Mary Curtis         Date