

Minutes
Martin Luther King Jr. Commission Meeting
10:00 AM, April 21, 2016
Human Relations Commission Conference Room,
Room 2109L, Department of Administration Building

Welcome and Call to Order

At 10:00 am Chairman Clarence Henderson called the meeting of the Commission to order and welcomed attendees.

Invocation

Commissioner Harshaw led the group in prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Commission recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Chairman Clarence Henderson called the roll for the meeting. Attending were: Commissioners Bailey, Futrell, Harshaw, Henderson, Jeffers, Jones, Kickler, Martin, Mitchell, Posey and Smith. Commissioners Freeman, Partee and Turner attended by teleconference. Commissioners Moore and Sturdivant were absent. Also attending was Bill Bryan, Deputy Secretary, Department of Administration (DOA), and Emily Hunter, Executive Director of the NC Human Relations Commission.

Adoption of Minutes of Last Meeting

The Commission approved the minutes of the January 15, 2016 meeting.

Content of Character Education/Outreach Initiative

Emily Hunter captured discussions about the meeting and she and Commissioner Martin had with DOA's Office of Fiscal Management. A total of \$5,000 was transferred to the Workshop/Conference category for the delivery of an education outreach event. The Commission discussed options that included:

- Issue contracts to Thomas Mentor Leadership Academy and NC Museum of History Foundation to market the MLK Commission and its mission;
- Fund travel for Commissioners to disseminate information about Dr. King's legacy, the Commission and its grant program in schools across the State,
- Marketing materials, such as posters, key rings, etc., to market the MLK Commission and its grant program.

Emily requested that a Commissioner be selected to serve as the Point of Contact for the education/outreach initiative.

Discussions by Commissioners included:

- Clarification if the funding is additional budgetary funding or appropriated funding for the MLK grant program,
- Endorsement of trips to schools describing the roles and functions of the MLK Commission,
- Award to the Thomas Mentor Leadership Academy,
- Concerns about the short time frame for an organization to implement the education/outreach project,
- Recommendation that a special program be implemented to share information about the MLK Commission,
- The use of contracts to deliver the education/outreach program,
- Clarification that funds must be expended by June 15, 2016.

Commissioner Kickler moved that the Commission offer contracts to two organizations that have performed well in the MLK grant program. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Posey.

Commissioners Bailey, Jeffers and Jones were appointed to explore the options and spearhead the education/outreach program.

Reimbursement of Funds to Governor's Office

The Commission approved transferring a total of \$820.00 to the Governor's Office to support the State Employees Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Observance Program. Emily Hunter noted that the comments received from Commissioners were sent "verbatim" to the Governor's Office.

Letters to the Editor

In response to a request from the Office of Public Information in the Department of Administration, MLK Commissioners submitted letters to the editor of their local newspapers endorsing Governor McCrory's Black History Month Proclamation. Commissioners Freeman and Jones noted that these letters they submitted were printed in the Robesonian and Warren Record, respectively.

Ethics Training and Annual Filing Requirements

All Commissioners have completed the required Ethics training and submitted their Statement of Economic Interest forms. The No Change form may be submitted electronically.

Adjournment

Chairman Henderson adjourned the meeting at 11:28 am.

