

Commissioners

WILLIAM T. GREEN, CHAIR • REV. JOEL L. KING, JR., VICE CHAIR
NAPOLEON BELL • DR. FANNIE L. BROWN • SGT. MCKINLEY BROWN
ROBERT GORDON • DAVID JEHNSEN • DOROTHY LOVELL JONES
SEN. ERIC KEARNEY • WILL LUCAS
REV. LORENZO NORRIS • REP. BARBARA SEARS



John R. Kasich
Governor

Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2014

I. Call to order

William Green, Chair called to order the regular meeting of the Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission (Commission) at 10:10 a.m. on May 16, 2014 at DAS Equal Opportunity Division, 4200 Surface Road, Columbus, Ohio, 43228.

II. Roll call

William Green, Chair, conducted a roll call. The following members were present:

- William Green, Akron
- Will Lucas, Toledo
- McKinley "Mac" Brown, Cincinnati
- Napoleon Bell, Columbus
- Rev. Lorenzo Norris, Cleveland
- Robert "Bob" Gordon, Gallipolis/Athens
- Dorothy Lovell Jones, Lima
- David Jehnsen, Galena

Also present was:

- Bobbi Bell, Ohio Dept. of Administrative Services, Equal Opportunity Division

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

As this was the first meeting of the new Commission, there were no minutes to read and/or approve from the last meeting.

IV. Agenda Items (voting)

a) *Commission Business:*

Chairman Green reviewed expectations for incoming Commissioners, including: completion of ethics training, financial disclosure forms not required, review of how to complete travel reimbursement requests timely. Discussion regarding moving Commission from Executive Order to part of the Ohio revised Code. Also about attempting to involve young people "who are lost." Meetings are subject to sunshine Rules, therefore all meetings will be



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conducted in person. Workgroups (revised list to be sent to members after meeting) can meet by phone, though decisions need to wait until Commission meetings for voting.

Rev. Norris moved to allow William Green, Bobbi Bell and Vice Chair (TBD) authorization to act on behalf of the Commission. Mac Brown seconded the motion. Discussion: None. Motion carried: 7-0

b) *Election of Vice Chair:*

Chairman Green explained that the Vice Chair is a position voted on by the Commission. This individual serves on behalf of the Chair should the Chair be unavailable. Rev. Joel L. King, Jr. served the previous year as Vice Chair.

Will Lucas moved that Rev. Joel King continue to serve as Vice Chair. Mac Brown seconded the motion. Discussion: None. Motion carried: 7-0

c) *Commission Business:*

Chairman Green explained that the Recording Secretary is a position voted on by the Commission. This individual serves along Commission Liaison (Bobbi Bell) to prepare meeting minutes and record Commission activities.

Will Lucas moved that Dorothy Lovell Jones serve as Recording Secretary. Bob Gordon seconded the motion. Discussion: None. Motion carried: 7-0

d) *Awards Criteria:*

Discussion... Napoleon Bell moved that 2015 award categories remain the same but that the workgroup will review for consideration of changing in 2016 and present those suggestions to the Commission. Rev. Norris seconded the motion. Discussion: None. Motion carried: 7-0

e) *Theme:*

Discussion... Also considered: *The/A Time is Always Right to Do What's Right*. Napoleon Bell moved that the 2015 theme be: *Give Us the Ballot: A Hope for Change*, in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Bill. David Jehnsen seconded the motion. Discussion: None. Motion carried: 7-0

V. Agenda Items (non-voting)

a) MLK Calendar

- Items to discuss with Legal and/or Finance
 - Calendar cost production – can Commission get sponsorship? Possibly match state funds?



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- Can the calendars be sold in order to cover the cost of their production?
 - Can a fiduciary agency assist?
 - Add “All rights reserved” language and “Cannot be resold” to calendar.
- b) MLK Oratorical Contest
- Make more wide-spread known about the contest
 - Include outreach to each state school board
- c) Pilot Kingian Nonviolence Training for East Cleveland School
- David Jehnsen and Rev. Norris coordinating a pilot program, including involvement with the oratorical contest.
 - Could grow to a MLK award for each grade level
 - Uses *The Leaders Manual*, authored by David Jehnsen and Bernard Lafayette
 - Move from events driven commission to programs and projects
 - Hope to move from pilot program into statewide implementation. The program brings together teachers and students with parents and the community.
 - Different schedule options (½ day with students; ½ day with teachers; 4 days training; 1 day testing; or 2 day core).
- d) Overall program discussion
- Overall discussion about needing to demonstrate the *value* of the Commission’s programs. Showing movement and growth as part of providing value.
 - Rural communities and the urban youth who aren’t currently excelling – they matter too and need to be reached and involved.
 - Involvement of Council of Churches, NAMJA, SOAR Hire
- e) Bylaws
- To be reviewed for the group, tabled for now.
- f) Next Meeting
- Commission meets 3-4 times a year in person and following events.



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- Next meeting: Wednesday, Sept. 24, 2014 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



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VI. Adjournment

William Green, Chair adjourned the meeting at approx. 1:15 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Bobbi Bell

Minutes approved by: William Green

