

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND  
JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

December 4, 2024  
6:30 P.M.

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

Vice Chair Hearn called the special meeting of the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and Juneteenth Celebration Advisory Committee to order at 6:32 P.M. at the Culver City Senior Center.

Present: LaToya Hearn, Vice Chair  
Karna Bibbins-McKeever, Member  
Lisa Gordon Cain, Member  
Curtis Raynor, Member  
Andrew Weiss, Member

Absent: Christian Green, Member  
Amber Kearney, Member  
Carissa Joy Smith, Member

Staff: Francisca Castillo, Recreation and Community  
Services Manager  
Adam Ferguson, PRCS Senior Management Analyst  
Dorian Jackson, Associate Analyst

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**Pledge of Allegiance**

Member Weiss led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**Public Comment for Items NOT On the Agenda**

Dorian Jackson, Associate Analyst, reported that no public comment was received for Items NOT On the Agenda.

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#### **Receipt of Correspondence**

Dorian Jackson, Associate Analyst, reported that no correspondence had been received.

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#### **Consent Calendar**

None.

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#### **Order of the Agenda**

No changes were made.

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#### **Action Items**

##### Item A-1

**MLKJCC - Election of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and Juneteenth Celebration Advisory Committee**

Vice Chair Hearn asked that the item be held to the next meeting when more Committee Members could be present.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding upcoming meetings; concern that a full Committee might not be present for the next meeting; and procedures for who would Chair the meeting if Vice Chair Hearn is not present.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR HEARN AND SECONDED BY MEMBER RAYNOR THAT THE MLK JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: DEFER SELECTION OF THE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR OF THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE MEETING OF JANUARY 15, 2025.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BIBBINS-MCKEEVER, CAIN, HEARNS, RAYNOR, WEISS  
NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: GREEN, KEARNEY, SMITH

Vice Chair Hearns indicated that she would not be able to be present for the special meeting scheduled for January 9, 2025 and she asked that everyone plan to be present so that there would be a quorum.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding clarification that Member terms were staggered so that the entire Committee did not turn over at the same time and to ensure the transfer of knowledge from one term to the next.

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Item A-2

**MLKJCC – Approval of the Run of Show for the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration 2025**

Francisca Castillo, Recreation and Community Services Manager, provided a summary of the material of record.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding adding that the suggested arrival time for Committee Members is one hour prior to the event, and the open spot for a five-minute musical performance.

Member Weiss suggested that the open slot be filled with his reading of a 1965 speech by President Lyndon B. Johnson to advocate the passage of the voting rights bill.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding appreciation for the offer to fill the spot; transitions; prior experience that planned items usually go over time and likelihood that the five minute slot would probably be eaten up; providing a buffer to allow for sticking to the schedule; support for using other Black men of the civil rights era rather than Lyndon Johnson; the inability to begin

until the elected official arrives; pending confirmation regarding attendance of the Mayor; agreement to do the full version of *Lift Every Voice and Sing*; availability of the lyrics for audience members to sing along; providing a program; scheduling; the first speaker; potential themes; and consideration of potential prompts.

MOVED BY MEMBER BIBBINS-MCKEEVER AND SECONDED BY MEMBER WEISS THAT THE MLK JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: APPROVE THE WORD WALL PROMPT: "WHAT FREEDOM MEANS TO YOU IN ONE WORD."

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BIBBINS-MCKEEVER, CAIN, HEARNS, RAYNOR, WEISS  
NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: GREEN, KEARNEY, SMITH

Further discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding facilitation of the event by the emcee.

MOVED BY MEMBER BIBBINS-MCKEEVER AND SECONDED BY MEMBER RAYNOR THAT THE MLK JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: APPROVE THE RUN OF SHOW FOR THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION 2025 AS AMENDED.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BIBBINS-MCKEEVER, CAIN, HEARNS, RAYNOR, WEISS  
NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: GREEN, KEARNEY, SMITH

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Item A-3

MLKJCC - Receipt and Filing of Updates from the Members of the  
Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration & Juneteenth Celebration  
Advisory Committee Ad Hoc Subcommittees

Member Bibbins-McKeever indicated nothing to report regarding Juneteenth and she discussed efforts for the MLK Celebration including securing entertainment and a potential additional performer.

Francisca Castillo, Recreation and Community Services Manager, thanked Member Bibbins-McKeever for her hard work and her support of staff.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the emcee; contracts; encouragement to those participating to invite their friends and family; outreach materials; collaboration with the Public Information Officer; and Member agreement to share contact information with staff for Culver City-specific newsletters.

Member Cain provided an update on the History and Culture Ad Hoc Subcommittee, and she discussed video submissions.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the video prompt; prizes; vetting of entries for a full Committee vote; the application process; potential prizes; application deadline; the selection process; full Committee consideration planned for the January 9, 2025 meeting; the request from Apple to participate in the selection process; involvement of Apple in the event; acknowledging the participation of Apple; the intent to spread the word for the celebration and the contest at the Tree Lighting event; appreciation to Ad Hoc Subcommittee Members for their work; encouragement for Committee Members to pick up flyers to distribute; collaboration with the School District; the absence of residency requirements to participate in the contest; distribution of information to West LA College; the updated flyer with contest information; social media promotion; and distribution to homeowner associations.

Vice Chair Hearn discussed the recent meeting of the Ad Hoc Juneteenth History and Culture Subcommittee; including an educational component along with children's activities; tabled resources; applicable vendors; food sampling; providing a visual display illustrating what Juneteenth means; having a spoken word session; understanding the history and meaning of Juneteenth through the speaker, the visual wall, the activities

for different age groups, and vendors specific to the event; providing mental health resources; and inviting community groups to table and share information about their organizations

Member Raynor expressed concern that the subcommittee meeting was held without sufficient notice.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding agreement to provide more notice in the future; meetings held for Juneteenth after the MLK event in January; participation of the Culver City Special Events Manager; involvement of Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) in the Juneteenth Celebration; reliance on Committee Members to secure contacts; encouragement for the subcommittee to meet; the event budget; timeline for the budgeting process; advocating for additional resources; expenses to cover the event; public City Council budget meetings; making a request as a Committee vs. speaking as an individual; requests for budget enhancements for the second Juneteenth event; and clarification that the Ad Hoc Sponsorship Subcommittee had not met.

MOVED BY MEMBER WEISS AND SECONDED BY MEMBER RAYNOR THAT THE MLK JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: RECEIVE AND FILE UPDATES FROM THE AD HOC MLK AND JUNTEENTH SUBCOMMITTEES.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BIBBINS-MCKEEVER, CAIN, HEARNS, RAYNOR, WEISS  
NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: GREEN, KEARNEY, SMITH

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Item A-4

MLKJCC - Receipt and Filing of the Martin Luther King Jr.  
Celebration and Juneteenth Celebration Advisory Committee

**2024/2025 Meeting Calendar and the Upcoming Agenda Items List,  
With Adjustments, If Any**

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding adding an agenda item to the February agenda to discuss requesting a budget enhancement; allowing sufficient time to determine the amount to request; special paperwork involved with budget enhancements; staff time required for the process; the finance calendar; due date for the work plans; providing flexibility with dates; concern with the number of items already on the January agenda; the ability to rearrange the agenda and to defer items; ensuring that the request is able to be submitted to execute the vision for the event; the ability to write a budget letter recommendation to be sent to the City Council; consensus was achieved from all Members present to add an item to the January 15, 2025 agenda to discuss a budget enhancement; adjusting event planning earlier to provide adequate time; the ability of the Committee to decide when they want to discuss items; the first several Committee meetings that were spent getting the Committee going; consideration of feedback from events; and consensus from all Members present to add a discussion of MLK events in June.

MOVED BY MEMBER WEISS AND SECONDED BY MEMBER BIBBINS-MCKEEVER THAT THE MLK JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: RECEIVE AND FILE THE 2024/2025 MLK CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR WITH AMENDMENTS AS DISCUSSED.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BIBBINS-MCKEEVER, CAIN, HEARNS, RAYNOR, WEISS  
NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: GREEN, KEARNEY, SMITH

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**Public Comment - Items Not On the Agenda (Continued)**

Dorian Jackson, Associate Analyst, indicated that no requests to speak had been received.

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#### **Items from Members/Staff**

Vice Chair Hearn discussed attendance issues; requested calendar invites for meetings; discussed compliance with the attendance policy; and Members who have missed more than three meetings in a row.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding special meetings; City policy; providing the benefit of the doubt; attendance tracked by the City Clerk's Office; the process for seat forfeiture; decisions made by the City Council to remove Members; notification to those who have missed meetings and are in jeopardy of losing their seats; staff agreement to send an email to the entire Committee with a copy of the attendance policy as a reminder; a request for Committee Member contact information; email sent by absent Committee Members to alert staff of their absence; and jurisdiction of the City Clerk's Office.

Jesse Roth, Associate Analyst, announced that it was the birthday of Member Weiss.

Committee Members and staff expressed best wishes to Member Weiss for his birthday.

Member Bibbins-McKeever noted the importance of communication; discussed communication between subcommittee members; and she received staff agreement to communicate with Committee Members prior to each meeting.

Member Raynor received clarification on where to pick up flyers at the Tree Lighting Ceremony.

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#### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, at 8:26 P.M., the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and Juneteenth Celebration



Advisory Committee adjourned to a meeting to be held on January  
9, 2025.

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Dorian Jackson

SECRETARY of the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and  
Juneteenth Celebration Advisory Committee

APPROVED

2/19/2025



LATOYA HEARNS

~~VICE CHAIR~~ of the Culver City Martin Luther King Jr.  
Celebration and Juneteenth Celebration Advisory Committee  
Culver City, California

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State  
of California that, on the date below written, these minutes  
were filed in the Office of the City Clerk, Culver City,  
California and constitute the Official Minutes of said meeting.



Jeremy Bocchino  
CITY CLERK

27 JULY 2025

Date