

***These Meetings Minutes are not official until approved by the
Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration/Juneteenth Celebration
Advisory Committee***

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

January 9, 2025
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 6:42 P.M. at the Culver City Senior Center.

Present: LaToya Hearn, Vice Chair
Karna Bibbins-McKeever, Member
Lisa Gordon Cain, Member
Christian Green, Member
Curtis Raynor, Member
Carissa Joy Smith, Member*
Andrew Weiss, Member

*Member Smith arrived at 6:47 P.M.

Absent: Amber Kearney, Member

Staff: Francisca Castillo, Recreation and Community
Services Manager
Dorian Jackson, Associate Analyst

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Pledge of Allegiance

Member Raynor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice Chair Hearn extended her thoughts to those affected by the devastating fires.

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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 - Selection of Three Grand Prize Winners of the Fellowship & Beyond Video Contest

Vice Chair Hearn introduced the item noting that after careful consideration, the subcommittee had voted to recommend Audrey Ogosta to receive the grand prize, and Adesola Dauda-Talabi and Nico Chesler for honorable mention.

Member Smith joined the meeting.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding clarification that Junot Chesler had been recommended for honorable mention, not Nico Chesler as previously stated; department swag; gift cards; and support for the recommended winners.

MOVED BY MEMBER RAYNOR, SECONDED BY MEMBER WEISS AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT MEMBER KEARNEY), THAT THE MLK JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: AWARD THE FELLOWSHIP & BEYOND VIDEO CONTEST GRAND PRIZE OF AIR BUDS TO AUDREY OGOSTA AND AWARD HONORABLE MENTION PRIZES OF GIFT CARDS AND SWAG TO ADESOLA DAUDA-TALABI AND JUNOT CHESLER.

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Item A-2

MLKJCC - Receipt and Filing of the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and Juneteenth Celebration Advisory Committee 2025 Meeting Calendar and the Upcoming Agenda Items List, With Adjustments, If Any

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding items added to the January 15 agenda including the biannual report to the City Council and the budget letter to the City Council; a suggestion to add an item regarding communication between Committee Members to clarify roles and responsibilities; ensuring everyone follows a similar process; delegation of responsibilities; Brown Act Rules; logistics; length of the agenda for the January 15, 2025 meeting; responsibility for planning events and reporting back to the full Committee; subcommittees associated with different tasks; other tasks outside of the subcommittees; making sure everyone is always copied on communication with entertainment to ensure Members know what is going on; rules, regulations, policies and procedures; responsibilities to be assigned for different tasks that should be discussed as a full Committee; the current disconnect with communication; the ad hoc subcommittees as a work around; concern that no Committee Members were able to review the flyer created for the MLK event before it was printed; the advisory nature of the Committee; decisions made by staff due to the short timeframe; agreement to have the discussion at the February meeting; responsibility for social

MLK Jr. Celebration and
Juneteenth Celebration
Advisory Committee
January 9, 2025

Page 4 of 7

media posts; post-event evaluations; the Marketing and Public Relations Ad Hoc Subcommittee; subcommittee collaboration with the responsible staff person; inviting the City's Communications Officer to a meeting; the Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) Instagram that is separate from the general Culver City account; ensuring that the subcommittee is introduced via email and an invitation is sent; and adding agenda items if the MLK event is postponed.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding concern with air quality; concern with holding the event in light of what has been happening; City Manager jurisdiction over the decision to postpone events; a request that staff share feedback with the City Manager on Committee support for postponing the event; activation of the City Emergency Response Team; current closures; curfew in certain areas; continuation of indoor activities; the focus on public safety; notification; evacuations; casualties; potential bad publicity if the event is held in light of the death and destruction going on; and the ability of Committee Members to speak out as Culver City residents.

Further discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding items for the February agenda; standing subcommittee reports; methods for receipt of community feedback; adding an agenda item regarding staff support for Juneteenth Subcommittees; logistics; roles and delegation; collaboration with Edgar Varela; adding a discussion about the Brown Act to clarify support systems for subcommittees; the ability to move around agenda items; PRCS staff present at Committee meetings throughout the year; City special events vs. PRCS events; Community Economic Development; lack of advance notification to some subcommittee members regarding the recent Juneteenth History and Culture Subcommittee meeting; the subcommittee report; opening up discussion for those serving on the subcommittee who were not present for the meeting; the discussion for all Members to weigh in; the last minute meeting decided upon by staff that some Members were not invited to; clarification that no decisions were made; and agreement to discuss the agenda for March and beyond at future meetings.

MOVED BY MEMBER RAYNOR, SECONDED BY MEMBER BIBBINS-MCKEEVER AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT MEMBER KEARNEY), THAT THE MLK JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

RECEIVE AND FILE THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND
JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2025 MEETING
CALENDAR AND THE UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS LIST, WITH ADJUSTMENTS.

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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**

Francisca Castillo, Recreation and Community Services Manager,
reported an administrative error and stated that David Duvall
would be removed from the Entertainment Subcommittee as he no
longer serves on the Committee.

MOVED BY MEMBER BIBBINS-NCKEEVER, SECONDED BY MEMBER WEISS AND
UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT MEMBER KEARNEY), THAT THE MLK JR.
CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE:
RECEIVE AND FILE UPDATES FROM THE AD HOC MLK AND JUNTEENTH
SUBCOMMITTEES.

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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

Francisca Castillo, Recreation and Community Services Manager,
discussed the recent fires; impacts to staff; expressed support
for family and friends; indicated that Committee sentiment in
favor of cancelling the MLK event planned for January 11 would
be relayed to the City Manager; stated that if the event did
move forward, volunteers should be present by 1:30 P.M.; and
she reported that the Proclamation would be awarded by the
City Council to PRCS on January 13, 2025.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding those expecting to attend the City Council meeting; elimination of the City Council MLK Subcommittee; and future MLK events.

Dorian Jackson, Associate Analyst, indicated that Members were always welcome to reach out to her with any questions or for help to facilitate communication with other staff members.

Member Weiss expressed appreciation that so many Members were able to attend the meeting during the difficult time; reported providing pizza and donuts to the firehouse; and he encouraged everyone to donate items if they were so inclined.

Member Raynor asked about notification to the prize winners and finding out whether they could be present for the event.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the timeframe for the decision by the City Manager; staff agreement to notify Committee Members as soon as possible; communication with vendors and entertainers; staff responsibility for notification of contest winners; cancellation vs. rescheduling; the recommendation to postpone rather than cancel the event; language that could indicate the event is cancelled based upon a future date; funding; items that have already been paid for; costs that cannot be recouped; and contracts in place.

Member Green reported travelling from Lancaster to be present at the meeting and indicated support for rescheduling the event.

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 15, 2025.

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

APPROVED _____

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

Date