

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

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

December 17, 2025
6:30 P.M.

Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Bibbins-McKeever called the regular meeting of the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and Juneteenth Celebration Advisory Committee to order at 6:45 P.M. in Rooms C75 and C77 at the Culver City Senior Center.

Present: Karena Bibbins-McKeever, Chair
Lisa Gordon Cain, Member
Anasia Obioha, Member
Curtis Raynor, Member
Andrew Weiss, Member

Absent: LaToya Hearn, Vice Chair
Christian Green, Member
Amber Kearney, Member
Carissa Joy Smith, Member

Staff: Adam Ferguson, Deputy Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services
Dorian Jackson, Associate Analyst
Daniella Gutierrez, Recreation and Community Services Supervisor

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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 had been 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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Information Items

Item I-1

Staff Update on the List of Entertainers as Approved by the PR, Marketing and Entertainment Ad Hoc Subcommittee

Adam Ferguson, Deputy Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services, indicated that the previous meeting had been cancelled and staff had to move forward with booking the entertainment, so a vote could not be taken as the contracts had already been signed.

Dorian Jackson, Associate Analyst, discussed contracted speakers and performers.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the status of outreach to Dr. Scott Brown; the Middle School choir; the pianist; and looking at whether there would be room for more during the consideration of the Run of Show.

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Consent Calendar

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding clarification on dates and setting up subcommittee meetings.

MOVED BY MEMBER RAYNOR AND SECONDED BY MEMBER WEISS THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVE ITEMS C-1 and C-2.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BIBBINS-MCKEEVER, GORDON CAIN, OBIOHA, RAYNOR, WEISS

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: GREEN, HEARNS, KEARNEY, SMITH

Item C-1

Approval of the Minutes for the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and Juneteenth Celebration Advisory Committee Meeting of October 15, 2025

THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF OCTOBER 15, 2025.

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Item C-2

(1) Approval of the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and Juneteenth Celebration Advisory Committee 2026 Regular Meeting Dates; and (2) Receipt and Filing of the Upcoming Agenda Items List, With Adjustments, If Any

THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

(1) APPROVE THE 2026 REGULAR MEETING DATES; AND,

(2) RECEIVE AND FILE THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2026 MEETING CALENDAR AND THE UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS LIST, WITH ADJUSTMENTS.

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Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Action Items

Item A-1

MLKJCC – (1) Drafting of a Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration & Juneteenth Celebration Advisory Committee Biannual Report to the City Council, including Accomplishments During the Period July through December 2025, and an Update on the Upcoming 2026 Plans; and (2) Authorization of Transmittal of the Report to the City Council

Dorian Jackson, Associate Analyst, provided a summary of the material of record.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding agreement to add information indicating that Members provided recommendations through relationships with City Council Members; building connections at the Middle School; concern with being unable to accomplish much as people are not showing up to meetings; concern with lack of participation in ad hoc subcommittee meetings; agendizing a discussion of participation at a future meeting; the ability for a Committee Member to participate virtually as a Member of the public; and agreement to add that the Committee developed the theme.

MOVED BY CHAIR BIBBINS-MCKEEVER AND SECONDED BY MEMBER OBIOHA THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

1. DRAFT A MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION & JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE BIANNUAL REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL WITH ADDITIONS AS DISCUSSED, INCLUDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING THE PERIOD JUNE THROUGH DECEMBER 2025, AND AN UPDATE ON THE UPCOMING 2026 PLANS; AND,

2. AUTHORIZE TRANSMITTAL OF THE REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BIBBINS-MCKEEVER, GORDON CAIN, OBIOHA, RAYNOR, WEISS
NOES: NONE

ABSENT: GREEN, HEARNS, KEARNEY, SMITH

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Item A-2

**MLKJCC - Receive and File the Marketing Poster and
Communication Outreach Plan for the Martin Luther King Jr.
Celebration**

Dorian Jackson, Associate Analyst, provided a summary of the material of record noting that the first email blast had gone out on December 17, 2025.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding support for the poster; the opportunity drawing; the save the date communication; clarification that additional communication would go out with the time included and clarification that the Committee would not review the second version that would be in the same format with updates.

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Recess/Reconvene

The Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and Juneteenth Celebration Advisory Committee took a brief recess between 7:12 P.M. and 7:14 P.M.

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Item A-2
(Continued)

**MLKJCC - Receive and File the Marketing Poster and
Communication Outreach Plan for the Martin Luther King Jr.
Celebration**

MOVED BY CHAIR BIBBINS-MCKEEVER AND SECONDED BY MEMBER WEISS THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECEIVE AND FILE THE MARKETING POSTER AND UPDATED COMMUNICATION PLAN FOR THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BIBBINS-MCKEEVER, GORDON CAIN, OBIOHA, RAYNOR, WEISS

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: GREEN, HEARNS, KEARNEY, SMITH

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Item A-3

MLKJCC - Approval of the History and Education Ad Hoc Subcommittee's Informational Display Boards on Voting Rights

Member Weiss reported that the educational boards and panels were included in the agenda packet; discussed increased threats to voting in the United States with a particular focus on Black Americans; and voting rights as an early focus of civil rights.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the focus on voting rights content; the design; colors; boards on display in the Rotunda Room to allow people to walk through history; the speech from the stage; the line dance activity; change out of the picture on page 40; copy edits; a suggestion to add more information regarding the literacy test; focusing on current issues with voter suppression in addition to past issues; concern with making the text too dense; different ploys to deny People of Color the right to vote; edits made to ensure readability; a suggestion to add a reference to the honeymoon period during Reconstruction; Jim Crow; technological voter suppression methods; fluctuations in Black voters and office holders; things that eroded progress that had nothing to do with voting; altering wording on the first panel; making the point that what is said to be the past is current; looking at the way history is repeating itself; allowing individuals to take what they will from the posters; concern with belaboring points; accessibility; and providing Braille, a recording of someone reading the text, or an additional way to access information.

Member Weiss proposed a motion to accept the slides as they are with the understanding that the subcommittee would review suggestions for additions made by Chair Bibbins-McKeever and Member Weiss.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the need for the subcommittee to make the final decision due to timing if a decision is not made at the current meeting; resolving issues as a full Committee; and the need for changes to be sent to staff rather than to the Subcommittee.

Chair Bibbins-McKeever seconded the motion regarding copy edits noting that the final decision would be made by the History and Education Ad Hoc Subcommittee.

MOVED BY MEMBER RAYNOR AND SECONDED BY CHAIR BIBBINS-MCKEEVER THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: APPROVE THE HISTORY AND EDUCATION AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE'S INFORMATIONAL DISPLAY BOARDS ON VOTING RIGHTS WITH ADJUSTMENTS APPROVED BY THE AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BIBBINS-MCKEEVER, OBIOHA, RAYNOR, WEISS
NOES: GORDON CAIN
ABSENT: GREEN, HEARNS, KEARNEY, SMITH

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Item A-4

MLKJCC - Approval of Food Vendors for the 2026 Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration as Recommended by the Food & Non-Food Vendors Ad Hoc Sub Committee

Chair Bibbins-McKeever introduced the item.

Dorian Jackson, Associate Analyst, provided a summary of the material of record.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding receipt of the Michelin Star by Alta; clarification that the businesses were all Black-owned; support for Honey Kettle being a Culver City business; previous efforts to use Alta; and pricing.

MOVED BY CHAIR BIBBINS-MCKEEVER AND SECONDED BY MEMBER RAYNOR THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVE ALTA AS THE SECOND FOOD VENDOR FOR THE 2026 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BIBBINS-MCKEEVER, GORDON CAIN, OBIOHA, RAYNOR

NOES: WEISS

ABSENT: GREEN, HEARNS, KEARNEY, SMITH

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Item A-5

MLKJCC - Approve a Volunteer Engagement Activity Based on Various Proposals from the Volunteer Engagement Ad Hoc Subcommittee

Adam Ferguson, Deputy Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services, provided a summary of the material of record.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding choices made to ensure an easier lift on staff and volunteers; including the voter registration area as part of the historical section; having a separate food collection or non-perishable collection area in addition to voter registration; the ability to register high schoolers so that when they turn 18 they are registered; service hours; getting young people involved in voting; promotional materials provided for a voter registration drive; helping teachers participate; logistics; and support for voter registration and non-perishable food collection.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding directing donations to Feed Culver; adding verbiage in promotion to include encouragement to bring non-perishable food donations to the event; voter registration materials from the Civics Center; the focus on registering teenagers to vote; the ability to register anyone to vote; outreach to LA County to set up a voter registration booth; assistance offered by Grace and Wisdom Institute; the number of teenagers who may or may not attend; targeted marketing to

teens once school is back in session; ensuring that promotional materials are applicable to adults as well as teens for inclusivity in the voter registration drive; and placement of the voting display and registration drive in the Rotunda Room.

MOVED BY CHAIR BIBBINS-MCKEEVER AND SECONDED BY MEMBER OBIOHA THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: APPROVE THE VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY INCLUDING A VOTER REGISTRATION AREA IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LA COUNTY AND CIVICS CENTER, AND ACCEPTANCE OF NON-PERISHABLE FOOD DONATIONS AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE EVENT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FEED CULVER.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

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

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Item A-6

MLKJCC - Approve the Run of Show for Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Event 2026 with Adjustments, if Any.

Adam Ferguson, Deputy Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services, provided a summary of the material of record.

Dorian Jackson, Associate Analyst, noted that if the event were filmed, it would be posted on social media and Youtube and used on the Culver City website.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding cost; creation of a community-wide art project called *Connecting Culver City* by the Artist Laureate for Culver City; concern that the proposed Artist Laureate project is not geared toward the event; a request that the Artist Laureate adjust the theme of her proposal to tie-in to the theme of the event; holding activities that are better suited for the outdoors to the Juneteenth event; support for filming the event; hiring a Black-owned video company to create content that can be shared and used to promote the event moving forward; line dancing;

contracts that have already been confirmed; concern with how filming line dancing exemplifies the theme for MLK Day; dancing as a part of the community; a suggestion to have the film crew interview the Planning Commission and staff members; concern that it is too soon to incorporate the Artist Laureate for the MLK event; and review of the work of A Matterworks Production.

Chair Bibbins-McKeever proposed a motion to consider A Matterworks Production for video content of the entire event pending review of their event footage, and not moving forward with Heroes of Color or Victoria Marks for the MLK event. Member Obioha seconded the motion.

The Committee viewed a video sample from A Matterworks.

MOVED BY CHAIR BIBBINS-MCKEEVER AND SECONDED BY MEMBER OBIOHA THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: WORK WITH A MATTERWORKS PRODUCTIONS FOR VIDEOGRAPHY FOR THE 2026 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BIBBINS-MCKEEVER, OBIOHA, RAYNOR, WEISS
NOES: GORDON CAIN
ABSENT: GREEN, HEARNS, KEARNEY, SMITH

MOVED BY MEMBER RAYNOR AND SECONDED BY MEMBER WEISS THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: INVITE THE ARTIST LAUREATE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CELEBRATION IF SHE CAN ADJUST HER THEME TO BE MORE INCLUSIVE TO THE 2026 MLK JR. CELEBRATION THEME.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: GORDON CAIN, RAYNOR, WEISS
NOES: BIBBINS-MCKEEVER, OBIOHA
ABSENT: GREEN, HEARNS, KEARNEY, SMITH

Adam Ferguson, Deputy Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services, presented a non-traditional layout for the event; discussed acoustics; use of the basketball court; seating for attendees; the band and speakers; the risers; the

screen; utilization of Tech Artists; projections; use of free-standing panels; and the Run of Show.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding a recommendation to serve food at the end; projection of the four minute photo loop; announcements; specific images to be projected during the speech; keynote speaker announcements; hours of the event; agreement to provide drinks throughout the event with food available after the closing remarks at 3:20 P.M.; length of time for the DJ to play; looping the video again at the end; and staff agreement to reach out to the DJ to see if music can be played at the end.

MOVED BY MEMBER RAYNOR AND SECONDED BY MEMBER WEISS THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: APPROVE THE RUN OF SHOW AND EVENT LAYOUT FOR THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION EVENT 2026 AS AMENDED.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

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

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding on-site roles and responsibilities; Member attendance of the event; positions that need to be filled; use of volunteers; Committee Members expressed preferences for assignments; assignments for other Members if they are present; and Member Gordon Cain indicated that she would not be able to be present for the event.

MOVED BY CHAIR BIBBINS-MCKEEVER AND SECONDED BY MEMBER RAYNOR THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: APPROVE COMMITTEE MEMBER ON-SITE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE 2026 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION EVENT AS AMENDED.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BIBBINS-MCKEEVER, GORDON CAIN, OBIOHA, RAYNOR, WEISS
NOES: NONE

ABSENT: GREEN, HEARNS, KEARNEY, SMITH

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding agreement that photos provided last year by a Parks, Recreation, and Community Services employee be displayed again this year.

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Public Comment - Items NOT On the Agenda (Continued)

Chair Bibbins-McKeever invited public comment.

Dorian Jackson, Associate Analyst, indicated that no requests to speak had been received for Public Comment - Items NOT On the Agenda.

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Items from Members/Staff

Chair Bibbins-McKeever expressed support for replacing Members who do not show up to meetings with those who would want to be present to help with the large amount of work to plan events.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding attendance of City Council meetings and staff agreement to email information to Committee Members.

Adam Ferguson, Deputy Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services, discussed staffing changes in Culver City; workload; and availability.

Committee Members thanked staff for all that they do to make the events happen.

Member Obioha expressed concern with potential email issues and lack of notification about the meeting.

Dorian Jackson, Associate Analyst, encouraged everyone to attend the January 12, 2026, City Council meeting where the 2026 Martin Luther King Jr. Day proclamation would be presented noting that not all cities had an MLK celebration and the videographer would help Culver City become a destination.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding extending invitations to dignitaries; communication with the City Manager's Office; acknowledgement of those attending; ensuring a quorum at the next meeting; the Ad Hoc Entertainment Subcommittee; and agreement by staff to be in contact with Members.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:54 P.M., the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and Juneteenth Celebration Advisory Committee adjourned.

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

APPROVED _____

KARENA BIBBINS-MCKEEVER
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