

Maryland Lynching Truth & Reconciliation Commission
Meeting #28

Date: Monday, September 13, 2021

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Attendance:

David Armenti	X	Kirkland Hall	AB
Iris Barnes	X	Elizabeth Hughes	X
Simone Barrett	X	Elgin Klugh *	AB
(DeNeen Brown)	(ret)	Gary Norman	AB
Jacqueline Bullock	AB	Carl Snowden	AB
Charles Chavis	AB	Marshall Stevenson	X
Nick Creary	X		
Roger Davidson	AB		
Maya Davis	X	Zenita Hurley	X
Omar Eaton-Martinez	X	Kristin McFarlane	X
David Fakunle	X	Will Schwarz	X
Chris Haley	X	(Sonya Osei)	AB

* In the absence of Commissioner Dr. Klugh. Coppin State University represented at this meeting by Dr. Teisha Dupree-Wilson

Members of the public present: Kathy Brissette-Minus (MSBA ADR Section Council), Elaine Bachman (MD State Archives), Nick White (MD Judiciary Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office), Emily Oland Squires (MD State Archives), Jack Del Nunzio (Carroll County Coalition, MD Lynching Oral History Initiative), Matt Tibbles (Generative Futures Consulting), Carolyn Stauffer (Generative Futures Consulting), Steve McKenna, Virginie Ladisch (ICTJ)

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Fakunle at 11:34a.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes from the meeting of August 9, 2021 were approved unanimously with no changes.

Public Comments:

None

Committee Reports:

- Logistics – Commissioner Maya Davis
 - Henceforth, the Logistics Committee will be holding joint meetings with the Research Committee to prepare for public hearings.
 - A training workshop with Virginie Ladisch (International Committee for Transitional Justice) is being planned for all Commissioners.

- Research – Commissioner David Armenti
 - Committee is focusing on tightening up compilation of case study information for upcoming hearings (Allegany, Calvert + St. Mary's, Anne Arundel, Carroll + Frederick).
 - More information on William Burns has been received, will be included in upcoming Allegany County hearing.
 - Applicants for genealogist and historian contracts have been reviewed, follow up questions to candidates submitted through OAG. Expect decision on both contracts in the next couple of weeks
 - Project manager position applicants also under review and decision expected to be made shortly.

- Reconciliation – Vice Chair Dr. Charles Chavis
 - No report

New Business:

- At the prompting of Commissioner Norman, The Maryland Judiciary's [Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office](#) (MACRO) has secured the services of a contractor, Generative Futures Consulting, LLC, to offer facilitator training on trauma-informed listening and dialogue circles focused on truth-telling, racial justice, and trauma transformation. Nick White of MACRO and Carolyn Stauffer (Generative Futures) discussed the training
 - A total of 8 sessions will be offered around the state, in sequence and schedule anticipating public hearings.
 - Training will be made available to local coalitions and other interested community members.
 - Training is intended to help coalitions conduct upcoming public hearings and will also be useful in continuing the community conversations after the hearings are over and the difficult work of healing and reconciliation continues.

- Commissioner Davis shared hearing template with Virginie Ladisch of International Committee for Transitional Justice who will offer info session on TRCs for interested coalition leaders and has also agreed to conduct a session for Commissioners at a date/time TBD.

- Ms. Hurley indicated that MD State Troopers have been requested to provide security at hearings.

- Ms. Hurley and Ms. McFarlane have provided feedback to Vice Chair Chavis regarding proposed Allegany County participation agreement.

- Ms. Hurley announced she has reached out to State Attorneys General Association to help bolster local law enforcement participation as required under terms of DOJ Emmett Till grant.
 - PG County State's Attorney Aisha Braveboy suggested stronger law enforcement perspective should be involved in making recommendations that involve law enforcement.
 - A suggestion is that law enforcement representatives from local jurisdictions should be part of conversations moving forward in preparing from hearings; outreach should also be made to Federal representatives

- Vice Chair Chavis announced he has reached out to MPT and C-Span in attempt to get coverage for upcoming Allegany County hearing.

- Commissioner Dr. Barnes suggested that if a flyer is developed, each Commissioner can distribute it to his or her network contacts.

- It was suggested that a list of standard invitations to local office-holders, officials be developed that can be used at all hearings.
- Chair Fakunle is working to find replacements for vacancies on Commission.
- Commissioner Eaton-Martinez has learned that Izetta A. Mobley, Ph.D. has recently been appointed by Lewis Museum and will likely represent the Museum on the Commission following the departure of Jacqueline Bullock.
- Jack Del Nunzio (Carroll County, Oral History Initiative) suggested that it is important that Commission provide ongoing help to counties from genealogist to identify descendants of victims both before and after hearings.
 - Steve McKenna (in chat) suggested that descendants of perpetrators and witnesses also be included.
 - Commissioner Creary noted that Commission retains subpoena power to help gain cooperation from reluctant witnesses/agencies.

Motion to adjourn made and seconded at 12:35pm