

Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 28, 2019
11:00AM

Commissioners and Staff present: Chair David Fakunle; Simone Barrett; Elgin Klugh; Tamara E. Wilson; Tim Baker; Carl Snowden; Marshall Stevenson, Jr.; David Armenti; Iris Barnes; Will Schwarz, Kristin McFarlane; David Terry; Steve McKenna; Sonya Osei; Elizabeth Hughes; Zenita Hurley

Participating via telephone: Gary Norman

Absent: Jackie Copeland

Members of the public present: Charles L. Chavis, Jr.; Kirkland J. Hall. Sr.; Steve McKenna; David Taft Terry

Call to Order: Acting Chair Fakunle called the meeting to order at approximately 11:10 am. Commissioners and members of the public introduced themselves for the record.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: The minutes for the October 14, 2019 Commission meeting were considered and approved without objection.

Review of Bylaws

Archives will be housed at Bowie State University as main storage site during commission as well as Maryland State Archives. Maryland State Archives will receive all documents from commission once commission is completed. There will be one custodian for archive oversight but copies will be disseminated to the other HBCU's in Maryland.

A goal is to have all Archived information digitized in order to better establish quick access to the research and information.

Bylaws should express the process for submitting final research to Commission. All outcomes will be housed in central location (Bowie State University). Subcommittees will set up a process for when information is gathered, cataloged, disseminated, and retained. Revisions can be added to the bylaws and subcommittees will provide updates and suggestions. This is or will be included in the bylaws.

The Commissioners discussed the attendance requirements for Business Meetings and Public Meetings. Commissioners should make every effort to attend the BUSINESS MEETINGS in person. Commissioners and/or their designees are expected to attend the meetings of the Commission and their assigned committee meeting. If a Commission Board member cannot attend in person, he or she may, with approval of the Chair, attend electronically. (We suggested that this be limited to a specific number of users)

Commissioners must also make every effort to attend all PUBLIC HEARINGS. A Commissioner may not have a designee stand in their place at PUBLIC HEARINGS.

The Commissioners agreed to add a clause to the by-laws establishing consequences for multiple absences. A Commissioner's failure to attend 3 consecutive meetings will result in a request for their removal from the Commission. The Commission may also include in its report to the Governor and Legislature a list of the member institutions who have not supported the Commission's efforts.

Roles of Officers:

Section 2. The Commission shall be led by and represented by a Chair and a Vice Chair consistent with policies adopted by the Commission.

The officers of the Commission shall be the Chair and the Vice Chair, who are each elected by a majority vote of the Commission members. Additional officers deemed necessary or essential to the work of the Commission may be established by the Commission at any time.

Combine Section 1 & 3 in Article 4 of Bylaws. A lot of the same language is used.

Secretary: The Recording/Corresponding Secretary shall draft a record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Commission for submission to the Commission for its approval. ~~The Secretary shall serve as the Acting Chair in the absence of the Chair and the Vice Chair.~~ The Recording/Corresponding Secretary may, with approval of the Chair, appoint such Assistant Secretaries to assist in the duties of the Secretary. ~~The Secretary is authorized to sign on behalf of the Commission papers of a non-financial nature and as authorized by the Commission or required by law. (This is a conflict and should be a duty assigned by the Chair)~~

The staff person from Bowie will serve as Recording/Corresponding Secretary for Commission. The Recording/Corresponding Secretary will provide meeting minutes and create meeting agendas. Minutes will be uploaded online. The staff person from Bowie will be assisted in staffing the Commission by a representative of the Maryland Lynching Memorial Project.

Move up section 6 to be part of section one and two in Bylaws

Section 6. Any member or any officer may be removed upon good cause shown to the Commission and upon a vote by a majority of the members. (Perhaps this should be included above)

Section 5. The Committee chair or designee shall be the official representatives of the Commission. (Previously stated)

Subcommittee Assignments and Discussion-

At 12:51 p.m., the Commission broke into subcommittees to discuss their work assignments until 1:00 p.m. The subcommittees should provide status reports – tabled until NEXT MEETING.

New Business

Commissioner Stevenson shared that Del. Pena-Mylnck is scheduled to speak to students and professors at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore on November 7, 2019 from 11:00am-12:30pm regarding the charge of this Commission.

The next Commission meeting will be:

- **Saturday, November 16, 2019 2-4pm**
Morgan State University (ROOM TBA)

This meeting will be held after the MD Lynching Memorial Project's Conference: "Lynching in Maryland: The Journey from Truth to Reconciliation" on Nov. 16th from 9am – 12:30 p.m. at the Student Center at Morgan State University. For more information, see <https://mdllynchingmemorial.networkforgood.com/events/16250-maryland-lynching-memorial-project>

Meeting Adjourned

The Commission voted to adjourn the meeting at approximately 1: 22p.m.