Chair
David O. Fakunle, Ph.D.

Vice Chair
Charles L. Chavis, Jr., Ph.D.

Staff
Sophie Asike, Esq.
Arusha N. Evans
Zenita Hurley, Esq.
Kristin McFarlane, Esq.

Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission

Commissioners
David Armenti
Lindsey Baker
Iris Leigh Barnes, Ph.D.
Simone Barrett-Williams, Ph.D.
Michelle Coles, Esq.
Nicholas Creary, Ph.D.
Maya Davis
Teisha Dupree-Wilson, Ph.D.
Holly Fisher-Hickman, Ph.D.
Christopher E. Haley
Elizabeth Hughes
Amy Millin
Robert Parker
Carl Snowden
Marshall Stevenson, Ph.D.
Stephanie Suerth, Ph.D.

Monthly Business Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, May 11th, 2026
Time: 11:30am-1:30pm Eastern Time
Location: Virtual

Attendance

Commissioners	
David O. Fakunle	X
Charles L. Chavis	X
David Armenti	X
Lindsey Baker	X
Iris Leigh Barnes	X
Simone Barrett-Williams	
Michelle Coles	X
Nicholas Creary	X
Maya Davis	X
Teisha Dupree-Wilson	X
Holly Fisher-Hickman	
Christopher E. Haley	X
Elizabeth Hughes	
Amy Millin	X
Robert Parker	X
Carl Snowden	
Marshall Stevenson	X
Stephanie Suerth	
Sophie Asike	X
Arusha N. Evans	X
Zenita Hurley	
Kristin McFarlane	

Call to Order
The meeting started at 11:32 AM; a quorum was reached.

1. Call to Order, Attendance, and Approval of Minutes

- The meeting was called to order at 11:32 AM EST.
- A quorum was confirmed.
- Minutes from the April meeting were approved unanimously.

2. Chair's Comments & Soul Check

- The Chair reflected on the Commission's seven-year experience, expressing gratitude for the work completed and emphasizing its historical and personal significance. Commissioners shared reflections, noting:
    - The importance and urgency of continuing this work beyond the Commission's sunset, June 8, 2026.
    - The lasting impact of the Commission's work and the need for continued advocacy.

3. New Business

a. Final (June 2026) Meeting Planning
Discussion included:

- Preference for an in-person final meeting
    - Proposed/possible venues: Riversdale Museum, Maryland State Archives (Rolling Run location), Morgan State University, Bowie State University, The National Great Blacks in Wax Museum, and other institutional and cultural venues.
- Considerations:
    - Parking and accessibility
    - Public attendance (Open Meetings Act compliance)
    - Food (potluck style, catered, and/or donated support)
    - Invitations to stakeholders, partners, elected officials, and media
    - Possible press release or "save-the-date" announcement

Action items:

- Commissioners to confirm venue availability and compile invite lists to assist with outreach.
- Staff to circulate a Google form for final selection

b. Vote: MLTRC Representative to the Maryland Reparations Commission
The nominees were Commissioner Nicholas Creary and Chair David Fakunle. Both nominees remained present but recused themselves from voting. Votes were cast by raising a hand or by

verbal confirmation and recorded by staff. The final vote was six (6) in favor of Commissioner Creary and four (4) in favor of the Chair. Commissioner Nicholas Creary was elected to serve as the Commission's representative to the Maryland Reparations Commission.

Detailed Voting Record

Commissioner	Vote
Maya Davis	Voted for Creary
Iris Barnes	Voted for Creary
Michelle Coles	Voted for Creary
Teisha Dupree-Wilson	Voted for Creary
Robert Parker	Voted for Creary
Amy Millin	Voted for Creary
David Fakunle	Voted for Creary
Marshall Stevenson	Voted for Fakunle
Christopher Haley	Voted for Fakunle
Charles Chavis	Voted for Fakunle
David Armenti	Voted for Fakunle
Nicholas Creary	Voted for Fakunle

c. Presentation: Keith Warren's Story

Ms. Sherri Warren presented the case of her brother, Keith Warren, a 19-year-old Black man, who was found hanging from a tree in Montgomery County in 1986. She described the original ruling of suicide, the subsequent reclassification of the case to "undetermined" in 2024. She talked about ongoing efforts to obtain public information records and pursue accountability. She also noted a 3-part Discovery+ documentary, *Uprooted*, about her family's struggle to find answers. Commissioners acknowledged the testimony and emphasized its importance as part of the historical record and broader context of racial justice and accountability.

5. Announcements

- Upcoming installation of Equal Justice Initiative (EJI) historical markers:
  - **May 17, 2026** – Kent County
  - **June 7, 2026** – Carroll County
- Recent installation in Frederick County noted
- The Chair thanked participants and emphasized the need to prepare [on 5/15/26] for the final June meeting.

6. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:39 PM EST.