

MLK Celebration Committee Meeting  
Thursday November 4, 2021  
1PM  
Virtual - Zoom

Members Present: Rob Daves, Bernard Greene, Bobbie Knable, Christiana Akins, Ann Kamensky

Public: Jack Curtis

Other: Caitlin Starr (ODICR)

## Minutes

1. 10/21/21 min approved
2. Discussion of 2022 Event
  - a. Potential Speakers
    - Caitlin reached out to Prof Gonzales Rose at BU – she was very interested but felt other topics may be more appropriate for her. She suggested: Critical Race Theory, Antiracism, Structural/Systemic Racism/Subordination, Linguicism as a type of Racism, Systemic Inequity, Racialized Police Violence, How racism is used as evidence and other related topics.
      1. The Committee decided they would like to stick with Voting Rights, but would be interested in collaborating with Prof. Gonzales Rose for another program. Caitlin will let her know.
    - Caitlin also reached out to Prof. Tsai at BU and just heard back prior to the meeting that he would be interested in learning more and speaking. Caitlin will respond and see if they (Caitlin and Bernard) can set a time to speak with him and confirm his participation.
    - If not, Caitlin will reach out to the Voting Rights Professor from Harvard University that Prof. Gonzales Rose recommended: Guy-Uriel Charles.
    - If he is also not available, Christiana will reach out to Michael Sandel (also a Harvard professor Moral/political philosopher and lives in Brookline).
  - b. MLK/RLA and BIG
    - Caitlin and Ann will be working on putting together a 3 minute video for projectionist to play at the event. Caitlin is moving forward with reaching out to parents and setting a date to record.
    - Discussed with Ann, the Committees plan to host the event in person, BIG would be present to record.
  - c. Regie Gisbon
    - Available, just need to clarify what he will perform.
    - No more than 10 minutes
    - Bernard will work with Regie
  - d. Kuumba Singers at Harvard
    - Interested in sending a subset of the Choir (10 or so)
    - Wanted to hear about types of songs and what honorarium would be offered.
    - Bernard shared that MLK 's favorite song was (Take My Hand) Precious Lord – a traditional gospel hymn and that would be an appropriate song for them to sing, as well as Lift Every Voice and the beginning.
    - Typically charge \$500 for a subset to perform for 30 minutes
    - Committee thought \$300 for a subset for 10-12 minutes would be appropriate. Christiana will reach out to them at discuss songs and honorarium and coverage for any transportation.

- e. John Wilson's rendering of MLK Image for Poster
    - Martha Richardson said we can absolutely use. She sent a digital file to Rob but needs a higher resolution for the size of the poster. Martha will take a high quality image of and share with us for us to use.
    - Sent to Kristin – she just needs the text (Title, etc)
      - 1. Possible Titles
        - a. Voting Rights: Always Under Siege
        - b. Long Standing Battle for Voting Rights
        - c. Continuing Battle for Voting Rights
        - d. Voting Rights: the Continuing Battle
  - f. Other:
    - Jack suggested an updated compiled suggested reading with Booksmith and Library to include in the printed program
    - Public Comment: Shawn Kerry O'Neal is interested in volunteering on the day of, Caitlin shared her contact info for Shawn to reach out and discuss possible opportunities.
    - Timeline needs to be updated – Caitlin or Rob will share current file and begin updating
    - Rob and Caitlin will put together a quick budget and ask for sponsorship from BCF
3. Regie Harris Program
- a. May 1<sup>st</sup> is confirmed for a program
  - b. Need location – Rob is thinking Ridley School?
  - c. Rob is working on a grant proposal for funds through BCF
4. Next Meeting is Thursday November 18<sup>th</sup> 2021 at 10:30AM