

MLK Celebration Committee Meeting
Monday December 20, 2021
1:0 PM
Virtual - Zoom

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

Other: Caitlin Starr (ODICR)

Minutes

1. 12/9/21 min approved with one edit
2. Committee discussed adding Randall Kennedy, a Harvard Law Professor, onto our potential list of speakers for future programming. Also discussed exploring midyear events in the form of a book club.
3. Discussion of 2022 Event
 - a. Title and Poster
 - Title is “Our Voting Rights: The Struggle Continues”
 - The poster is currently being printed, Rob will be picking up and handing out. Caitlin can do Town Depts/Schools
 - Rob has reserved the windows at Walgreens from January 4th to 19th. Caitlin will request 2 extra kiosk sized posters from Gillian.
 - b. Performers
 - Brookline Music School has not given Ann a response as of yet.
 - Discussion of potential asking a TMM’s daughter whom is a vocalist with Voices Boston to do a solo vocal performance.
 - Bernard shared that Shawn O’Neal offered to see if there was someone from the Twelfth Baptist Church Choir interested.
 - Caitlin reminded Committee that any additional performers should be firmed up by the end of the week (Dec 24) so that we can make sure we have a recording of the performance by BIG’s deadline and information to circulate in the press release.
 - Bernard, Prof. Tsai, and Jennifer Barber will record self
 - Bernard will connect Regie and Caitlin regarding recording.
 - Bernard spoke with Jennifer Barber (Poet Laureate) and she will be reading Mississippi Rally by Bruce Hartford with an introduction.
 - c. BCF Sponsorship
 - Caitlin spoke with BCF and submitted a sponsorship request letter in the amount of \$800. The remaining \$1,550 will be covered by MLK Committee’s annual budget through ODICR.
 - Caitlin and BCF also discussed submitting a Brookline For All Grant for the May 2022 event once there is a prepared budget.
 - Caitlin will reach out to Giselle to see if she would like to record a PSA regarding Safety Net or ARPA for MLK Day Premier.
 - d. Discussion of Rabbi Hamilton and History of Rabbi Heschel and MLK
 - Caitlin updated Committee on communication received from Rabbi Hamilton regarding his learning of not being able to confirm the dedication of the bridge without permission and approval from the Heschel family. Rabbi Hamilton asked if the Committee would still like him to do a brief segment on both men’s history here in Brookline without the announcement of an upcoming dedication.

- The Committee would like to still have Rabbi Hamilton do a short segment and felt it was important to share this piece of Brookline history with the broader community. Caitlin will let Rabbi Hamilton know.
 - e. Press Release and Promotional media timeline
 - We are waiting on hearing about a potential sponsorship from BCF as well as finalizing any last minute performers.
 - Caitlin would like to get a finale and comprehensive PR campaign off the ground on Dec 28th.
 - Posters and image material is ready to go.
 - f. Update on "Inspo:Expo Presents"
 - Hadassah came up with a wonderful idea to combine the Welcome Blanket knitting with a discussion around Immigration in Brookline.
 1. Inspo:Expo Presents "Who's Welcome in Brookline?", a conversation about immigration in Town.
 - Hadassah will send Caitlin the language and information to include in our Press Release.
4. Memo: Evaluation and Reccs for Wilson Print at Pierce School
- a. Committee discussed potential memorandum
 - Should come from Rob and Martha Richardson and sent to Pierce Building Committee and have Select Board, School Committee, Superintendent and Town Administrator copied.
5. MLK Day Exhibit in the Library
- a. Jack had proposed adding this to agenda, but unfortunately, was not in attendance.
 - b. Rob believes he was thinking about doing a potential exhibit with past posters and programs, possible brief write up about Committee?
 - c. Rob will connect with Jack, but Committee was interested if it would be possible to get it done.
 - d. Caitlin also shared that the January Community Quiz will be trivia about Martin Luther King, Jr.
6. Next Meeting
- a. **Thursday December 30th at 1PM**