

**MINUTES OF THE
MACON-BIBB MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BOARD MEETING
June 6, 2024 – 4:00 PM**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Elaine Lucas, Chairman
Joyce Humphrey, Citizen
June O'Neal, Mentor's Project - Call In
Dr. Rev. Evans Brown, True Faith Church
of God in Christ
Dr. Henry Ficklin, MBC Executive Director
of Community Affairs
Charise Stephens-Merriweather, MBC
Small Business Affairs
Lisa M. Watson, Pastor, Evangelical
Liberty Christian Church & EMA Program
Coordinator

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Rev. Dominique Johnson, Kingdom of Life
Church
Rev. Harold Young, Tubman Museum
Rev. Dominique Nichols, Bibb County
School District
Rabbi Elizabeth Bahar, Temple Beth Israel

OTHERS PRESENT

Frank Howard, Assistant County Attorney
Grace Choi, County Attorney Intern
Nadiyah Harris, Macon Black Culture
Ty Fiveash, JWI Barrier Breakers
Dr. Mary H. Butler
Sheila Griggs, Deputy Clerk of
Commission

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

Commissioner Lucas called the meeting to order at 4:25 p.m.
Dr. Rev. Evans Brown opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. Approval of Minutes

A 05-23-2024 Meeting Minutes

*On motion of Dr. Ficklin, seconded by Pastor Lisa Watson and passed
unanimously, the minutes from the May 23, 2024, meeting were approved.*

3. Old Business

Ty Fiveash from James Wimberly Institute reported on the upcoming
Barrier Breaker Ceremony. Ty informed the Board that there is a link

available on the website to allow people to purchase additional tickets which cost \$50.00 per person. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/jwi-barrier-breaker-ceremony-tickets-903887470757>

The MLK Board will have an Honorary Table and Commissioner Lucas will make a presentation to one of the Honorees. MLK Board has eight seats available at the Honorary Table. Board members interested in attending should contact Sheila Griggs to reserve the seat.

Nadiyah Harris from Macon Black Culture (MBC) provided a list of Juneteenth Events to the Board. The Board is invited to attend all the events and Ms. Harris will leave 5 free tickets at the gate for the Juneteenth Honors and Junior Debutant Presentation that is happening June 8, 2024, for those who want to attend.

The Juneteenth Parade is scheduled for June 16, 2024, starting at 3:00 p.m., all participation fees will be waived for MLK and EMA.

June O'Neal reported that the 2024 T-Shirts are very visible in the community. The Board has a goal in 2025 to have T-shirts available in the month of January next year. The Board is also brainstorming ideas on how to raise funds to provide shirts for students at John Lewis Elementary in 2025. June suggested that the Board consider selling the shirts as a way to raise funds. The shirts are very popular, and many people are asking about receiving one. Commissioner Lucas feels like it would be the good will of the Board to give the shirts at events instead of selling them.

Pastor Watson has finalized the EMA City Wide Revival, she will send the information to Sheila Griggs next week. The Revival will be in July 2024.

Attorney Howard reported that the by-laws are ready for review and final approval. The only change that he made was the wording of when it would be adopted.

Commissioner Lucas reported that she is still working on securing entertainers for The Youth Gospel Explosion, and she is open to any suggestions or help available.

4. New Business

Commissioner Lucas presented a \$1,000.00 check from the Georgia Association of Black Elected Officials (GABEO) in support of the James Wimberly Institute Barrer Breaker Ceremony 2024. GABEO was founded over 50 years ago by newly-elected black officials who felt the need to establish networking and support services for the members. Senator David Lucas is the president of GABEO.

Charise Stephens-Merriweather shared her idea about having a Martin Luther King Jr. Board Food Giveaway. She would like to have the food giveaway in 2024 just before students return to school. Charise and June will work together to see what they can come up with.

Charise stated that school supplies are an issue for high school students and more focus is needed on their supplies. The Board discussed having a school supply giveaway in front of EL High School in the Northeast Plaza. The Board would also like to work with all the different entities who provide school supplies.

The Board decided in recognition of the July 4th holiday that the regular scheduled meeting for July 4, 2024, will be canceled.

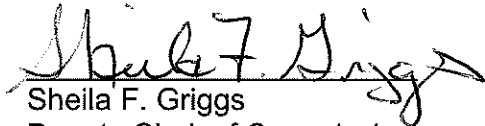
A 32nd Annual Juneteenth Freedom Festival and GA Juneteenth 2024

The Board was provided another copy of the 32nd Annual Juneteenth Freedom Festival and GA Juneteenth Week 2024 Events Notice.

5. Adjournment

On motion of Dr. Ficklin, seconded by Pastor Lisa Watson and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Sheila F. Griggs
Deputy Clerk of Commission