

**MINUTES OF THE
MACON-BIBB MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BOARD MEETING
August 7, 2025 – 4:00 PM**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

June O'Neal, Mentor's Project
Rev. Dominique Johnson, Kingdom of Life Church
Joyce Humphrey, Citizen
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. Harold Young, Tubman Museum
Rev. Dominique Nichols, Bibb County School District
Rabbi Elizabeth Bahar, Temple Beth Israel

OTHERS PRESENT

Anna Kersey-Weckstein, Assistant County Attorney
Dr. Mary Butler
Sheila Griggs, Deputy Clerk of Commission

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of Minutes

A 05/01/2025 Meeting Minutes

On motion of Pastor Lisa Watson, seconded by Charise Stephens-Merriweather and passed unanimously, the minutes from May 1, 2025, were approved.

3. Old Business

June O'Neal reported that the yearly donation of MLK T-shirts to Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School were delivered and both students and staff were pleased to receive them. The Board was also given a new MLK T-shirt.

Last year's scholarship recipient has not received the funds yet, but Dr. Ficklin is working on the procedure on how to get it done. The Board

discussed the issues that new college students are experiencing regarding move-in expenses. Most new students had to take out student loans to cover these move-in expenses.

On motion of Pastor Lisa Watson, seconded by Charise Stephens-Merriweather and unanimously approved, the Board agreed to use the scholarship awarded for 2025 to pay on the loan that the student had to open to cover moving expenses.

Rev. Evans Brown reported that the MLK Breakfast Committee will meet on September 1, 2025, and he will report back to the Board at the next meeting in October what was discussed. The Board discussed giving away old coats to the underprivileged. The coat giveaway was a big success last year and everyone was asked to try to participate again this year.

4. New Business

The Board expressed interest in participating in the 2025 Veterans Parade. Additional information will be provided at the next meeting.

Dr. Ficklin reported that the James Wimberly Institute Barrier Breaker Ceremony will be Saturday, October 18, 2025, at the Anderson Conference Center. This event is usually in June but has moved to October, which is perfect because October is Black History Month in England.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheila F. Griggs
Deputy Clerk of Commission