

Martin Luther King Jr. State Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday January 12, 2024

Time: 1:00 PM, Location: 310 San Pedro Drive NE, Albuquerque, NM 87108

Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7539274024>

Meeting called to Order at 1:04 pm

Commissioners Present:

Chair Dr. Bobbie Green

Vice Chair Clarence Smith

Atty John Kreienkamp, designee for the State Treasurer’s Office

Joseph Cotton

Collin Gillespie

Atty Little West

Brigitte Jordan-Mincks, designee for Kalee Salazar, NM Indian Affairs

Commissioners Absent: Stacy Blakemore, Oscar Robinson

Quorum established.

Approval of Agenda

Joe Cotton moved to approve the agenda. Second by Vice Chair Clarence Smith. Motion to approve passed by roll call vote (below):

Roll Call Vote to approve agenda.	Absent	Yes	No	Abstain or Recuse
Blakemore	absent			
Cotton		Yes		
Gillespie		Yes		
Green		Yes		
Atty Kreienkamp for STO		Yes		
Robinson	absent			
Brigitte Jordan of Indian Affairs (for Kalee Salazar)		Yes		
Smith		Yes		
West		Yes		

Approval of Previous Minutes dated 11-1-2023

Chair Green requested that the minutes of the November 1, 2023, Commission Meeting be amended with regard to the section on Review and Update to the Bylaws to simply state, “*The Commission agreed to remove the language.*” Motion to approve the minutes as amended by Chair Green. Second by Commissioner Gillespie. Motion passed by roll call vote (below):

Roll call vote to approve Nov 1, 2023 minutes as amended	Absent	Yes	No	Abstain or Recuse
Blakemore	absent			
Cotton		Yes		
Gillespie		Yes		
Green		Yes		
Atty Kreienkamp for STO		Yes		
Robinson	absent			
Brigitte Jordan of Indian Affairs (for Kalee Salazar)		Yes		
Smith		Yes		
West		Yes		

Community Input – None (No community members were present.)

Report from Executive Director Leonard Waites

We are working diligently on preparations for our upcoming MLK 2024 commemorations this weekend.

Overview of the budget is as follows:

Category	Budgeted	Currently available
200	\$223,600	\$147,494
300	\$27,800	\$18,208
400	\$116,900	\$32,558

Expenditures for the 2024 commemorations will be paid from the 300 category of the MLK Commission Budget.

The Associate Director position was filled by Beverly Gaines who held the same position previously.

AD Gaines was welcomed back, and she stated that she is looking forward to the great work of the Commission. She has hit the ground running and has already made a presentation on the philosophies of Dr. King to the Albuquerque Academy with more than 400 middle and high school students in attendance.

Dir. Waites and AD Gaines were interviewed by local television stations about plans for the upcoming MLK 2024 weekend.

Dir. Waites attended the LFC meeting and requested an additional FTE for a Program Coordinator position. This request will also be made during the Legislative Session. Our previous CFO has transferred to CYFD. Currently working with DFA to hire a floating CFO to assist the Commission.

Last year a bill was put forward to increase funding for the MLK Commission by Senator Harold Pope. This year we are pursuing an FTE instead.

MLK 2024 events have been posted on the MLK Commission website. Wonderful commemorations are scheduled across the state. The MLK Commission has increased the positive brand name recognition of the Commission throughout the state.

Dir. Waites noted that we need to update our statute such that it more accurately reflects the activities of the Commission. Vice Chair Smith noted that the upcoming 2024 Legislative Session is only a 30-day session. The Commission needs to start working on updating our statute and presenting our proposed updates during the 2025 Legislative Session which will be a 60-day session.

New Business

- Audit Report to be distributed to the Commission. There was only one finding for a late purchase order to feed 39 students on a field trip to Albuquerque.
- Vote on 2024 meeting dates as follows:

March 8, 2024 @ 1:00pm
 June 14, 2024 @ 1:00pm
 Sept. 13, 2024 @ 1:00pm
 Dec. 13, 2024 @ 1:00pm (Note: proposed change to a date not so close to the holidays)

Motion to approve the meeting dates by Vice Chair Smith, seconded by Atty. West. Motion approved by roll call vote (below):

Roll call vote to approve tentative meeting dates.	Absent	Yes	No	Abstain or Recuse
Blakemore	absent			
Cotton		Yes		
Gillespie		Yes		
Green		Yes		
Atty Kreienkamp for STO		Yes		
Robinson	absent			
Brigitte Jordan of Indian Affairs (for Kalee Salazar)		Yes		
Smith		Yes		
West		Yes		

- Selection of Commission Secretary tabled.
- Letter from Secretary of State to the MLK Commission dated December 18, 2023 was distributed via email. The letter has been referred to the Ag’s Office. We will schedule a meeting to request legal recommendations from the AG’s Office in response.

Old Business

Chair Green moved to enter closed session pursuant to discuss limited personnel matters – specifically the Executive Director’s salary, pursuant to Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(2). Seconded by Comm. Gillespie. Motion passed by roll call vote (below):

Roll Call Vote to move into closed session.	Absent	Yes	No	Abstain or Recuse
Blakemore	absent			
Cotton		Yes		
Gillespie		Yes		
Green		Yes		
Atty Kreienkamp for STO		Yes		
Robinson	absent			
Brigitte Jordan of Indian Affairs (for Kalee Salazar)		Yes		
Smith		Yes		
West		Yes		

Closed Session began at 2:00 PM. Open session reconvened at 2:40 PM.

Motion to resume open session by Bobbie Green. Atty. Kreienkamp stated that only those matters specified in the motion and listed on the agenda in accordance with NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H) were discussed. Second by Commissioner Gillespie. Motion passed by roll call vote (below):

Roll Call Vote to resume open session.	Absent	Yes	No	Abstain or Recuse
Blakemore	absent			
Cotton		Yes		
Gillespie		Yes		
Green		Yes		
Atty Kreienkamp for STO		Yes		
Robinson	absent			
Brigitte Jordan of Indian Affairs (for Kalee Salazar)		Yes		
Smith		Yes		
West		Yes		

No action required as a result of the Closed Session.

Next Meeting- March 8, 2024

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 PM