

## 5/14 Memorial Committee – MINUTES

Monday, February 27, 2023

Rich Products, 1 Rich Way, Buffalo NY

### **PRESENT**

Pastor Mark Blue, Chair

Mayor Byron W. Brown, City of Buffalo

Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney, Deputy Mayor and Chief of Staff, City of Buffalo

Diane Colgan, Senior Vice President, Tops Friendly Markets

Jonathan Dandes, Buffalo Niagara Partnership

Steven Carmina, President, Carmina Wood Design

Dr. Norm Lewin, Buffalo Arts Commission

Tiffany Gaines, Curatorial & Digital Content Associate, Burchfield Penney Art Center

Garnell Whitfield, Buffalo resident and former Buffalo City Fire Commissioner

Zeneta Everhart, victim's mother

Stacey Lynch, Chief of Staff, Governor Kathy Hochul

Mo Sumbundu, International Trade Manager, NYS Empire State Development

Deirdre Quain, Director of Policy, City of Buffalo

Larry Stitts, Jefferson Ave Business owner (Virtual)

Julia Bottoms, Artist (Virtual)

### **Committee Business**

Chair Blue opened the meeting and made introductions

Goal of fundraising \$1 million from the 5/14 Remembrance Committee

- Does not include State, federal, or City funding
- Steve Carmina – the fundraising committee should go national

### **Design of Monument**

- Goals:
  - o Interactive
  - o Reverential
  - o Quiet
  - o Contemplative
- Steve Carmina – questions an endowment fund for continuous care
- Zeneta Everhart – likes the idea of a glass structure, something that can light up at night
- John Dandes – park idea
- Mo Sumbundu – what to announce by one year anniversary
- Look at similar memorials elsewhere
  - o 911 Memorial – will arrange a virtual tour
  - o International African American Museum in Charleston
  - o Pittsburgh
  - o Sandy Hook
- Conversation about indoor vs. outdoor plan
- Mayor Brown – plan to announce on 5/14/23 that the memorial goal is 5/25/25

- Carmina – that is aggressive, but will work on rendering once we know and have a better estimate of what types of builds are possible by when
- Before using Paul Brown, need to have a conversation about workforce; Zeneta would like to be included

#### Architect/Art Committee

- Steve Carmina, Tiffany Gaines, Julia Bottoms

#### Public Meetings

- Create online form to collect ideas
- Town hall-type events
- Chair Blue has received and expects to continue receiving correspondence and will be sure to share everything received with this Committee
- Need to vet everything received, via the Governor's Office's Vetting Team

#### Media Concerns/Plans

- Mayor Brown and Governor Hochul will coordinate a press release to announce new committee members and next steps
- Chair Pastor Blue – must identify a City of Buffalo contact and a Governor's Office contact for Media
- Website – Deputy Mayor states the City will buy the domain 514memorial.com
- Need a media strategy and daily communications/website monitoring
- Need a timeline of information for public notice

#### Next Meeting

- March 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm at Rich Products
  - To construct timeline and identify tasks among the timeline
- April 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm
- April 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm