

5/14 Memorial Commission – MINUTES
June 5, 2023
Rich Products, 1 Rich Way, Buffalo NY

PRESENT IN PERSON ATTENDANCE

Mayor Byron W. Brown
Pastor Mark Blue, Chairman
Jonathan Dandes, Rich Products
Steven Carmina, President Carmina Wood Design
Dr. Amitra Wall, Buffalo State University
Mo Sumbundu, NYS Empire State Development
Larry Stitts, Jefferson Avenue Business Association
Diane Colgan, Senior Vice President, Tops Friendly Markets

PRESENT ONLINE ATTENDANCE

Zeneta Everhart, 5/14 Family Member
Julia Bottoms, Artist
Garnell Whitfield, 5/14 Family Member

HOSTS: Angelica Morrison Communications and Community Relations Assistant Manager City of Buffalo Mayor Byron W. Brown; Deirdre Quain Director of Policy City of Buffalo Mayor Byron W. Brown

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT MEETING

- Pastor Blue says he'll be present at the start of the public engagement meeting but has to leave early.
- Mo discusses the format for the meeting.
- The format is Pastor Blue will open the meeting, Mayor Brown will follow with remarks, Mo will speak on behalf of the governor, Steve will discuss the timeline. Then the meeting will be turned over to Dr. Wall who will discuss the 5/14 Memorial Survey.
- Speakers during the public comment period will have two minutes to share their thoughts.
- Dates for upcoming public hearings are now 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on July 18 and August 15th at the Stanley Makowski Early Childhood Center.

SURVEY

- Dr. Wall discusses the survey.
- The group offers edits to the survey.
- Angelica distributes draft flyer.
- The group offers edits to the flyer.
- Mr. Larry Stitts will discuss placing a free advertisement in the Challenger promoting the meeting and survey.
- Dr. Wall agreed to join the mayor during the Sunday radio show to discuss the survey and meeting.

FUNDRAISING

- Deirdre answers questions about fundraising.
- She says a fundraising button or widget can be put on the website.
- The group decided to keep the Urban League as the steward of the memorial funds.
- Jonathan Dandes asks how much is left after the 5/14 Weekend of Events.
- Deirdre says that information will be obtained during the final 5/14 Remembrance Committee meeting.
- Mayor Brown says during the final meeting of the 5/14 Remembrance Committee he is going to ask the members if anyone would like to continue fundraising efforts for the memorial.

NEXT COMMISSION MEETING: June 20 at 5:30