

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Task Force on Reconciliation and Equity**

**Wednesday, February 13, 2019**

Morgan State University, Earl Graves School of Business, Room 412  
4100 Hillen Road, Baltimore, MD 21218

**PRESENT:**

**Task Force Members:** Ms. A. Adar Ayira (*Co-Chair*), Imam Earl Al-Amin, Rabbi Daniel Burg, Dr. John Hudgins, Rev. Florence Ledyard, Dr. Jane Lincove, Rev. Kobi Little (*Chair*), Det. Miguel Rodriguez

**Subcommittee Members & Observers:** Ms. Kelly E. Crawford, Mr. Joshua Harris, Rev. Kim Lagree, Mr. Cedric McCray, Dr. Danya Qato, Ms. Avis Ransom, Mr. John Milton Wesley

**IUR Staff:** Dr. Tracy R. Rone, Dr. Raymond Winbush

**TASK FORCE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Dr. Noel Braithwaite, Dr. Raimée Eck, Ms. Annette March-Grier, Dr. Joanne Martin, Senator Shirley Nathan-Pulliam, Delegate Edith Patterson, Dr. Brian Smedley

**1. CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The fourth meeting of the Maryland State Task Force on Reconciliation and Equity was called to order by Rev. Kobi Little, Chair. Brief introductions of all present followed the Chair's welcome.

**2. PRELIMINARY REPORT**

Task Force Members were asked to review the draft Preliminary Report. Discussion focused on the need for additional time and resources necessary to complete the charge of the legislation. Other points raised include the need to: envision this work as unique to Maryland and a model to the U.S.; be thoughtful and creative in envisioning the work; identify data which puts purpose behind the recommendations, and develop a legislative strategy.

Four motions were introduced with regard to the draft Preliminary Report.

Motion 1: Motion to approve the Preliminary Report with editorial changes  
Resolved: Motion passed

Motion 2: Motion to ask for one more year to complete the charge of the Task Force  
Resolved: Motion passed

Motion 3: Motion to ask for resources to help fund the required research  
Resolved: Motion passed

Motion 4: Motion to specify the framing of equity in the preliminary report

Resolved: Motion passed

A brief discussion followed distinguishing “racial equity” as falling within the charge of “equity”.

### **3. OPEN MEETINGS ACT**

As a follow-up to the very brief introduction of the Open Meetings Act provided at the December, 2018 Task Force meeting, Institute for Urban Research (IUR) staff member, Dr. Tracy R. Rone provided a more extensive overview of the Open Meetings Act (OMA), encouraged all Task Force members to review the OMA handbook and to consider completing the online course. She also advised the Task Force that all Subcommittee Meetings fall under OMA and as such require:

- 1) advance notice of the meeting to the public,
- 2) advance availability of the Agenda to the public; and
- 3) following the meeting, the availability of minutes, or a recording of the meeting.

She referred Task Force members to the websites of the OMA (<http://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/Pages/OpenGov/OpenMeetings/default.aspx>) and the Task Force <https://www.morgan.edu/iur/taskforceonreconciliationandequity>. There was some discussion about the recording of meetings and balancing the need for transparency and the sensitivity or discomfort which some feel in speaking about issues of race and inequity.

### **4. NEW BUSINESS**

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 13, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. Rev. Kobi Little entered the text of a prayer for reconciliation and equity offered before the Maryland Senate, Monday, February 4, 2010 into the emerging repository of the Task Force and the Faith Sub-committee chaired by Rev. Flo Ledyard.

### **5. ADJOURNMENT**

Rev. Kobi Little adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.