

MEETING MINUTES
Senate Bill 350/Chapter 417, Acts of 2018
Morgan State University -- Task Force on Reconciliation and Equity

Wednesday, March 13, 2019, 6:00 p.m.

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

PRESENT: Task Force Members: Ms. A. Adar Ayira, Dr. Noel Braithwaite, Rabbi Daniel Burg, Rev. Florence Ledyard, Dr. Jane Lincove, Rev. Kobi Little, Detective Miguel Rodriguez

Subcommittee Members & Observers: Mr. Dayvon Love, Ms. Gillian Silver, Dr. Glenda Lindsey, Dr. Danya Qato

IUR Staff: Dr. Tracy R. Rone

TASK FORCE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Imam Earl Al-Amin, Dr. Raimee Eck, Dr. John Hudgins, Ms. Annette March-Grier, Dr. Joanne Martin, Senator Shirley Nathan-Pulliam, Delegate Edith Patterson, Dr. Brian Smedley

1. GREETINGS

Meeting was called to order at 6:28 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes was delayed because there was not a quorum.

3. DISCUSSION ON RECONCILIATION AND EQUITY - REV. KOBI LITTLE

Rev. Little described how each member brings a subset of expertise to the Task Force on Reconciliation and Equity. He asked members to consider how that expertise shows up in the public sphere and to bring examples to future meetings to share. There is a need to agree on the set of terms that define the Task Force's work. Each person was given two minutes to share vision of priorities for this work.

Dr. Braithwaite: Housing; go out of the theoretical and produce something that is transformative. Can we go in and set up structures that create change?

Rev. Flo: It is a dance between relational and structure, not linear. Name the breach with honesty, and clarity. What motivates people to want to repair the breach?

Rabbi Burg: Forgiveness, reconciliation & justice.

Ms. Ayira: Five steps to reconciliation. 1. Acknowledgement and taking offense, 2. Confession and repentance, 3. Making amends, 4. Forgiveness, 5. Reconciliation

Next, Rev. Little asked Task Force members to contribute to establishing “What is? Equity? Reconciliation?”

Dr. Lincove: Frameworks; teaching comparative policy and drew a diagram – who are the actors in the reconciliation? Institutions and organizations.

Det. Martinez: Carve it right from the policy. State law that forces institutions to create policy, safeguarded for the whistle blower. Right now, there are 264 officers, only 1 or 2 sergeants.

Dr. Qato: Referenced Dr. Camara Jones in distinguishing: 1) individually mediated racism, 2) structural, institutionalized racism and 3) internalized racism.

Rev. Lagree: Before we move to collaboration, we need to assess readiness for collaboration

Dr. Lindsey: Look at age/generational differences, especially with young people who don’t have the history and memories.

Dr. Burg: The importance of looking at history.

Ms. A. Ayira: Systems have been designed for people not to know. We have historical memory about things the country wants people to remember, but we don’t have historical memory about things that country does not want us to remember. Grab back that history and build another path to get us all on the same page.

Mr. Love: Curriculum – general arrogance of white society; people’s livelihoods are organized around keeping things the same; current climate supports this Task Force to happen.

Rev. Lagree – education

Dr. Braithwaite: Not hearing where racism is practiced. Are we satisfied with examining, but not having experienced? Hearing as assessors, researchers, but not as we have experienced in order to make it authentic. Will we deal with only history, or also with the experience, or wrong, of an environment?

Mr. Love: Can the stories obscure the structural aspects and let institutional racism off the hook?

Rev. Lagree: Shared Values – Establish an environment that is inviting, loving and compassionate to people.

Rev. Ledyard: Mentions film, “Voices of Baltimore” as reflecting lived experiences.

Rev. Little asked Task Force members to submit written documentation based upon the statements made during the discussion so that they may be included in the repository of materials for the Task Force.

There were no subcommittee meetings or reports.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.