

Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture

Public Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 1, 2024

Bethel A.M.E. Church
237 N. College Avenue
Chestertown, Maryland 21620

The following Commissioners were in attendance: Kali-Ahset Amen, Dion Banks, Lori Bradford, Maya Davis, Janice Curtis Greene, Philip J. Merrill, Jaelon Moaney, Brian Morrison, Barbara Paca, Ada Pinkston, Hakeem Tijani, Reggie Turner, Elinor Thompson, Kennedy Wilson, and Chair Edwin T. Johnson.

The meeting was called to order at 11:06 a.m. by Chair Edwin T. Johnson. Chair Johnson asked that the MCAAHC Commissioners and public pause for a moment of silence for the sanctity of life for the souls that were lost of the Francis Scott Key Bridge as well as the conflict with Ukraine, the Gaza strip as well as the lives lost across the world.

Chair Johnson Greetings:

- He shared that 14 years ago, on April 2nd, he has been cancer free.
 - Chair Johnson shared the importance of health and wellness awareness in the black community and how the MCAAHC supports this endeavor.
 - He also acknowledged the Morgan State University students that were present at the public meeting.
 - He shared the rich history and connections to Morgan State University.

Welcome: Commissioner Moaney

- Commissioner Moaney acknowledged host Pastor Robert N. Brown, Jr. of the Bethel A.M.E. Church to share words with the public.
- Rev. Brown thanked Commissioner Moaney and on behalf of him and the congregation, they thanked the MCAAHC for having its public meeting in their church.
 - The Bethel A.M.E. Church has been in Chestertown, Maryland since 1910.
 - The former location of the church was destroyed by fire in the 1890's.
 - Rev. Brown shared that it took unity, a determined spirit and a progressive to move forward from Kent and Calvert street to where the church is located today at 237 North College Avenue.
 - He said that the same powerful spirit passed through Rev. Jones worked through Rev. Frederick Jones, Sr. who pastored this great congregation from 1953-1969.
 - Rev. Jones along with the NAACP and black leaders, invited the Freedom Riders to march for equality especially in schools and workspaces under his leadership.
 - Integration of schools, affordable housing and home ownership were a part of his leadership initiatives for blacks as well.
 - Rev. Frederick Jones, Sr. was Rev. Brown's grandfather.
 - Rev. Frederick Jones, Jr. pastored Bethel A.M.E. Church in 1984-2008 longer than anyone in Bethel A.M.E. to this date.
 - Rev. Frederick Jones, Jr. is the uncle of Rev. Brown.
 - Rev. Brown shared that Bethel A.M.E. Church is not just a church in the community but of the community.
 - Under his leadership provided initiatives such as: One church one addict narcotics anonymous, one minority assistance as well as a major renovation that took place in 2008.

Commissioner Moaney Remarks:

Commissioner Moaney gave an additional welcome to the commission, the public as well as gave an overview of the history of Chestertown, Maryland.

- Maryland was once home to the population of free people that were in the Union with Kent County harboring some of the wealthiest people.
- Chestertown was a royal point of entry for the Middle Passage with Maryland's 400 approaching as well as America's 250 on the horizon.
- Commissioner Moaney asked the public that with the time that he and they had together that we all reclaim and understand the Delmarva Peninsula as a winding collections of location and sites that sing the bold rhythms of the African Diaspora.
- Route 213 is an American byway that showcases the beauty that we call home with all nine counties listed along the Eastern Shore.
- The Chester River has been a revolutionary for change.
- The theme, "Black Trailblazers in the Natural World" will explain how we draw inspiration from the tidewaters unique landscape of agency in addressing the most primary concerns facing humanity and healing.
- Commissioner Moaney shared that he recently became an educator of Washington College, which is the first college to become sovereign in the United States in 1782.
- Walking into the public meeting room one will find the restorative community curatorial work that Commissioner Moaney and his colleagues have been working on a star study of the American experience.
- With the celebration of national teacher appreciation day and the celebration of black women every day, Commissioner Moaney felt called to give these great individuals their flowers.
- Next month will mark 150 years that the Freeman's Bureau that Josephine Brown placed her feet on solid ground on a steamboat from Baltimore to Crumpton.
 - While she would disembark early, after being assaulted by the captain of the steamboat, she sued for damages and won the case where the victory would stand with the legal augurs in the State of Maryland forever.
 - Nearly 90 years later Rosa Parks Montgomery, Claudette Coleman would refuse to give up their seats on their buses.
 - Commissioner Moaney said that each of these women along with Sojourner Truth and Harriet Tubman had a hand on his shoulders where he is able to stand today.
 - Much like today's guest speakers, women show that taking up space in a seat is also a reflection of respecting African Americans, their history, as well as moving forward with change.

Proof of Public Notice

Accepted by general consensus.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Johnson asked for a motion to be made in accepting the minutes of February 5, 2024. Commissioner Dion Banks made a motion to accept the minutes. Commissioner Kali Ahset-Amen seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

Chair Edwin T. Johnson's Report

Chair Johnson acknowledged and thanked Commissioner Moaney for attending several BDM affairs as well as thanked him for bringing his family to join him.

- He shared that the Leadership of the MCAAHC loves it when commissioners make room on their schedules to come, enjoy and attend the public programming that BDM has.
- Chair Johnson took a moment to recognize the staff and all of the hard work that they are doing.
 - He was glad to see that the museum was a packed house on many occasions for their great affairs.

MCAAHC Legislation

- Chair Johnson said that there were two pieces of legislation that they were trying to push through:
 - 1) The Banneker-Douglass Museum's name change bill passed, in both houses, so that the museum will be called the: Banneker-Douglass-Tubman Museum.

- Chair Johnson shared that it has been 2.5 years that the MCAAHC has been trying to get the name changed to the BDM.
 - Now it is coming into fruition where the museum will be known as the Banneker-Douglass-Tubman Museum.
- 2) Chair Johnson shared that the MCAAHC's noncapital grant programming bill did not pass.

MCAAHC By Action Items

- The commissioners have 60 days from April 1st meeting date to June 3rd to get all changes presented for approval on the MCAAHC Bylaws for the new fiscal year.
- The commissioners were asked to review these changes, share any questions or concerns, to please email him, Executive Director Chanel Johnson or Mr. LeRonn Herbert before the close of the month of April.
 - Per the Open's Meeting Act the bylaws draft must be sent to the MCAAHC Commissioners 30 days in advance of the public meeting.

Suggested changes to be made to the MCAAHC Bylaws Handbook.

- Page 1: Removing the language of the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives since the MCAAHC is now an independent agency.
- Page 2: (in red type) towards the bottom of the page, the MCAAHC is adding "the African American Heritage Grant."
- Page 6: Chair Johnson implored all chairs and commissioners on committees to make sure that the language reflects the work of that committee.
 - Also on page 6, an executive committee has been changed from an advisory committee where it advises all subcommittees.
- Page 9: The MCAAHC is looking to make the African American Heritage Preservation Grant from a special committee to a standing committee.
 - Chair Johnson asked that Commissioners Janice Curtis Greene and Elinor Thompson determine whether the same thing needs to be done with the Ancestral Remains Committee.

Vice Chair's Report, Vice Chair Maya Davis

Vice Chair Maya Davis gave greetings and was glad to see so many great people in attendance at the MCAAHC public meeting.

Annual Retreat Action Items

She began her report sharing that a Doodle Poll will be going out in the next couple of weeks in looking at a date to do the MCAAHC Commission Retreat in late August or early September.

- During the retreat, the commission will go over the Robert's Rules of Order.
- Review of the Opens Meetings Act by Commissioner Janice Curtis Greene.
- Discussion of bylaws will take place.
- Annual financial disclosure will be looked at by all commissioners.
- The commissioner signup for hosting public meetings in June.
 - Commissioners can host meetings in their adjacent counties.
 - The MCAAHC Commission is traveling to all parts of the State of Maryland.
 - Voting of the chair and vice chair positions will take place at the June public meeting.
 - The June MCAAHC public meeting will be Chair Johnson's last meeting governing as chair.

MCAAHC Financial Report Commissioner Reggie Turner

Commissioner Reggie Turner gave a financial report that:

- For FY24 an appropriation of \$1.6 million was applied to the MCAAHC operational budget.
 - As of the close of the quarter, the commission still has \$667, 925 remaining.
 - This is 42% of the funds that have been spent.

- Commissioner Turner shared that the MCAAHC is still recruiting for an exhibits manager for the BDM.
- The capital budget for fiscal YR23 \$75,000 was appropriated from the Department of General Services.
- Commissioner Turner shared that there is still \$3,000,000 for capital improvements.
- He shared that he will be recruiting other commissioners to be along with his committee.

MCAAHC African American Heritage Preservation Grant Report (AAHPPG) Commissioner H. Russell Frisby, Chair given by Commissioner Janice Curtis Greene

Commissioner Janice Curtis Greene shared that Commissioner H. Russell Frisby is the chair of this committee and is doing an excellent job.

- ❖ She began his report by acknowledging committee members: Commissioner Brian Morrison, Commissioner Jaelon Moaney and Commissioner Kali Ahset-Amen.
- ❖ Commissioner Greene read the following items from Commissioner Frisby's report.
- ❖ Commissioner Frisby shared that the topics that will need to be addressed by the board at our next board meeting:
 - 1. Two Resolutions regarding the AAHPP Emergency Fund
 - 2. A grant to Turner Station Committee

Action Items In-progress/Pending:

The Emergency Grant Fund-the commission has long had an AAHPP Emergency Grant Fund comprised of unspent grant money.

- Unfortunately, with only \$14,000 in the Emergency Fund and a rather restrictive policy drafted by or in conjunction with MHT, there was very little that could be done to meet legitimate emergency needs.
 - As a result, the existence of the Emergency Fund has not been publicized.
 - Two of the Commission's goals for this year were to:
 - ◆ (1) Review the status of the Fund with the hope of expanding it.
 - ◆ (2) Begin to reclaim unspent grant dollars and determine what should be done with them.
 - Due to the good work of Commission Staff with the cooperation of MHT, \$100,000 in unspent funds was recovered from a grant to an organization that dissolved.
 - There ultimately may be more unspent dollars that will come to light as the investigation continues.
 - Under current policy the unspent dollars would be allocated to the next two ranked applicants.
 - However, this would have only limited impact.
 - After prolonged discussion the AAHPP Committee decided to recommend to the Commission that \$86,000 of the unspent dollars be allocated to the Emergency Fund in order to bring it up to \$100,000.

Commissioner Janice Curtis Greene made a motion, on behalf of Commissioner H. Russell Frisby, to honor the request that the \$86,000 of the unspent dollars be allocated to the Emergency Fund.

- It was moved by Commissioner Jaelon Moaney and seconded by Commissioner Elinor Thompson and the motion carried.

Commissioner Janice Curtis Greene, on behalf of the request from Commissioner H. Russell Frisby, made a motion that the commission consider allocating \$14,000 of unspent funds towards the Turner Station Henrietta Lack's statue application.

- It was moved by Commissioner Reggie Turner and seconded by Commissioner Brian Morrison and the motion carried.
 - The Committee felt that with the overall expansion of the AAHPP Grant Fund was more appropriate to expand the Emergency Fund to \$100,000 to meet what are expected to be greater needs.

- The remaining funds would be allocated to Turner Station, the next ranked applicant, in order to permit it to begin planning and development for its planned status.
- Upon Commission approval of this course of action, the appropriate resolution will be submitted to MHT for its May 15th meeting.
 - ◆ Additionally, the Committee will continue to review the Emergency Grant Fund Policy.

Questions for the commission: Additional Commissioner Participation

- ❖ Additional Commissioners are needed to help review what is expected to be a major growth in the influx of AAHPP Applications.
- ❖ The Committee wishes to alert the Commission to this now and hopes to have a proposal back to the Commission by late April or early May.

Ancestral Remains Cemetery Research and Preservation Committee Report, Commissioner Janice Curtis Greene and Commissioner Elinor Thompson

Commissioners Janice Curtis Greene recognized Commissioners Ada Pinkston, Philip J. Merrill, Barbara Paca, Elinor Thompson, Lori Bradford as well as herself.

- Commissioner Elinor Thompson gave a special acknowledgement to the Mack Lab in Calvert County.

Commissioner Greene said that the most crucial things commissioners need to know about our work to make informed decisions at the next meeting, or represent the organization in the community:

Committee Objectives:

- 1. To research and preserve cemeteries in Maryland.
- 2. To identify and honor the ancestral remains currently cared for at the Maryland Archeological Conservation Laboratory (MAC LAB).
- 3. To honor U.S. Colored Troops interred throughout the State of Maryland.
- 4. To Partner with other organizations in Maryland that share the same objectives.

Project #1: Identification of Ancestral Remains

- ❖ The ARCRP Committee is continuing the work with the Maryland Historical Trust of identifying the ancestral remains currently housed at the Maryland Archeological Conservation Laboratory.
 - Members of Workgroups in each of the regions and meeting sites have been identified.
 - Workgroup members include representatives from descendant communities, archeologist, genealogist, community leaders and state partners.
 - A Memorandum of Understanding, Confidentiality Statement and Conflict of Interest Agreements are being developed.
 - Due to the widespread media coverage of this project the committee is working to ensure (1) that we maintain the trust of the descendant communities and (2) that these communities, volunteers and members of the steering committees receive proper credit for their work on this important project.
 - On Monday, March 11, 2024, Commissioners Thompson and Greene were guest presenters at Career Day at Old Mill High School representing the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture. Eighth-grade students from 3 classes attended the session held in the school's Media Center.
 - Commissioner Thompson spoke about career opportunities in Genealogy and Forensic Science.
 - She stressed the importance of learning to read and write in cursive. She displayed records dating back to the 1700's all written in cursive.
 - Commissioner Greene spoke about a career in researching the past to write and tell stories that bring the past into the present for a better future.

- As Verda Freeman Welcome she spoke about the importance of education and a potential career in politics.
- The presentation included the WBAL Black History Month interview and a power point presentation of Maryland women of color from the past and present. The students were reminded that they are the future.
 - The Presentation combined Careers, Women's History Month and Maryland Day.

Project #2: Honoring U.S. Colored Troops Memorial Day Celebration

- The ARCRP Committee is collaborating with the U.S. Veteran's Administration to host a Memorial Day Celebration of honor the U.S. Colored Troops interred at the Loudon Park National Cemetery located 3445 Frederick Ave., Baltimore, MD 21229, from 11:00 AM until 12:00 PM.
 - The event will include local speakers, awards, singing and the playing of Taps at noon.
 - The event is free and open to the public.
 - Because of parking limitations there will be shuttle service provided by the VA between St. Joseph's Monastery Catholic Church, 251 S. Morley Street, and the Cemetery.
 - A formal invitation and link to RSVP will be posted on the MCAAHA and VA websites.

Project #3: Partnership with the Towson University Baltimore Community Archaeology Lab. (BCAL)

- Commissioner Greene has been named to serve on the BCAL Advisory Board and will be attending their Conference on Friday, April 26, 2024, at Towson University.

The topics that will need to be addressed by the board at our next board meeting:

- Approval of Working Groups to discover the lost history of the ancestral remains now carefully preserved at the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory (MAC Lab)
- Date of last meeting: March 15, 2024
- Date of next meeting: April 5, 2024
- Standing Meeting Dates: The 3rd Friday, monthly

Action Items Completed:

- Regional Workgroups and meeting sites identified.

Action Items In-progress/Pending:

- Regional slide presentation being developed.
- Commissioners will finalize the descendant letter which will be used for outreach in advance of the regional meetings.
- Dr. McKnight will continue to refine the template that outlines what questions need to be answered/what information needs to be provided to establish "cultural affiliation" as described in the regulations.
- MHT will continue to work on the development of guidance for individuals who may have human remains in their possession regarding options for disposition of those remains.

Questions for the commission

Proposed Formal Motions to the commission (if any): Background on our decisions:

- Approval of local steering committees and sub-committee members

Below is the List of Proposed Steering Committee/Working Groups Members

BDM & MCAAHC Executive Director Chanel Johnson

MHT Team:

Elizabeth Hughes, Adam Snyder, Matthew McKnight, Zachary Singer, Patricia Samford and Rebecca Morehouse

MCAAHC Commissioners (Ancestral Remains and Cemetery Research & Preservation Committee Members):

Commissioner Elinor L. Thompson, Co-Chair
Commissioner Janice Curtis Greene, Co-Chair
Commissioner Ada Pinkston
Commissioner Philip J. Merrill
Commissioner Barbara Paca
Commissioner Lori Bradford

Descendants, Researchers, Genealogists, Historians and Preservation Working Groups: The following organizations and individuals will partner with MCAAHCAHRC, MHT and the BDM. The individuals have expertise in collecting information, both locally and nationally.

Anne Arundel County Genealogical and Historical Society

- Donald Brown: Descendant Community, IT Specialist, Researcher and Genealogist. (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's Counties).
- Annual Father's Day Foundation, Inc. Preservation Organization (Anne Arundel County).
- Rodney Parker, Jr.: Descendant Working Group, Researcher, Family Historian and Archaeologist. (Anne Arundel, Calvert and Charles Counties).
- Baltimore African American Historical and Genealogical Society (BAAHGS) Alice Kane Callum Chapter
- Cynthia Dark, Descendant Working Group, Family Historian (Anne Arundel Calvert and Charles Counties).
- Deanie Henson: Descendant Working Group: Researcher (Anne Arundel, Calvert and Charles Counties).
- Violetta Sharps Jones: Descendant Working Group and Vice- President of The Lakeland Heritage Project, Inc.
- Dr. Clara Small: Descendant Working Group, Salisbury State Retired Educator, Past MCAAHC Commissioner, Researcher, Genealogist and Author (Wicomico County).
- Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Inc.
- James Hinds, Descendant Working Group and Cemetery Owner
- Upper Shore Genealogical Society of Maryland
- Lori Clemons, Genealogist
- Gwen Banks: Historic Sotterly Descendant Community (St. Mary's Co.)
- White Marsh Historical Society, Inc.
- Kevin Porter: Descendant Working Group, Researcher and Genealogist (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Queen Anne's Counties).
- Shelly Cowan Genealogist Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's

Reginald F. Lewis Maryland Museum of African American History and Culture (African American Museum Board of Directors) Report by Commissioner Brian C. Morrison

Commissioner Brian Morrison was appointed to the African American Museum Board of Directors on December 21, 2023 by Governor Wes Moore for the "remainder of a term of 4 years from July 1, 2020."

- The swearing in took place on January 18, 2024.
- This completes the term started by Commissioner Frisby.
- Many thanks to Commissioner Frisby for his prior years of service and commitment.

Action Items

Commissioner Morrison attended his first board meeting on January 18, 2024, completed board orientation on March 15, 2024, and attended the board retreat March 27-28, 2024.

- He serves on the Education, Outreach and Public Programs Committees.

Action Items and Upcoming Events:

- Black Woman Genius exhibit now on display through September 30, 2024, celebrating the genius of Elizabeth Talford Scott.

- This is a unique exhibit in that it is a collaboration with 8 other institutions throughout the city.
- The RFLM annual fundraising gala this year is Thursday, May 9, 2024, from 6 – 11pm at the M&T Bank Exchange.
 - Tickets are \$350 and can still be purchased.
 - The theme is A Royal Affair celebrating the heyday of Pennsylvania Avenue. Lady Brion, Executive Director of the Baltimore Black Arts District is one of this year’s honorees.
 - He urged all commissioners to support RFLM’s work by attending the fundraiser.
- From July 29 – August 2, 2024, the RFLM will host a Summer Teacher Institute for k12 educators focusing on Civil Rights in the State of Maryland. The institute will serve 20-30 educators.
- There is a stipend and housing is provided for those that need it.
 - MSDE CEUs will be offered as well.
 - Content and pedagogy sessions will be held in the mornings, field experiences and work time will fill the afternoons.
- The RFLM is looking forward to a new permanent Maryland lynching exhibit.

Ways to Support our Partner.

- Become a member.
- Subscribe to the weekly newsletter.
- Use the facility.
- Attend events and programs.

Harriet Tubman Lifetime Achievement Award Committee Report-Commissioner Janice Curtis Greene.

Commissioner Janice Curtis Greene shared that the Harriet Tubman Lifetime has become a committee of one.

- She is that person of one.

Action Item

- Commissioner Greene said that she is going to reach out to the MCAAHC Commissioners to see who would like to join her for the work on this committee.
 - She is looking for two commissioners who can serve on that committee with her.
 - Commissioner Greene will also reach to the commissioners who have nominations of candidates that embody:
 - The strength, faith, resilience, and determination like Harriet Tubman.
 - She would also like for the commissioners to send their suggested candidate to the Leadership of the MCAAHC as well as herself for approval.

Guest Speaker-Ms. Ashleigh Hairston, Co-Executive Producer and Story Editor with Nickelodeon Animation Studios.

- Ms. Ashleigh Hairston is a co-executive producer and story editor on the Cartoon Network where she manages and works with an Emmy nominated team.
 - Commissioner Moaney shared that she is actually the voice WRen in Craig of the Creek that reminds him of himself.
- She shared that she is an actor, writer, producer in Los Angeles where she grew up in Seattle Washington but attended Howard University in Washington, DC where she studied theatre and acting.
- Ashleigh moved to California in 2012 to do acting and voices overs which lead her to writing animation.
 - She developed a passion for writing animation in 2020 before the pandemic started.
 - Ashleigh said that she speaks to children on animation as to what it is all about and how it happens.
 - She gave a presentation that she shared with the commission and public showcasing what all happens to produce a cartoon as a syndicated program.

- Craig in the Creek is about a little boy who goes down to the creek to play with his two best friends.
- The story is based on Craig being in the State of Maryland.
 - Matt Burnett and Ben Levin are the co-creators of the show.
 - Ben Levin is a native of Olney, Maryland where he wanted to showcase his environment, as a kid, of how he grew up near a creek in Maryland.
 - Season 5 will be coming out on the Cartoon Network & HBO Max in June.
 - Ashleigh shared that she will be at Blerd Con, a nerd conference July 14th and 15th in Washington, DC.

Guest Speaker. Mariah Davis Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Mariah thanked Commissioner Moaney, the MCAAHC as well as the public for the opportunity to speak.

- She shared that she is originally from Southern Virginia but has been living in Maryland for seven years in Annapolis, Maryland.
- Mariah came to the public meeting to share that her passion, in her work, is to address environmental justice issues across the state of Maryland.
- She said that in being in this type of work, she saw the racism of how disproportionate attention and care is being done in the African American community vs. other communities.
 - Mariah said that this has been done on purpose and awareness is being made about this situation.
 - She found that racism was found in heirs property laws where blacks owned 1% of the land, a majority of the coastline are privately owned, and the average landowner is a white man aged 67 and up.
 - Red lining and rule red lining have taken place even on the eastern shore.
 - Mariah pointed out that even the country's national parks were founded on racism to exclude people and to keep them out.
- She said that environmental justice means that no matter what you look like, no matter where you come from, no matter how much money one makes, everyone deserves equal treatment and rights.
 - This is her initiative to bring equality to these situations through her work throughout the State of Maryland.

MCAAHC Commissioner Action Items

1. Commissioner Janice Greene shared that:
 - a. She will reach out to the MCAAHC Commissioners to see who would like to join her on the Harriet Tubman Achievement Award Committee.
 - i. Commissioner Greene will be looking to have two commissioners join her on this committee.
2. Commissioner Brian Morrison shared that:
 - a. The RFLM has a Black Woman Genius exhibit now on display through September 30, 2024, celebrating the genius of Elizabeth Talford Scott.
 - b. The RFLM annual fundraising gala this year is Thursday, May 9, 2024, from 6 – 11pm at the M&T Bank Exchange.
 - i. Tickets are \$350 and can still be purchased.
 - ii. The theme is A Royal Affair celebrating the heyday of Pennsylvania Avenue. Lady Brion, Executive Director of the Baltimore Black Arts District is one of this year's honorees.
 - iii. He urged all commissioners to support RFLM's work by attending the fundraiser.
 - c. From July 29 – August 2, 2024, the RFLM will host a Summer Teacher Institute for k12 educators focusing on Civil Rights in the State of Maryland. The institute will serve 20-30 educators.

**PRESIDING OFFICER’S WRITTEN STATEMENT FOR CLOSING A MEETING (“CLOSING STATEMENT”)
UNDER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT (General Provisions Article § 3-305)**

Recorded vote to close the meeting:

Chair Johnson then called for a motion to adjourn the MCAAHC Public meeting to go into a closed meeting.

Motion to close meeting made by: Commissioner Janice Curtis Greene

Seconded by: Commissioner Reggie Turner

Date: April 1, 2024 **Time:** 1:05 p.m. **Location:** Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church,
237 North Avenue, Chestertown, Maryland 21620

Members in favor: Kali-Ahset Amen, Dion Banks, Lori Bradford, Maya Davis, Janice Curtis Greene, Philip J. Merrill, Jaelon Moaney, Brian Morrison, Barbara Paca, Ada Pinkston, Hakeem Tijani, Reggie Turner, Elinor Thompson, Kennedy Wilson, and Chair Edwin T. Johnson.

Opposed: None **Abstaining:** None **Absent:** Commissioner Wali Gill, Commissioner H. Russell Frisby, Commissioner Robert Patterson, and Commissioner Wesley Wood.

Statutory authority to close session.

This meeting will be closed under General Provisions Art. § 3-305(b) only:

(9) “To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations”

MCAAHC Closed Meeting Minutes

Date: April 1, 2024

Time: 1:38 p.m.

Location: Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church Board Room,
237 North Avenue, Chestertown, Maryland 21620

Members present: Kali-Ahset Amen, Dion Banks, Lori Bradford, Maya Davis, Janice Curtis Greene, Philip J. Merrill, Jaelon Moaney, Brian Morrison, Barbara Paca, Ada Pinkston, Hakeem Tijani, Reggie Turner, Elinor Thompson, Kennedy Wilson, and Chair Edwin T. Johnson.

Members Absent: Commissioner Wali Gill, Commissioner H. Russell Frisby, Commissioner Robert Patterson, and Commissioner Wesley Wood.

Discussions under Article 3-305(b) Provision #9:

1. Public Meeting Decorum under Article X of the MCAAHC By-Laws
2. Conflict Resolution
3. Complaint against the MCAAHC regarding notification of Closed Meeting on Monday, December 4, 2023

Actions to be Taken:

1. Review of MCAAHC By-Laws Article X and current version Roberts Rules of Order
2. Annual Open Meeting Training by Open Meeting Representative and MCAAHC Governing Body
3. Review and update of MCAAHC Policies & Procedures.

Motion to Close the Closed Meeting by: Commissioner Ada Pinkston

Seconded by: Commissioner Kennedy Wilson

Closed Meeting closed: 2:15P.M.