



TIMELINES, ARCHIVES, AND CURRICULA SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Boston City Hall Boston, MA, 02201

Held virtually via Zoom

OCTOBER 3, 2024

Commissioners Present: Bob Allison, Giordana Mecagni, Kanisorn Wongsrichanalai, Kristen Lafferty, David Leonard, Joan Ilacqua

Commissioners Absent: Angela Hedley-Mitchell, Liza Stearns, Tatiana Cruz, Collin Knight, Kimberly Barzola, Dory Klein, Joe Bagley, Kimberly Barzola, Cedric Woods, Carolyn Goldstein

Staff Present: Genesis Pimentel, Commemoration Commission Manager; Kayla Skillin, Archivist for Collections Management

Public:

A full recording of the meeting is available on [boston.gov/commemoration-commission](https://www.boston.gov/commemoration-commission)

SESSION BEGINS - 2:00 PM

I. WELCOME

- a. Commemoration Commission Manager Genesis Pimentel welcomed attendees.

II. ORDER OF BUSINESS

- a. Meeting minutes approval was held off until the next meeting.

III. REVIEW SESSION

- a. Genesis Pimentel asked for updates on action items from the previous meeting.
 - i. She discussed that she will have to update the website based on feedback from DoIT.
 - ii. The Google Form review for archives was pushed back since Kayla Skillin was absent.
 - i. One action item was for Commissioner Dory Klein to connect with Boston Public Library's Digital Access Department, but she has been absent. Commissioner David Leonard updated that this was still in progress.
 - ii. Based on last month's Curricula discussion action items, Genesis Pimentel produced the following:



1. A chart with all landmarks and petitions
 2. A chart with all BPS schools
 3. ARCGis Pro license
 4. She created a sample of what the ArcGIS map could look like, combining BPL data, BPS data, BLC data, and her new data points.
- b. Commissioner Giordana Mecagni stated that it is easy to load a spreadsheet of information into an ArcGIS layer instead of going one-by-one.
- c. Commissioner Leonard stated that the BPL's Map Center folks would be interested in helping as well.
- i. Genesis Pimentel asked to be connected with them.
 - ii. Pimentel stated that it would be good to consolidate all this information into one spreadsheet.

IV. WORKING SESSION

- a. Commissioner Wongsrichanalai asked if there is a way to coordinate with MA250 to ensure the Commission does not replicate the work that they do.
- i. Pimentel discussed how the internal working group has people who coordinate with the State.
 - ii. Chair Allison asked if there is a group in the City organizing the 250th, then why is the Commission meeting to organize it.
 1. Pimentel responded that the ordinance states the Commission will be making recommendations and internal departments will carry them out, but the problem is that there is not enough of a structure that encourages collaboration. She added that the recommendations in policy change will support that. Commissioner Leonard added that he doesn't currently see overlap between what the commissioners are undertaking and how the City departments are organizing themselves, which he states should be getting coordinated through the Commission.
- b. Commissioner Mecagni asked if it would make sense to wait until Kathy Kottaridis is on board. She added that the Commission was structured to make sure that diverse voices are represented in the anniversaries, but with a lack of funding, it can be difficult to move things forward. She expressed concern that the dismantling of the Commission structure means that it becomes a coalition of the willing, which runs the risk of losing diversity. She added that she thought that the Commission was set up to dole out money, and that it would make a lot of sense to do that.



- i. Pimentel responded that although Kottaridis begins in December, she is already hands-on in terms of reading through all materials, coming to meetings, providing suggestions, and more.
 - ii. Commissioner Leonard stated that there's a silver lining as budget conversations are beginning, and Pimentel added that she is having conversations to try and secure a budget for the Commission,
- c. Commissioner Wongsrichanalai asked when the \$7,000 from the Curley-Parker Fund will be available to use, and Pimentel stated she would have to find out more from the Treasury Department.
- d. Commissioner Mecagni suggested compiling lists of history organizations and other invested parties to meet with Commissioners what they're working on and have the groups send something in advance of a meeting to be able to review.
 - i. Chair Allison added that it might be a good idea to connect organizations with one another, to gather, and to meet to get excited about the energy around the 250th.
- e. Commissioners discussed the MA250 grant, and how to check who did not get grant money, and how to support them.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. There was no public comment.

VI. ADJOURNMENT - 2:52 PM

- a. The meeting was adjourned.