



**TIMELINES, ARCHIVES, AND CURRICULA SUBCOMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Boston City Hall Boston, MA, 02201

Held virtually via Zoom

JUNE 25, 2024

Commissioners Present: Joe Bagley, Bob Allison, Giordana Mecgani, Kanisorn Wongsrichanalai, Kristen Lafferty, Carolyn Goldstein, Dory Klein, Beth Prindle

Commissioners Absent: Cedric Woods, Angela Hedley-Mitchell, Liza Stearns, Tatiana Cruz, Joan Ilacqua, Collin Knight, Kimberly Barzola

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

Public/Press Present: Alison Pultinas

A full recording of the meeting is available on boston.gov/commemoration-commission

SESSION BEGINS - 3:00 PM

I. WELCOME

- a. Commemoration Commission Manager Genesis Pimentel welcomed attendees.

II. ORDER OF BUSINESS

- a. Meeting minutes were approved.
- b. Genesis Pimentel discussed rescheduling the July meeting.
- c. Chair Joe Bagley gave an update on Jim Vrabel's database *When and Where in Boston*.

III. 6 MONTH REPORT

- a. Genesis Pimentel discussed that the ordinance required a 6 month report filed to the Clerk with updates on the progress being made by the Commission.
- b. Commissioner Carolyn Goldstein suggested including a brief summary of what the subcommittee has discussed in their meetings and to include questions raised.
- c. Chair Bagley was concerned that there has not been sufficient BPS coordination to make a move on the curricula aspect of their charge.



- d. Commissioner Kanisorn Wongsrichanalai asked for clarification on Open Meeting Law and how the Commission would write a report if they are not allowed to discuss business outside of publicly noticed meetings.
- e. Genesis Pimentel stated that the Commissioners could discuss further here and she would be the one to write the report.
- f. Commissioner Kristen Lafferty stated that it would be helpful to set a definitive time span for the Timelines component. The subcommittee settled on going up to 2030. Commissioner Lafferty also commented on the archives portion of their charge.
- g. Commissioner Dory Klein raised the point that any information shared with the public will have to make sure it protects private information.
- h. Chair Bagley brought up the need for diverse representation on the timeline, and asked if one of the items included in the report could be a call to action about a need for the initial timeline we produce to be a launching place for additional items not on the list. The Chair followed up by acknowledging that the commissioners are a small group of people with specific expertise, so something needs to be compiled for others with different expertise to comment on what's missing.
- i. Genesis Pimentel discussed a potential for community engagement by engaging residents, relevant City departments, and organizations who would want to provide feedback.
- j. The Commissioners discussed putting community engagement efforts on pause to think through whether we have the adequate mechanisms to engage and whether we need so many people to volunteer their time with no confirmation the work they do will be utilized. Instead, they offered engaging institutions and known historians. They also discussed not understanding who the audience for timelines will be, but a concrete output for a City webpage might be something that directs people to existing projects.
- k. Chair Bagley asked if it would be helpful to compile a list of people to reach out to.
- l. Genesis Pimentel agreed and stated it might also be helpful to reach out to departments in the City who might have a vested interest in this work.
- m. Commissioners discussed being a clearinghouse for other projects and groups. The commissioners discussed templates for how to present the information, including necessary categories, structures, platforms to use, and that the clearinghouse needs to be vetted by other people.



- n. Chair Bagley asked if working on a website template might be a good first step and then to discuss the template at the next meeting,

IV. DISCUSSION

- a. Chair Bagley discussed materials that might be included on the Boston webpage, so that there could be a broad but robust amount of information available to the public.
- b. Commissioner Lafferty offered Kayla Skillin to help with maneuvering the website. Kayla Skillin discussed the potential for embedded information to exist on websites such as AirTable.
- c. Commission Mecagni offered to check whether Northeastern could help with this since they have licensing available.
- d. Commissioner Klein stated that AirTable is an elegant tool, but the audience has to be considered when presenting information publicly, and to make sure that outside parties can contribute and provide feedback.
- e. Chair Bagley discussed how useful iframe is on the existing Drupal structure and wondered if this might be good enough for hosting Jim Vrabel's product. He also discussed how this would help the Events team begin working on recommended events based on the dates highlighted.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. There were no public comments.

VI. ADJOURNMENT - 4:15 PM

- a. Chair Joe Bagley motioned to adjourn the meeting.