Tuesday, March 3, 2020

3:30PM-3:40PM  Call to Order
  • Welcome and Introductions
  • Roll Call
  • Approval of minutes from Feb 7, 2020 meeting
  Jim Leloudis & Pat Parker, Co-Chairs

3:40PM-4:10PM  Presentation on the Unsung Founders Memorial
  Anna Wu, AVC for Facilities Services
  Evan Yassky, University Architect

4:10PM-4:40PM  Subcommittee Discussion
  Groups will gather with instructions from co-chairs

4:40PM-4:50PM  Public Open Comment Period
  Led by Co-Chairs

4:50PM-5:00PM  Next Steps
  • Expectations for Subcommittees
  • Next meeting: March 31, 2020
  Led by Co-Chairs

5:00PM  Adjourn
Minutes from Full Commission Meeting (March 3, 2020)

Call to Order
Meeting was convened at 3:36PM by Pat Parker, who then provided the roll call for commission members.


Co-Chairs offered the motion to approve minutes from the February 7, 2019 meeting. Seconded and approved by acclamation.

Co-Chairs asked that visitors introduce themselves.

Visitors: John Bell, Erin Marcinowski (Honors Carolina), Afiya Carter, Kynita Stringer-Stanback, I Michael Truesdale III (UNC student), Maydha Devarajan (DTH), Anna Wu & Evan Yassky (Facilities), Anna Rose Medley (Chancellor’s Office)

Presentation of Unsung Founders Memorial
Co-Chair Jim Leloudis introduced Evan Yassky, University Architect, to present site remediation studies initiated by the Chancellor’s Task Force on UNC History as part of its work on the curation of McCorkle Place. The purpose of those studies was to assess physical problems at the memorial site (settling, over-wash, erosion, and disability access) and to explore options for creating a more contemplative memorial space. Yassky’s presentation included two concept drawings prepared by Surface 678, a landscape architectural firm in Durham.

Discussion of the presentation addressed a number of issues:

- Several commission members noted a longstanding concern over the scale of the memorial. It is insufficiently “monumental” relative to the history it represents and the expansive size of McCorkle Place. The memorial might better achieve the vision and purpose of the Class of 2002 and the sculptor if moved to an indoor location.

- Others urged that the local African American community and an African American design firm be involved in the next phase of planning for the memorial.

- Commission members also discussed the importance of honoring the names of enslaved people who were bought and sold to finance the university, who built the campus, and whose labor sustained its day-to-day operation.

Commissioners agreed to continue this discussion at the sub-committee level and to report back to Yassky and Anna Wu, Associate Vice Chancellor for Finance and Operations, in two months’ time.

Sub-committee Work and Student Commissioners
Co-chairs Parker and Leloudis asked each sub-committee to meet before the May 8th meeting of the full commission to discuss ethical and intellectual principles for their work and to set project goals for the summer months. Sub-committees are to report on this work to the full commission on May 8.

Commissioners agreed on a process to solicit and evaluate applications from students who are interested in serving on the commission. The co-chairs will review statements of interest from student nominees who have expressed desire to serve on the commission and then recommend two graduate and two undergraduate students to the Chancellor.
Commissioner Danita Mason-Hogans joined the sub-committee on research and curation and Ronald Harris joined the sub-committee on curriculum and teaching.

**Public Comment Period**
Co-Chairs asked that if visitors would like to make comments to the commission members they were welcome to do so at this time.

- Public comment - requested that minutes and a list of subcommittee members be made available to the public.
- Public comment - urged the commission to commit itself to effecting change that will build a more equitable and inclusive campus and make the university more accountable to the local black community.
- Public comment - encouraged the commission to select student members who are connected to and understand both the history and contemporary concerns of the local black community.

Public comment period ended.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00PM.

Attachments: Presentation on Unsung Founders Memorial
UPDATE ON
UNSUNG FOUNDERS MONUMENT
MARCH 2020
Willow Oak
Caliper: 16''
Critical Root Zone: 20'

Red Oak
Caliper: 8''
Critical Root Zone: 10'

Red Oak
Caliper: 14''
Critical Root Zone: 17.5'

Maple
Caliper: 14''
Critical Root Zone: 17.5'

Elm
Caliper: 24''
Critical Root Zone: 30'

Cherry
Caliper: 16''
Critical Root Zone: 20'

Willow Oak
Caliper: 60''
Critical Root Zone: 75'

Elm
Caliper: 22''
Critical Root Zone: 27.5'

Maple
Caliper: 14''
Critical Root Zone: 17.5'

Unsung Founders Memorial

Tree Caliper

Critical Root Zone