

University Commission on History, Race, and a Way Forward

Meeting Agenda + Approved Minutes

Virtual Meeting – streamed on HRWF YouTube Channel



THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

Monday, February 22, 2021

3:00-3:05PM	Call to Order <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome• Roll Call• Approval of Minutes, Jan. 25, 2021 Meeting	<i>Jim Leloudis & Pat Parker, Co-Chairs</i>
3:05-3:20PM	Subcommittee Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Archives, History, Research, and Curation (02/01/21)• Engagement, Ethics, and Reckoning (02/15/21)	<i>Various Commission Members</i>
3:20-3:55PM	Introduction of Consensus Workshops + Q&A <p><i>HRWF to begin a focus planning process with Turn of Events to build the commission priorities for the next two years.</i></p> <p>Mayme Webb-Bledsoe Assistant Vice-President and Director. Duke Durham Neighborhood Partnership and Community Development for the Office of Durham and Community Affairs.</p> <p>Barbara Lau Executive Director, Pauli Murray Center for History and Social Justice</p> <p>Monica D. Murphy, MPH, CTF Facilitation Consultant and Trainer, Murphy Dynamics, LLC</p>	<i>Various Commission Members</i>
3:55-4:00PM	Schedule Change Announcements and Adjourn	<i>Led by Co-Chairs</i>

Commission on History, Race, and a Way Forward (February 22, 2021) Approved Minutes

Present: **Commission Members:** Co-Chair Patricia Parker, Co-Chair James Leloudis, Joseph Jordan, Amy Hertel, Nicholas Graham, Kenneth Janken, Dawna Jones, Danita Mason-Hogans, Graham Watkins, Ariana Avila, Seth Kotch, Larry Chavis, Sherrick Hughes, Ronald Harris, Delores Bailey, Sydni Walker, Danita Horton

Guests: Mayme Webb Bledsoe, Barbara Lau, Monica Murphy

YouTube Link for meeting:

I. Welcome and Introduction

Commission Co-Chair Pat Parker welcomed Commission members to the meeting and completed a roll call. Minutes of the January 25th, 2021 meeting were approved at 3:05.

II. Sub-Committee Reports

Nick Graham presented a report for the Archives, History, Research, and Curation subcommittee meeting.

He recapped the presentation and discussion led by Lorie Medford during the February 1st subcommittee meeting. This presentation centered on the political and economic impact of slavery on the founding and development of the early University. He further discussed archival research being conducted in support of Commission work, the hiring of a graduate student to complete some of this research and updates from the University Archives. The University Archives is working on a plan to revise the virtual museum of University history as well as the website for the Black and Blue tour.

Co-Chair Leloudis discussed that the co-chairs have been in discussion with UNC Creative to update the Commission website and will be engaging the Commission to think of ideas to share information more broadly.

Dawna Jones led a report to recap the Engagement, Ethics, and Reckoning subcommittee meeting. The Barbee Cemetery Project Community Advisory Board met for the first time to welcome members of the advisory board and discuss the project. Co-Chair Pat Parker and Commission member Ron Harris provided a recap at the subcommittee meeting of the Carolina Black Caucus event where they spoke to Carolina community members about the work of the Commission and received feedback from attendees. Jones discussed the partnership between the Commission and RHA, coordinated by Commission members Graham Watkins and Sydni Walker. Co-chairs Parker and Leloudis presented on Wilson Caldwell (insert link to the event) at a Black history event hosted by RHA. Further collaboration events are being proposed including a town hall event. Lastly, the subcommittee discussed their expectations and vision for the Commission. Delores Bailey mentioned how the Commission discussed engagement of undergraduates in an

introduction to the local community in order to bridge the gap between students and the community.

III. Introduction of Consensus Workshop and Q&A

Co-Chair Parker introduced the meeting's guests from the Turn of Events team – Mayme Webb-Bledsoe, Barbara Lau and Monica Murphy. Turn of Events will help the Commission to do focused planning and build the Commission's priorities for the next year and beyond. Mayme began this work 20 years ago when trying to improve the relationship between Duke and the surrounding community. They wanted to develop a roadmap to address quality of life issues for both groups. In this, they were faced with issues such as frustrations from lack of trust and feelings of not being heard. Through this work, they realized the importance of the community voice and wanted to find a way to create a process that allows individuals to see themselves in the work and create a better understanding of community.

They used methods called technology of participation (ToPs) which were developed in the 1960s and encouraged groups to work together around issues that mattered to them. These methods include learning, reflection, and inclusive participation.

Barbara described examples of situations in which they used these methods to identify priorities for the groups they were working with and reach consensus with groups that started with vastly different opinions and priorities. Monica discussed that she works with group dynamics to help them think, talk and work together. She has worked with facilitating community groups, nonprofits, health systems and other organizations with consensus building, strategic planning, and action planning work. She has had the chance to use these methods in the Braggtown community.

Mayme discussed how the Turn of Events team would employ these methods with the Commission. First the team will conduct a design conference in which they pull together a small subset of the Commission to discuss goals. They will then design a series of three conversations which will help to define the specific aims. These aims will be used to develop the consensus workshop. The Turn of Events team then opened the floor for discussion. Discussion centered around thanking the team for their involvement and past work and clarifying the process and logistics.

IV. Schedule Change Announcements

Co-Chair Parker announced that previously scheduled meetings will be replaced with the Turn of Events meetings. She then opened the floor for any further questions. Graham Watkins asked for clarification as to how our partnership with Turn of Events came about. Parker reminded the Commission that we have been working for a while on thinking through the various requests from Commission members and constituents. The co-chairs talked with Commission members about developing a process for identifying and prioritizing various initiatives. Giselle Corbie-Smith presented Turn of Events as a resource to help in this effort. Leloudis further detailed that this can be an opportunity for increased accountability and transparency in figuring out what items the Commission will work on.

Larry Chavis added that the timing of this effort is perfect as the group has more knowledge to effectively identify priorities.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Attachments: 02/22/21 HRWF Presentation slides
 02/01/21 Research subcommittee presentation from Laurie Medford



UNIVERSITY COMMISSION ON HISTORY, RACE, AND A WAY FORWARD

February 22, 2020

3:00-4:00PM

Virtual Meeting – HRWF YouTube Channel

Agenda

FEBRUARY 22, 2020. FULL COMMISSION MEETING

I. Subcommittee Reports

I. Archives, History, Research and Curation

II. Engagement, Ethics and Reckoning

II. Introduction of Consensus Workshops + Q&A

III. Schedule Change Announcements

TURN OF EVENTS FACILITATION TEAM

Mayme Webb-Bledsoe

Mayme Webb-Bledsoe is a veteran of Durham grassroots work who plans and implements community-based strategies through an empowerment model. Mayme is a Technology of Participation (ToP) qualified trainer, and she provides support and technical assistance to community partners, non-profits, local government, civic groups and the private sector in six Southwest Central Durham neighborhoods through the Quality-of-Life Project.

She is the Assistant Vice-President and Director of the Duke Durham Neighborhood Partnership and Community Development for the Office of Durham Community Affairs. Mayme holds a bachelor's degree in Psychology from UNC-Charlotte and a Master of Science in Higher Education from Iowa State University, with a concentration in Organizational Development. Mayme is a Samuel DuBois Cook Society Community Betterment Award recipient, in recognition of her outstanding service to the community. In 2018, she was recognized as the first Civic Change Champion for Paul and Joyce Aicher leadership in Democracy Award.



TURN OF EVENTS FACILITATION TEAM

Monica Murphy

Monica Murphy is a Certified Facilitator and Qualified Facilitation Trainer in the Technology of Participation (ToP) Facilitation Methods developed by the Institute of Cultural Affairs. She helps organizations and teams/groups communicate effectively, think strategically, and work collaboratively: leading to change and action. She designs and delivers interactive workshops, planning sessions, and meetings to achieve desired outcomes by helping organizations align with their values, clarify goals, and identify obstacles to change.

Additionally, as a Public Health Practitioner, Monica has over 12 years of experience in coalition building and community engagement, designing and implementing public health programs, conducting program evaluation, and health education; spanning across federal, state, and local levels.



TURN OF EVENTS FACILITATION TEAM

Barbara Lau

Barbara Lau is executive director of the Pauli Murray Center for History and Social Justice, a National Historic Landmark site in Durham, NC. Anchored by Murray’s childhood home, the Center honors the legacy of activist, lawyer, poet and priest, Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray (1910-1985). Murray, an African American, LGBTQ gender non-conforming woman, struggled to live fully in a world not ready for her inclusive vision of freedom. The Center engages with a diversity of communities through programming that connects history to contemporary issues using the tools of story and truth telling.

Lau’s credits include producing To Buy the Sun, an original play about Pauli Murray; co-directing the Face Up: Telling Stories of Community Life community mural project; and curating Pauli Murray: Imp, Crusader, Dude, Priest, and two major exhibitions about Cambodian American traditions. She teaches undergraduate courses about Durham and LGBTQ history and culture.



Laurie Medford

Doctoral Candidate in History

CHRAWF Research Assistant

Founding Trustees

- 55 trustees prior to the opening of the university in 1795.
- 1,894 people enslaved in total
 - 1786 and 1790 Census Records
 - Wills and Estate Papers
 - *THIS IS A KNOWN UNDERCOUNT*
- 6 Trustees cannot be confirmed as enslavers in 1789-1795.
- 2 of the 55 Trustees appear to never have been enslavers.

Subscribers to the University, 1793-94

- 204 Donors
 - 116 Known Enslavers 1790-1794.
 - 2,875 Known People Enslaved in Total.
 - *Undercount* 164 were enslavers by 1800.
- \$6,470.40 Donated.
 - \$4,109 from Forced Labor.
 - 63.5% of the subscriptions were given by known enslavers in 1790-94
- *The numbers of enslaved people, enslavers, and donations is an undercount.*

Current Research: Names on the Landscape

- 34 Enslavers Honored with Names on Campus.
- How many people did they enslave over time?
- Beyond the Numbers:
 - How the people they enslaved benefit the university?
 - What were their names?
 - What were their lives like?

FOR *the* RECORD

The Names of the Enslaved People who Built the University of North Carolina



Caroline Newhall, PhD
candidate, UNC
Department of History

April 24, 2018

Slavery, Uncategorized,
University History

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill was founded in the midst of a slave society by slaveholders. Enslaved people were present on campus from the laying of the cornerstone of Old East in 1793 until the end of the Civil War in 1865. Enslaved people built the earliest structures on the campus, many of which still exist. Old East, Old West, Gerrard Hall, South Building, Steward's Hall, Person Hall, Smith Hall, and the original President's House all took shape under the skilled hands of enslaved people owned or hired by the University's trustees, employees, students, architects, and the townspeople of Chapel Hill. Enslaved people made repairs, provided supplies, and attended upon students and faculty as servants. This post is [part of a series](#) looking more closely at records documenting slavery at UNC. Explore all of the posts [here](#).

The joint efforts of researchers, archivists, historians, students, and administrators has resulted in the identification of more than 100 enslaved people who built and labored at the University from 1795 to 1865. Students in History 398, an undergraduate seminar on slavery taught by Professor Jim Leloudis in Fall 2017 contributed significantly to this research. The list of 119 names enumerated below is neither exhaustive nor complete, and it is certain that countless enslaved people who built, worked at, and contributed to the University will never be identified. Enslaved women and



RECENT POSTS

- [Edwina Thomas Applies to Graduate School at UNC in 1938](#)
- [New Names on the Landscape](#)
- [Digital Records Management 101: Remote Edition](#)
- [New Website Collection and Digital Access Guide](#)
- [New Collection Alert: Student Musical Groups](#)

RECENT COMMENTS

- stuart george on [UNC Jubilee Performers: A List](#)
- [Historian Martha Jones Writes That University Founder Johns Hopkins Was Slaveowner, Not Abolitionist - The Reconstruction Era on The Names of the Enslaved People who Built the University of North Carolina](#)
- Carl Beatty on ["Proving a Secret is Difficult": Zora Neale Hurston at UNC](#)
- [Old East stories - College of Arts & Sciences](#)

Do	9 ¹ / ₂	to	By	Levy Anderson	1.	—	to	—	9.50
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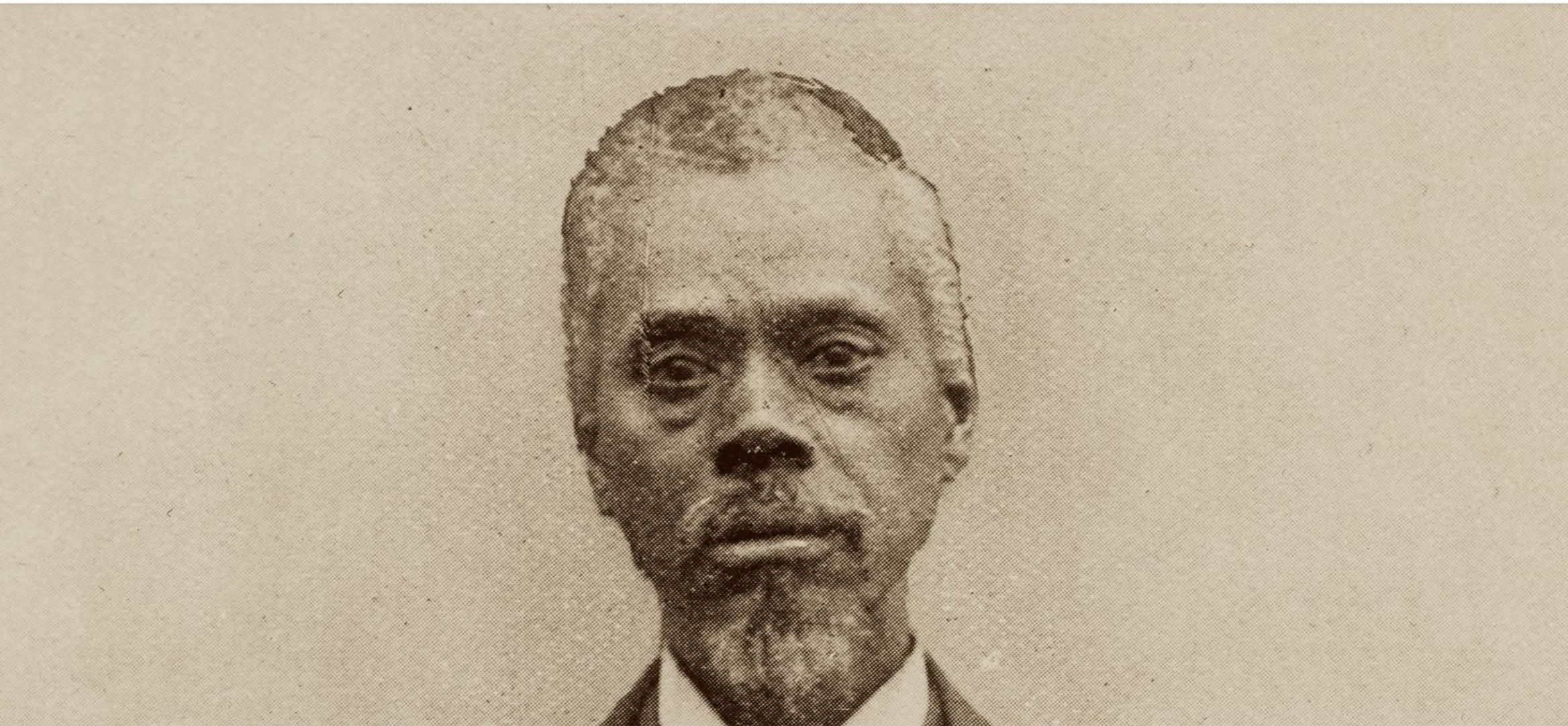
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✓ Do	41 ³ / ₄	to	By	Calvin	1.	—	to	—	41.75
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Do	16	to	By	Gae	1.25	—	to	—	20.
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Rock Cutters

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"	20	"	"	Hon. D. S. Swan for hire of Negro Boy to attend in Laboratories	150	—
Mar	8	"	"	R. J. Ashe for rent of Workshop for 1867	50	
"	13	"	"	Whitewashing & Plaster ing in College Buildings	24	



REMEMBERING WILSON CALDWELL

A Life in Slavery and Freedom at the University of North Carolina