### Meeting Agenda + Approved Minutes

**University Commission on History, Race, and a Way Forward**

Virtual Meeting – streamed on HRWF YouTube Channel

**Monday, August 30, 2021**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Agenda Item</th>
<th>Presenter/Note</th>
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<tr>
<td>3:30-3:35PM</td>
<td><strong>Call to Order</strong></td>
<td>Jim Leloudis &amp; Pat Parker, Co-Chairs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Welcome</td>
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<td>• Roll Call</td>
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<td>• Approval of Minutes: May 24, 2021</td>
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<td>3:35-3:55PM</td>
<td><strong>Summer 2021 Work Updates</strong></td>
<td>Various Commission Members</td>
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<td>• Membership changes</td>
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<td>• Memorial Hall project</td>
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<td>• Land Acknowledgement work</td>
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<td>• Collaboration with Arts Everywhere &amp; GAA</td>
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<td>• April 2021 resolution to the Chancellor on building name removal</td>
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<td>• Barbee Cemetery project</td>
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<td>3:55-4:10PM</td>
<td><strong>Project Groups—Updates and Discussion</strong></td>
<td>Jim Leloudis &amp; Pat Parker, Co-Chairs</td>
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<td><strong>Equity Initiative in Local Schools</strong></td>
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<td>Danita Mason-Hogans, Sherick Hughes, Sydni Walker, Josmell Perez</td>
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<td><strong>Barbee Cemetery &amp; other Cemetery Projects + Unsung Founders</strong></td>
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<td>Dawna Jones, Seth Kotch, Danita Horton, Joseph Jordan, Delores Bailey</td>
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<td><strong>Names on the Landscape &amp; Community Education</strong></td>
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<td>Jim Leloudis, Graham Watkins, Nick Graham, Kenneth Janken</td>
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<td><strong>Land Acknowledgement</strong></td>
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<td>Joseph Jordan, Jim Leloudis, Pat Parker, Amy Hertel</td>
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<td><strong>Process &amp; Strategy (including Communications)</strong></td>
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<td>Pat Parker, Ron Harris, Dawna Jones, Delores Bailey</td>
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<td>4:10-4:30PM</td>
<td><strong>Unsung Founders Webinar Planning – Commission Conversation</strong></td>
<td>Dawna Jones &amp; Joseph Jordan</td>
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<td>4:30PM</td>
<td><strong>Adjourn</strong></td>
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Commission on History, Race, and a Way Forward (August 30, 2021)
Approved Minutes

Present: Commission Members: Co-Chair Patricia Parker, Co-Chair James Leloudis, Graham Watkins, Nicholas Graham, Josmell Perez, Kenneth Janken, Dawna Jones, Seth Kotch, Joseph Jordan

YouTube Link for meeting: https://youtu.be/lODQYK8fvyI

I. Welcome and Introduction

Commission Co-Chair Pat Parker welcomed Commission members to the meeting and thanked them for being there. Co-Chair Parker completed a roll call from those present on the Zoom screen. Minutes from the May meeting were approved unanimously.

II. Updates

Co-Chair Parker shared some membership changes. Larry Chavis is on leave for this year. Ariana Aviles ended her term on the commission. Plan to add more student commission members to the roster in the future.

The co-chairs shared information on work from the summer:

- **Memorial Hall Project**: Colleagues from CPA are providing funding for a Research Assistant to help produce a comprehensive history of Memorial Hall. Some work has been done over the years, but it has been fragmented. This will help with a recommendation in the future for appropriate curation. This building contains over 100 memorial tablets along with the large roster of the University's confederate dead (on each side of the stage.) Ben Fortun, graduate assistant, has been hired. Updates will be shared as his work gets underway.

- **Land Acknowledgement**: Working closely with Joseph Jordan and Amy Hertel (leading this project group), we are working on draft language and following a process informed by critical research on land acknowledgements and the commission’s preliminary conversations on the subject. The next step is to vet this language with various stakeholders on campus along with Gregory Richardson, Executive Director of Indian Affairs for the state of NC (he came to speak to the commission at a previous meeting). Hoping to make a public announcement of this land acknowledgement this fall.

- **Collaboration with Arts Everywhere and GAA**: This is related to a top priority from the time we began the commission, to recover by name the stories of the enslaved
men and women that built the university and sustained it. We are in conversation with Arts Everywhere and the GAA, discussing how better to communicate the stories we are finding. Anna Rose Medley learned that Arts Everywhere and GAA had collaborated early in the year to do something similar with downtown Chapel Hill, and they were looking to do a University project related to our history. This partnership has great promise for advancing the commission’s work in this area. Additional updates will be provided.

- **April 2021 Resolution to the Chancellor on name removal:** The commission put forward 10 names for removal from campus buildings in the spring. The co-chairs have learned that the Chancellor is moving forward with the next step – he will appoint the ad hoc committee to review our recommendations. The committee will have student representatives.

- **Barbee Cemetery Project:** Project co-lead Seth Kotch shared that they are continuing with the research phase of the project. Members of the family have been introduced to representatives from special collections at the University Libraries who will work with them to preserve historical family material. This makes an investment into that family history. The family has decided to take on oral history and related documentation work. They know we are ready to help as needed. The group is also looking into ground penetrating radar and we have great connections and resources both on campus and other places to help facilitate that work. Last scan indicated there might be additional gravesites. Seth and Dawna are reaching out to various cultural heritage groups as well. Important to remember that this is a family led project that has been going on for generations.

- **Universities Studying Slavery:** We are penciled in to host USS conference in Fall 2022. Will keep the group up to speed in the next few weeks about this. This will not just showcase our work but is an international gathering; almost 100 partners in the US and around the world doing similar work. Will be an incredible honor to host this group.

**III. Information on Project Groups**

Reminder that we have a new project group structure after our work with Turn of Events in Spring 2020. Those are: the equity initiative in local schools; Barbee Cemetery and Unsung Founders; Names on the landscape; Land Acknowledgement; and Process & Strategy. Groups have begun work and we will have reports at upcoming meetings.

**IV. Unsung Founders webinar planning**

Dawna Jones shared information about the webinar plan. Commission will host a two series webinar; to learn the history of how we got to where we are and provide more opportunities to discuss where we should go with the community. The community has not had a voice in the process to date, and now we hope to create the opportunity to find out
what has happened and to have several community discussions about what should happen next.

The first webinar will be focus on the origin story of the memorial, including the motivation and vision of the class of 2002, which presented the memorial to the university as a gift at its dedication in 2005. The second session will focus on questions that have been raised about improvements to the memorial’s sitting and other steps that might be taken to ensure that it serves its intended purpose of remembrance and honor. This is an opportunity to learn and engage the community about next steps. This will include sharing what we have seen as a commission (plans from facilities as options). We will also provide a forum for written comments. This webinar series will help us come to a consensus and provide our recommendation on the future of the memorial. Important to remember we are still in a process of discovery.

Webinar announcement will be publicized through social media, email communication, etc. to make sure this is widely circulated.

Co-chairs expressed gratitude for Dawna and Joseph leading the way on this.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10PM.

Attachments: HRWF Presentation (08/30/21)
UNIVERSITY COMMISSION
ON HISTORY, RACE, AND A WAY FORWARD

August 30, 2021
3:30-4:30PM
Virtual Meeting – HRWF YouTube Channel
I. Welcome & Approval of meeting minutes
   • 05/24 draft minutes: HRWF Full Commission Mtg.

II. Summer 2021 Work Updates
   • Membership changes
   • Memorial Hall project
   • Land Acknowledgement work
   • Collaboration with Arts Everywhere + UNC General Alumni Association
   • April 2021 resolution to the Chancellor on building name removal
   • Barbee Cemetery project

III. Project Group – Updates & Discussion

IV. Unsung Founders Webinar Planning
Summer 2021 Work Updates
Project Groups

Updates + Discussion
HRWF PROJECT GROUPS

Equity Initiative in Local Schools
Danita Mason-Hogans, Sherick Hughes, Sydni Walker, Josmell Perez

Barbee Cemetery & other Cemetery Projects + Unsung Founders
Dawna Jones, Seth Kotch, Danita Horton, Joseph Jordan, Delores Bailey

Names on the Landscape & Community Education
Jim Leloudis, Graham Watkins, Nick Graham, Kenneth Janken

Land Acknowledgement
Joseph Jordan, Jim Leloudis, Pat Parker, Amy Hertel

Process & Strategy (including Communications)
Pat Parker, Ron Harris, Dawna Jones, Delores Bailey
Unsung Founders Webinar Planning