

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF BLACKS  
February 1, 2021

Members Present

Margo Dirkson	Charria Campbell	Arthur Banton
Robert Owens	Krystal Akehinmi	Nathaniel Colemon
Rosemarie Black	Holly Mills	Simone McKelvey

Members Absent

Troy Smith	Daniel Badoe	Daniel Allen
Ted Pelton	Jimmy Jones	Harry Ingle
Joshua Egwuatu	Katrina Ibezim	Gregory Holt
Qiera Bentley	Nicole Williams	Thomas Heard

Proceedings

The Commission on the Status of Blacks met on Monday, February 1, 2021 using the Teams Meet format. Quorum was not met. A discussion began. Margo Dirkson began the discussion at 3:05pm.

Approval of Agenda

The approval of the agenda was tabled due to quorum not being met.

Approval of the Minutes

The approval of the minutes from January 11, 2021 was tabled due to quorum not being met.

Proceedings

Martin Luther King Jr. Week of Service:

It was shared that the MLK week of service was extended until late January. Charria Campbell and student volunteers assisted Michelle Huddleston in shopping and stocking the TTU food pantry in Tech Village, as well as the Library site.

Krystal Akehinmi, Charria Campbell and a few students assisted with the Head Start Book Donation. Harry Ingle helped to coordinate having a volunteer from the College of Engineering to help load the books and deliver them to the local Head Start Program Office on Friday, February 1, 2021. Over 1300 books were delivered.

### Black History Month Activities:

#### Black History Month Calendar

Margo Dirksen stated the Black History Month calendar would be sent out soon.

#### Movie "Series" Committee

The committee discussed the entanglement of copyrights, public viewing regulations and costs involved in order to show movies. Costs range from \$600 to \$1,050 depending on the company used. The movies being considered are: "I'm Not Your Negro", "Harriet", "Hidden Figures", and "Just Mercy". The Library has a copy of "I'm Not Your Negro" and has fulfilled the copyright agreement requirements. The committee will set up a date, time, and location for the viewing of that movie.

#### Shaquawana's Clothing Donation

Margo Dirksen will contact Shaquawana about the donations needed and to ask if she has any boxes she would like to place in various places on campus for the Clothing Closet Donation Drive.

The Committee is invited to join in the preview and panel discussion of "Mr. Soul" tentatively planned for the evening of Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. Our own CSB members, Krystal Akehinmi and Arthur Banton will serve as panelists following the showing of the movie. The preview link is: <https://vimeo.com/447330944>. This information will be added to the Black History Month calendar.

#### Spring Scholarship Banquet

The Multipurpose Room has been reserved for Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 11am (dead hour) for the scholarship banquet. This is to secure a space if the Commission decides to do something in person, hybrid, or virtual. Krystal Akehinmi, Simone McKelvey and Charria Campbell will be working on menu, budget, and other items.

#### Other Such Matters

Margo Dirksen will check back with the movie committee for updates on the movies to be shown during BHM.

Center Stage and Multicultural Affairs will sponsor Ms. Natilie Williams, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 11am. The title of her presentation is "Beyonce Was Not Built in A Day". The presentation will be shown in Derryberry Hall Auditorium and on Zoom. \*Masks and physical distance required during session. The Zoom link is: <https://tnitech.zoom.us/s/84942701731> .

#### Adjournment

The discussion ended at 4pm. The next CSB meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 1, 2021 at 3pm. The meeting will be held through Teams.