Black History and Cultural Studies Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

9/14/2026

The following committee members were present for the meeting:

Shirley Martinez	Floyd Cobb
Ashleigh Lawrence-Sanders	Alysia Bellamy
Alex Pittman	Jamal Skinner
Nick Psarakis	Tony Exum, Sr.
Biaze Houston	Jaleesa McIntosh

The following committee members were absent from the meeting:

Fernando Branch	Khadija Haynes
Jameka Lewis	Regina English

Mrs. Shirley Martinez started off the meeting by asking members to conduct a roll call. She then asked Dr. Stephanie Hartman to review the next steps in the process. Dr. Hartman outlined the following next steps:

1. Small working groups continue to formulate targeted recommendations, Sept. 14
2. Whole team review and refine draft recommendations, Sept. 28
3. Build consensus and final polish, Oct. 12

Dr. Alex Pittman asked at which meeting it would be most critical to have a quorum. Dr. Hartman said the most important meeting would be on Oct. 12, so that the committee could make decisions about final recommendations before the joint meeting. Dr. Pittman emphasized this for the committee and encouraged everyone to attend the Oct. 12 so there could be a quorum.

Mrs. Martinez emphasized several expectations for committee members as the group continues its work, including consistent participation, communication if not able to continue to attend meetings, timely completion of tasks, active engagement, collaboration, and notification if unable to continue serving on committee. Mrs. Martinez

asked questions about how to proceed with committee members who are not participating in meetings. Ms. Shelly Ramos addressed some of the questions and stated that she would seek out answers from the Office of Boards and Commissions to other questions. Committee members asked to see the list of members by area of representation and Ms. Ramos said it would be provided before the end of the meeting. Lastly, committee members agreed that they should proceed with their work expecting that there would likely not be time to appoint new committee members.

Committee members worked for about an hour in their small groups. Following the group work, Dr. Hartman confirmed the location of each group's recommendations and reminded committee members about the next meeting dates.

The meeting adjourned at 8:24.