**MAYOR’S INTERFAITH COUNCIL**

Howard University School of Divinity (HUSD)

2900 Van Ness Street NW, Holy Cross Hall, Room 108,

Washington, DC 20008

Thursday, January 25, 2018

10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

**MINUTES**

**Commissioners Present**

* Maria Barrera
* James Coleman
* Sidney Fowler
* Batya Glazer
* Graylan Hagler
* Randolph Hollerith
* E. Gail Anderson Holness
* Donald Isaac
* Dwayne Johnson
* Yolanda Pierce
* Gerald Serotta
* Darrell Smith-Bey
* Gabriel Sobarzo
* Maria Swearingen
* Susan Taylor
* Christine Wiley

**Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Meeting called order at 10:10am by commission Vice Chair Dr. Sid Fowler

Dr. Yolanda Pierce the newest MIC Commissioner and Dean of the Howard School of Divinity offered an opening prayer and informed the commission of her role at the school and her work in the community.

**Quorum Established**

**Commissioner Introductions**

**Mayor’s Office of Religious Affairs Update**

Director Bowen proposed altering the commissions meeting schedule to better align with the MIC’s governing mayors order. However after discussion the commission decided to maintain the monthly meeting schedule. Dir. Bowen committed to making conference call in available for future meetings.

The Director informed commissioners of the upcoming Mayor’s Faith Breakfast being held Thursday February 15th 2018 at the Museum Of The Bible. Commissioners voiced concerns on the venues non inclusive presentation of scripture and don’t believe it’s reflective of DC values.

Commissioner Hagler asked about the administration’s support of persons living in the city with temporary protective status and Director Bowen informed the Commission of the recently helped TPS Know Your Rights Town Hall hosted by The Mayor’s Office of Latino Affairs. A link to the event can be found on the Mayor’s You tube page: <https://youtu.be/2DDzubt4ohI>.

**Action Items**

N/A

**Other Business**

Special Presentations

Director Del McFadden, Marcus Ellis and John Mein  from **the Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement** presented to the commission on the new office’s mission and programs. Highlighting the work the office does in promoting the cities Safer Stronger initiative and neighborhood stabilization after a homicide. The ONSE team also informed the MIC that they will soon have grant making capacity and encouraged Commissioners to apply for future grants and inform their networks when grants become available. The team also offered to host a future MIC meeting and asked for prayers as they pioneer their difficult but necessary work.

The Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement is located at 100 42nd Street, NE Washington DC 20019.

Kristen Randolph, external outreach liaison for the **DC Public Service Commission** gave a presentation to the commission. The Public Service Commission regulates gas, electric and land line phones. Ms. Randolph informed the MIC of utility discount programs offered by agencies and how commissioners can assist congregants in not only discounting bills but making homes more efficient. Ms. Randolph also offered to come out to any local congregation as well as to host a future MIC Meeting. More information on the DC Public Service Commission can be found at https://www.dcpsc.org.

Rev. Aundreia Alexander with the **National Council of Churches** presented on ACT NOW! Unite to End Racism rally and events being held this April here in Washington DC. Rev. Alexander encouraged commissioners to visit [www.rally2endracism.org](http://www.rally2endracism.org) for more information on how faith leaders can be involved in this movement.

Commissioners Sue Taylor and Randy Hollerith reiterated their offers to host future MIC meetings.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:02 PM