



## Reparations Task Force Meeting Minutes [UNOFFICIAL]

BCYF Vine Street, 339 Dudley St Roxbury, MA

Tuesday, February 6 2024

6:30PM-8:00PM

Please watch video from the meeting [here](#)

Meeting called to order

Opening Remarks and Language Interpretation Information

Present:

1. Joseph Feaster - Chair
2. Carrie Mays
3. L'Merchie Frazier
4. George Greenidge
5. Dorothea Jones

Absent:

1. Denilson Fanfan
2. Damani Williams
3. Na'tisha Mills

Remarks by Mayor Wu

- Mayor Wu gave brief congratulatory remarks to the two research teams selected to partner with the RTF to investigate the city's role in the transatlantic slave trade and the continuing legacies.

RFP Presentation: Dorothea Jones

- Dorothea gave an overview of the RFP selection process, in which the selection committee met several times to interview, evaluate, and eventually select the two research partners.
- Chair Feaster thanked the members of the selection committee: L'Merchie Frazier, Dorothea Jones, Carrie Mays, Maya Getter, Ajay Singh, Lori Nelson, and Murray Miller.



## Historical Research Partner Introductions

- Kyera Singleton, Executive Director of the Royall House and Slave Quarters, spoke on behalf of the team researching Units 1-5 (1620-1940). She expressed that her team's main focus will be showing how slaves built the wealth of Boston.
- Professor Margaret Burnham, Director of the Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Project at Northeastern University, spoke on behalf of the team researching Unit 6 (1940-present). She spoke to the priorities of her team being the deliberate policies and practices of the City of Boston that contribute to the experiences and disadvantages of Black Bostonians, some of which include: educational inequities in the 1940s and 50s, the Boston Housing Authority, and the city's procurement practices.

## Councilor Fernandes Andersen Remarks

- Councilor Fernandes Andersen spoke briefly to share her commitment to this work and congratulate the Task Force members. She also shared that she plans to request more information and transparency from the RTF.

## Administrative Updates: Chief Solis Cervera and Chair Feaster

- Chair Feaster announced that Carrie Mays will serve as the chair of the community engagement subcommittee. In this role, Carrie will lead the community engagement process through each phase of the RTF's work.
- RTF's staffing team was introduced.
- Martine Maingot, Communications Director for the Equity and Inclusion cabinet, presented the three main ways public can interact with the task force and staffing team at this time:
  - Website: [boston.gov/reparations](https://boston.gov/reparations)
  - Instagram: @equitycabinet
  - Email: [reparations@boston.gov](mailto:reparations@boston.gov)

## Public Comment

- Attendees stressed the importance of community input in the RTF's work, and asked the RTF to hold community meetings to ensure they get approval of their actions from the community before progressing.
- Another member of the public asked for more transparency on the phases of work, specifically Phase 2.



- Several attendees expressed their belief that reparations is economic at its core.
- One attendee noted that much research has already been done on Boston's role in the slave trade.
- Councilor Fernandes Anderson expressed that an audit needs to be done on the RFP writing process.
- Based on several attendees' experiences during public comment, feedback was given that there should be a set time for public comment and a timer.
- An attendee expressed that public meeting notices need to be posted further ahead of time, and should be sent out to all attendees of previous meetings.
- Interest was expressed by several attendees in a public comment thread on the RTF website.

### Adjournment

- Chair Feaster adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:45pm.