

## COMMITTEE

ANGIE O'NEAL  
Committee Member

JOYCE AWURO  
Committee Member

TAWANA LAMAR  
Committee Member

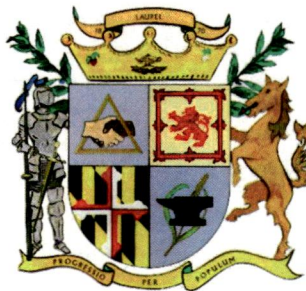
KIA YOUNG  
Committee Member

WILLIAM CHASE  
Committee Member

VERONICA MARTIN  
Committee Member

ARTESA JONES  
Committee Member

Committee meets on the second  
Wednesday of each month.



SANDRA CHOUTE  
Chair

JEFFREY MILLS  
Councilmember, Ex-officio

TROY GRIFFITH  
Secretary

MARIA MORALES  
Administrative Assistant II

(301) 725-5300  
[www.cityoflaurel.org](http://www.cityoflaurel.org)

## LAUREL JUNETEENTH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

8103 Sandy Spring Road  
Laurel, Maryland 20707-2502

**Wednesday October 8, 2025  
6:00 PM  
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM  
MEETING MINUTES**

The Meeting was called to order at 6:22 pm with Chairwoman Sandra Choute Presiding. The following committee members were present: Troy Griffith, Artesa Jones, Tawana Lamar and William Chase. Staff Present was: Maria Morales, Administrative Assistant II to the City Clerk. There were no members of the public present.

Chair Choute welcomed everyone back and thanked everyone for their hard work in bringing together this year's Juneteenth event and making it a success.

### **Review Committee Handbook**

Chair Choute introduced the new City of Laurel Committee Event Handbook, and Committee Planning Guide. As this was a draft and not previously reviewed by committee members, Ms. Morales read it for everyone, and the committee members decided to move forward with using this to plan this year's event. Immediately, they worked on the first part of the handbook. The committee voted to set the date for 2026 Juneteenth celebration. Chair Choute asked for a motion to move forward with having the event on Saturday June 20, 2026. Ms. LaMar made a motion to hold the 2026 event on June 20, 2026. Mr. Griffith second motion and the committee unanimously agreed to the date.

The second portion of the handbook requested location of the event. The idea was proposed to hold the event at a smaller location with deeper rooted meaning to Juneteenth, such as moving the event to Emancipation Park. Ms. Choute agreed and asked for a motion to move the Juneteenth event for 2026 to Emancipation Park. Mr. Chase made a motion to hold the 2026 Juneteenth event at Emancipation Park. Ms. Jones seconded the motion, and all committee members present agreed to move the location.

Chair Choute brought up the time for the event, committee members moved to push the event out to begin at 4 pm and end at 7 pm. Ms. Jones made a motion to hold the 2026 event from 4 pm – 7 pm. Mr. Chase seconded the motion, and all committee members voted to move forward with the time change.

### **Budget Overview**

Maria Morales presented her screen showing the budget for the Fiscal Year 2026 for the Juneteenth event, including the Mayors account. Chair Choute and committee members requested to have the previous budget and expenditures sent to everyone to review expenses. Mrs. Morales will be sending this to committee members to review before the next meeting.

### **Open Forum**


Ms. LaMar recommended having people on the committee paired up to complete assignments and roles for the next event to improve efficiency. Chair Choute brought up making a list of roles and assignments during the next meeting and reviewing it with everyone.

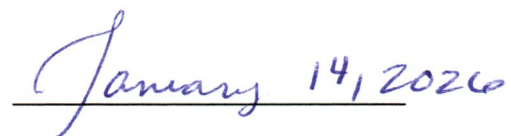
There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 6:52 pm.

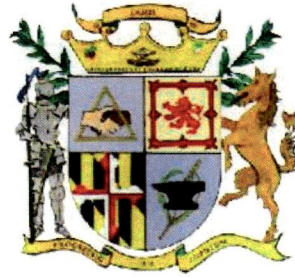
Respectfully submitted by Maria Morales, Administrative Assistant II on behalf of Secretary Troy Griffith.  
December 1, 2025

Approved:

Date:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Maria Morales  
Administrative Assistant II

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
January 14, 2026



## **Juneteenth Executive Committee**

8103 Sandy Spring Road  
Laurel, Maryland 20707-2502

**Wednesday, October 08, 2025**

**6:00 PM**

*Please contact the Clerk at 301-725-5300 Ext. 2120 or [clerk@laurel.md.us](mailto:clerk@laurel.md.us) to request Zoom Meeting link by 2pm on the day of the meeting.*

1. Call to Order

i Welcome Committee Members

ii Review Committee Handbook

iii Review Committee Planning

iiii Budget Overview

iiiii Open Forum

2. Adjourn



**Juneteenth Planning Committee**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Wednesday October 8, 2025, 6:00pm**  
**Virtual - Zoom**

Call to Order: 6:24pm

Meeting Ended: 6:52pm

Members of the Public: 0

**Attendance:**

☒ Chairwoman, Sandra Choute   ☐ Angie O'Neal   ☐ Joyce Awuro   ☒ Troy Griffith   ☒ Tawana LaMar   ☐ Kia Young  
☒ William Chase   ☐ Veronica Martin   ☒ Artesa Jones   ☐ Yolanda Pearson   ☐ Councilman Jeffrey Mills

**1. Call to Order:**

☒ Chairwoman, Sandra Choute   ☐ Angie O'Neal   ☐ Joyce Awuro   ☒ Troy Griffith   ☒ Tawana LaMar   ☐ Kia Young  
☒ William Chase   ☐ Veronica Martin   ☒ Artesa Jones   ☐ Yolanda Pearson   ☐ Councilman Jeffrey Mills

**2. Agenda Items:**

▪ **Review Committee Handbook**

☐ Chairwoman, Sandra Choute   ☐ Angie O'Neal   ☐ Joyce Awuro   ☐ Troy Griffith   ☐ Tawana LaMar   ☐ Kia Young  
☒ William Chase   ☐ Veronica Martin   ☒ Artesa Jones   ☐ Yolanda Pearson   ☐ Councilman Jeffrey Mills

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▪ **Review Committee Planning**

- ☒ Chairwoman, Sandra Choute ☐ Angie O'Neal ☐ Joyce Awuro ☒ Troy Griffith ☒ Tawana LaMar ☐ Kia Young  
☒ William Chase ☐ Veronica Martin ☒ Artesa Jones ☐ Yolanda Pearson ☐ Councilman Jeffrey Mills

Mania read through. Lamar 1<sup>st</sup> Troy 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve event on June 30<sup>th</sup>  
Will Chase 1<sup>st</sup> motion to move to emancipation 2<sup>nd</sup> Artesa  
Time: 4 pm - 7 pm Artesa 1<sup>st</sup> Chase 2<sup>nd</sup>

▪ **Budget Overview**

- ☒ Chairwoman, Sandra Choute ☐ Angie O'Neal ☐ Joyce Awuro ☒ Troy Griffith ☒ Tawana LaMar ☐ Kia Young  
☒ William Chase ☐ Veronica Martin ☒ Artesa Jones ☐ Yolanda Pearson ☐ Councilman Jeffrey Mills

Send a copy of last budget. to committee.

### 3. Open Forum

☐ Chairwoman, Sandra Choute ☐ Angie O'Neal ☐ Joyce Awuro ☐ Troy Griffith ☐ Tawana LaMar ☐ Kia Young

☐ William Chase ☐ Veronica Martin ☐ Artesa Jones ☐ Yolanda Pearson ☐ Councilman Jeffrey Mills

Tawana recommends assigning 2 people per Assignment/roles.

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### 3. Adjourn