



CITY OF LAUREL, MARYLAND  
JUNETEENTH EXECUTIVE PLANNING COMMITTEE

**JUNETEENTH COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Wednesday, October 9, 2024**  
**TIME: 6:00 PM**  
**VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting convened virtually via Zoom at approximately 6:14 pm with Chairwoman Sandra Choute Presiding. The following members were also present, Troy Griffith, Councilwoman Kyla Clark and Administrative Assistant to the City Clerk, Carolyn Edwards, there were no members of the public present. Chairwoman Choute noted that there were no official meeting minutes for September since a quorum was not met on either scheduled meeting dates.

*Juneteenth Committee Budget Discussion:* Chairwoman Choute informed the committee of the current budget which is currently \$5,202.99. The committee received \$4,000.00 from Mayor Sydnor's Community event funding and had a balance of \$1862.94 remaining from last year's budget. The committee then purchased a tent with their name embroidered on the front for \$839.15 and some additional Juneteenth flags. Councilwoman Clark inquired about her donation to the committee after the yearly event and the administrative assistant, Carolyn Edwards, sent her that information via email.

*Flag Raising Ceremony for June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025,* Chairwoman Choute state she would like to have a Flag Raising Ceremony. Chairwoman will reach out to the Council and Mayor and ask if the committee can do it again. Make it annual. To do it at noon since office closed. Councilwoman Clark suggest sharing with schools and posting on the digital board.

*Possibility of new location: McCullough field.* Chairwoman Choute presented a suggestion that the committee move the annual celebration event to the Alice B. McCullough field located on 8<sup>th</sup> Street in Laurel. The committee members discussed all pros and cons of changing the event venue. Chairwoman Choute stated she would put the application in for McCullough field to see if it was available and see if the street can be blocked off for food truck vendors, she will list committee member Troy Griffith as the "back-up" contact person. It was decided to keep the event from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

*Live Entertainment:* The committee discussed the possibilities and pros and cons of have live entertainment at the next celebration. Harmonies and Company had submitted a quote for a 2-hour set for \$540. In addition, the committee would want a DJ from 3 to 5pm. Troy suggest we make sure the DJ and band have adequate equipment to project. Chairwoman Choute will contact sound man to see what it will costs. Carolyn Edwards will follow-up with Harmonies and Company.

*Fundraiser:* Chairwoman Choute recommends the committee taking on a fundraiser to assist with the cost of the celebration. Councilwoman Clark stated that the Caribbean Express restaurant on Main Street recently obtained additional spacing for their restaurant and would be interested in hosting a fundraiser event for the Juneteenth Committee. Possible fundraiser suggestion from Councilwoman Clark. Caribbean Express. Councilwoman Clark agreed to contact the Caribbean Express and CC Chairwoman Choute so that potential dates can be obtained.

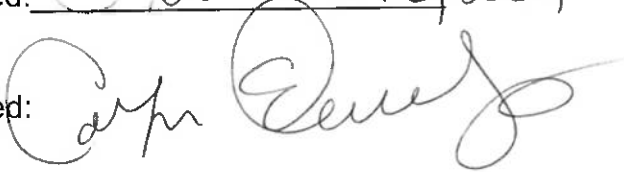
*Subcommittee Leads:* Chairwoman Choute stated the following leads are needed.

- **Fundraising**
- **Marketing**
- **Vendor**

Carolyn Edwards suggested that Chairwoman Choute wait until the next scheduled meeting because newly appointed committee members should be in attendance and may be a big help.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:56 pm. Next meeting Wednesday, November 13, 2024.

Approved: November 13, 2024

Approved: 

Carolyn Edwards  
Administrative Assistant.



## **Juneteenth Executive Committee**

8103 Sandy Spring Road  
Laurel, Maryland 20707-2502

**Wednesday, October 09, 2024**

**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.**

**Call to Order:** Chairwoman Choute

### **AGENDA ITEMS**

1. **Roll Call** By Carolyn Edwards
2. **Adoption of Agenda:** Chairwoman Choute
3. **Budget:** Discussion of the budget and the best way to utilize our resources
4. **Flag Raising Ceremony**
5. **Venue Discussion:** Which Park will best suit our needs-Gude Park or McCullough Field
6. **Live Entertainment Options**
7. **Fundraisers**
8. **Subcommittee Leads**
19. **Adjourn**

**Juneleenth Planning Committee**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Wednesday, October 9, 2024, 6:00 pm Virtual**

Call to Order: 6:14pm

Meeting Ended: 6:58pm

Members of the Public: 0

**Roll Call**

✓ Sandra Choute   X   Angie O'Neal   X   Joyce Awuro   X   Jahbria Smith-Whitehead

✓ Troy Griffith   X   Alvin Upton ✓ Councilwoman Clark   X   Councilman Mills