

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

COUNCILMEMBER,
KYLA CLARK,
Chair

MARCIO DA SILVA

DANIELLE DELGADO

EBONY LOCKWOOD

JAYA PERSAUD

JOANNE RICKETTS

ARTHUR THOMPSON,
Vice-Chair

This committee meets
Bi-Monthly.



CITY STAFF

Crystal Hypolite
Mayor's Chief of Staff

(301) 725-5300

www.cityoflaurel.org

**MULTICULTURAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

8103 Sandy Spring Road,
Laurel, Maryland 20707-2502

**Third Meeting
City of Laurel, Maryland
Monday, January 20, 2025
6:00 PM
Agenda
In-Person Meeting**

If you would like to submit written testimony, speak during the public hearing, or have questions about any agenda item, please contact laurelmayor@laurel.md.us.

- I. **Call to Order and Introductions: Kyla Clark, Chair and Councilmember**
The meeting convened virtually at 6:05 p.m. with Chairwoman Kyla Clark presiding. Note: Delayed to wait for a quorum.
- II. **Committee Roll Call: Ms. Crystal Hypolite, City Staff**
Arthur Thompson, Danielle Delgado, Ebony Lockwood, Joanne Ricketts, and Crystal Hypolite, City Staff, were present. Jaya Persaud and Marcio DaSilva were absent. There were (0) members of the public in attendance.
- III. **General Public Hearing**
Chairwoman Clark requested a motion to approve the November 17, 2025, meeting minutes. Ms. Delgado made the first motion, and the second motion was from Mr. Thompson. The motion carried unanimously.
- IV. **Committee Resolution, Purpose, and Ideas: Arthur Thompson, Vice-Chair**
Mr. Thompson emphasized the importance of covering all cultures and asked whether religious holidays are being considered. Ms. Delgado shared that Howard County made a proclamation recognizing Muslim Heritage Month in January.

V. **2026 City of Laurel Community and Culture Day Festival, Sept. 12, 2025**

a. **2026 Theme Brainstorm and Vote**

The committee reviewed several proposed slogans for the Community and Culture Day Festival. After discussion and voting, the committee selected "Connected by Community, Enriched by Diversity" with four (4) votes in favor.

b. **Subcommittees**

- i. Programming & Entertainment Sub-Committee
- ii. Vendor & Business Relations Sub-Committee
- iii. Fundraising & Sponsorship Sub-Committee
- iv. Outreach & Marketing Sub-Committee
- v. Logistics & Operations Sub-Committee

Mr. Thompson reviewed the resolution and requested focus on key elements. Ms. Delgado clarified that the committee is not a party-planning committee but rather an advisory body. Ms. Delgado noted that Black History Month was missing from the calendar and suggested the committee submit ideas for different events. Chairwoman Clark stated that, per the resolution, the committee makes recommendations to the Mayor and Council.

Mr. Thompson suggested compiling a list of local businesses to distribute as resources, possibly offering community discounts. Chairwoman Clark suggested assisting with website translations and creating a committee award. Ms. Delgado proposed having a table at the Black History Month event for community input using sticky notes. Ms. Delgado also suggested having a table representing every country with its flag at future events.

VI. **Review of Immediate Priorities and Next Steps**

a. Next Meeting on March 16, 2025, Virtual

Mr. Thompson will create a shared document and send an email to gather feedback from committee members. Chairwoman Clark asked about members missing meetings and attendance requirements. City Staff will pull 2024 itemized costs for Eggstravaganza, Juneteenth, and Pride events to help inform budget planning for future committee activities.

The committee confirmed that the next meeting will be held virtually on March 16, 2026.

VII. **Adjournment**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m. Ms. Ricketts made the motion to adjourn, and the second motion was from Mr. Thompson.

Approved By: Crystal Hypolite

Date Approved: 4/14/26

Crystal Hypolite
Committee Staff Member