

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

**LAUREL JUNETEENTH EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE**

8103 Sandy Spring Road
Laurel, Maryland 20707-2502

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

6:00PM

Virtual – Zoom

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

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes
 - January 14, 2026, Meeting Minutes
3. Adoption of the March Agenda
4. Program Discussion
 - DJ
 - Emcee
 - Vendors
 - Sponsors
 - Fundraisers
 - Program
 - Volunteers
5. T-Shirts (Design, Cost and Amount)
6. Open Forum
7. Adjournment

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**Wednesday, January 14, 2026
6:00 PM
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM
MEETING MINUTES**

The Meeting was called to order at 6:05 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. Mayor Keith Sydnor was also present. There were no members of the public present.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Choute requested a motion to approve the October 8, 2025, meeting minutes. Ms. Tawana Lamar made a motion, to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. William Chase seconded the motion that was then carried on by a roll call vote of all committee members present.

Review Location and Paperwork

Juneteenth Celebration for 2026 will be held at Emancipation Park. Chair Choute will review and complete the required City forms in the upcoming weekend. Committee members may be contacted individually for additional input. Committee will review forms before submittal.

Discuss Program/Entertainment

Chair Choute requested someone take the lead with music entertainment. Ms. Tawana Lamar suggested reviewing the budget to see what money could be put towards entertainment, noting a DJ may be more reasonable than having a band. Chair Choute asked Ms. Lamar if she wished to lead the planning portion, to which Ms. Lamar agreed. Ms. Maria Morales provided the budget numbers currently the Escrow account and in the Mayors Community Promotions account. Ms. Lamar agreed to compile a list of possible DJ/Band options and will bring it back to the committee at the next meeting.

Update Vendor Forms

Chair Choute asked for input in increasing vendor fees, suggesting that the committee consider charging fees for vendors who attend for informational purposes, that previously were not charged. Chair Choute noted that the committee would further discuss actual fees and the increases in an upcoming meeting. The committee carried a voice vote by all members present to increase fees for

for-profit/food vendors.

Open Forum

Mr. Troy Griffith requested that the committee have a debrief, since they did not have one after the previous event. He was interested in hearing about what worked and what didn't work during the last event. Ms. Tawana Lamar suggested reviewing the questionnaire she sent last year after the event, she will send feedback from the questionnaire for members to review and discuss in the next meeting.

Mayor Keith R. Sydnor thanked the committee members for their hard work and commitment. He joined the meeting to provide the committee with a few updates. He informed the committee of the changes made to the Juneteenth Committee Resolution to assist with quorum in future meetings. Mayor Sydnor also informed the committee that he would be unable to provide the \$6,000 Budget request submitted by Chair Choute, however the committee will continue to receive the same budget amount as previous years. Additionally, He informed the committee of the time change for the Juneteenth Flag raising ceremony due to heat concerns, moving it up to 9am instead of the usual afternoon start time.

Mayor Sydnor invited committee members to continue engaging with the community, by joining him in making care packages for seniors at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service event taking place at the Craig A. Moe Laurel Multiservice Center on January 19, 2026, at 2pm and the upcoming Black History Month Event taking place at the Council Chambers at the Joseph R. Robison Laurel Municipal Center on February 22, 2026, at 2pm.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Troy Griffith.
January 18, 2026

Approved:

Date:

Maria Morales
Administrative Assistant II