



Meeting of the Black Heritage Preservation Commission

July 23, 2026 6:30 PM
City Hall Room 101 & Zoom

NOTE: The July 23, 2026 Black Heritage Preservation Commission meeting was held in person and online via Zoom.

Members: Minister Monique Jones, Chair Lois Bryant, Shawn Walker, Janet Allured, and Neikeita Mitchell

City Staff: Kylee Cole – Long Range & Preservation Planner, Britin Bostick - Long Range Planning & Special Projects Manager, Kaci Black – Communications & Outreach Specialist

Call to Order: 6:31pm

In Attendance: Minister Monique Jones, Lois Bryant, Shawn Walker, Janet Allured, Neikeita Mitchell, Kylee Cole, and Britin Bostick

Approval of Minutes from the June 18, 2026 Meeting: Motion by Commissioner Allured, second by Minister Jones. Unanimously approved by voice vote.

Unfinished Business

Henderson School Historic Marker Update: Cole showed a rendering of the proposed marker recommended by the Commission at the June meeting. Cole has been working with the Central Arkansas Library System (CALS), the holder of the photo, for both permission to use the photo and a high resolution file so that the marker can have the best resolution image possible. Staff will next submit that to the City Council for approval now that they have all information confirmed.

Proposed Fayetteville Black Local Historic District and South Fayetteville Local Historic District: Cole provided an update to the commission including the Historic District Commission's votes last week at their July 9 meeting to forward the districts to the Council with a vote of 5-0 on the Black Historic District and 4-1 on the South Fayetteville Historic District. Following was a discussion between Minister Jones and Cole with several questions about the process to create the districts, the district boundaries, the request made at the Planning Commission and Historic District Commission hearings to exclude the Jefferson School property, the position of the State of Arkansas, who can serve on the HDC, what requirements apply once the districts are approved, and what it looks like to organize groups and social media for the neighborhoods. Cole does want to send another round of letters announcing the establishment of the districts. Bostick would potentially like to pursue grant funding for custom design guidelines for the districts, and is waiting for information from the state preservation office

New Business

None.

Announcements:

- Bostick provided information about Downtown Plan draft that she expects to publish for public comment on September 4, and will take down on October 5. The entire community will be reviewing the plan at the same time, and once all comments are received staff will have a better sense of when the document will go to the Planning Commission and then the City Council.
- Commissioner Walker invited everyone to the Southeast Fayetteville Neighborhood Reunion July 31 – August 2 at various locations.
- Minister Jones announced the Back to School Bash Saturday, August 8 from 10am-2pm at the Yvonne Richardson Center. There will be food, games, and prizes with faith-based organizations and vendors. Minister Jones will send out a flyer and a link to the volunteer sign up.
- **Adjournment:** The meeting ended at 7:12 pm.