

TASK FORCE ON ABANDONED AFRICAN-AMERICAN CEMETERIES
Heritage Hall, R. A. Gray Building, 500 South Bronough St., Tallahassee, FL 32399
Tuesday, November 30, 2021; 10:00 am – Conclusion

Meeting Minutes

Task Force Members: Dr. Timothy Parsons (*Chair*), Dr. Kathryn O'Donnell Miyar, Ms. Yvette Lewis, Dr. Antoinette Jackson, Ms. Althemese Barnes, Mr. Jeffrey Moates, Mr. Keenan Knopke, Senator Janet Cruz, Representative Fentrice Driskell, and Mr. Jaha Cummings.

Task Force Members Present: Dr. Parsons, Dr. Miyar, Mr. Moates, and Representative Driskell attended the meeting in person; and Ms. Lewis, Dr. Jackson, Ms. Barnes, Mr. Knopke, Senator Cruz, and Mr. Cummings joined the meeting remotely. Ms. Barnes left the meeting at 12:05 p.m.

Department of State Staff Members Present: Dr. Shruti Graf.

Members of the Public Present: Mr. Lonnie Mann.

Item I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Dr. Parsons called the meeting to order and called the roll.

Item II. Discussion of Findings and Recommendations by Task Force members

Dr. Parsons presented an updated summary of recommendations based on feedback provided by the Task Force members at the previous meeting and invited the members to share their thoughts. The findings and recommendations were grouped under three categories – “identification and protection,” “maintenance,” and “education.” Subsequently, Dr. Jackson made a motion to add “memorialization” as a fourth category to the list of recommendations, which was seconded by Mr. Knopke.

Task Force members decided to meet on December 9, 2021, to finalize the recommendations.

Item III. Public Comment

None.

Item IV. Adjourn

Dr. Parsons adjourned the meeting at 12:17 p.m.

An archive of this meeting is available on the Florida Channel at:

<https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/11-30-21-task-force-on-abandoned-african-american-cemeteries/>.



Presiding Officer

12/2/21

Date Approved