



**Second Quarterly Report to the Virginia General Assembly
on the
Emancipation Proclamation and Freedom Monument
Pursuant to Appropriation Act--Item C-1.30 C. (Special Session 1, 2012)**

**Submitted by the
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Commission
and the
Department of General Services**

May 6, 2013

Summary

The Emancipation Proclamation and Freedom Monument Work Group of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Commission held its organizational meeting on December 10, 2012, to plan and commence the feasibility study and fundraising required for the construction of a permanent monument celebrating the emancipation of slaves and freedom in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863. Funds have been appropriated for this purpose. The Department of General Services is required to provide technical assistance. The MLK Commission submitted its first quarterly report to the General Assembly on the progress made on site selection, project design, projected costs, fund raising, and project finances in January 2013.

Members of the Work Group

Senator Henry L. Marsh, III, Commission Chairman, has assigned the monument project to the Commission's Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Subcommittee, which is chaired by Dr. Robert C Vaughan, III, Commission member and President of the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities. To date, the following members have been appointed to the work group. Others may be added.

Dr. Robert C. Vaughan, III, *Work Group Chairman*
President, Foundation for the Humanities and Public Policy

Delegate Jennifer L. McClellan, *MLK Commission Vice Chairwoman*

The Honorable Viola Baskerville, *Former Secretary of Administration*

Mrs. Valerie Braxton-Williams, *Legislative Assistant for Senator Henry L. Marsh, III*

The Honorable Jean W. Cunningham, *Former Member, Virginia House of Delegates*

Mr. Lee E. Goodman, Esq., *Nonlegislative Citizen*

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Dr. Laurant Lee, *Curator of African American History, Virginia Historical Society*

The Honorable Mamie E. Locke, *Member, Senate of Virginia and MLK Commission Member*

Kirk T. Schroder, J.D., Ph.D., *Member MLK Commission*

Dr. Phillip Stone, *Member MLK Commission Lincoln Subcommittee*

Shawn O. Utsey, Ph.D., *Chair, VCU Department of African American Studies*

The Honorable Thomas C. Wright, Jr., *Member, Virginia House of Delegates and MLK Commission Member*

Ex Officio Members

The Honorable Henry L. Marsh, III, *Commission Chairman*

Advisors

Mr. Richard F. Sliwoski
Director, Department of General Services

Mr. Joseph F. Damico
Deputy Director, Department of General Services

Mr. Edward C. Gully
Director, Division of Engineering and Buildings

Mr. Don Mark
Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor

Mr. Clyde Cristman, Legislative Analyst, Senate Finance Committee

Dr. Edward L. Ayers, President, University of Richmond, University of Richmond

Potential Site Locations, Feasibility Study, Nonprofit Organization

Director of the Department of General Services Richard Sliwoski reviewed the process and procedures for the construction of state monuments and emphasized the need to identify a site before other essential matters can proceed. Among the sites discussed were: Ancarrow Landing, Burial Ground for Negroes, Jackson Ward, Lumpkins Jail Site, Manchester Dock, Monument Avenue, Rocketts Landing, Tredegar, Tredegar Vicinity, Fort Monroe, and other potential sites that may be appropriate. Due to certain limitations, requirements, and political issues the list was narrowed to Jackson Ward, Monument Avenue, and the Tredegar Vicinity (extension of Second Street). An outline of a proposed feasibility study, in cooperation with Department of General Services, for the establishment of the monument in Virginia, will be submitted to the Commission by the staff after the May 22, 2013 meeting. In addition, members appointed to the work group will compose the board of directors for the nonprofit organization needed to conduct the fundraising campaign for the monument. Requisite forms to establish a nonprofit organization for this purpose are being completed and filed with the proper state and federal authorities. Also, at the next meeting on May 22, 2013, the agenda includes items pertaining to a schedule to identify the site for the monument, consensus on the monument's interpretation, development of a case statement, a fundraising campaign and public relations strategy, and issuance of an RFP for the design and selecting a sculptor for the monument. In addition, the group began deliberations regarding the feasibility of an interpretative versus an interactive monument and agreed to continue the discussion at its next meeting.

This summary is the second quarterly report of the Commission. The report will not be filed as a state document.

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