



City of Salisbury
TRUTH Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 17, 2024

Committee Members Present

Amber Green, *Chair*
Kenisha Le’Cole, *Vice Chair*
Kat Savoy
James Yamakawa

Committee Members Absent

Nanay Paul
Samuel Henry
Joe Venosa
April Jackson—*Council Representative*

Others Present

Jessie Turner—*City Staff Liaison*
Monica Brooks

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm.

Welcome & Introductions

Approval of Minutes

- **March Minutes**—Motion by K.L. and second by J.Y. to approve the March meeting minutes. All agree.

Current Works For Discussion

- **Workplace Discrimination Training**—April 26, 2024 from 10 am-noon in HQ Council room. Advertisement will continue through email, City social media and possibly a press release or Chamber of Commerce announcement.
- **Preserving African American History**—Chipman Cultural Center & Other Landmarks—The question was asked what committee can do to more fully support the Chipman Cultural Center, a place where Frederick Douglass spoke. J.Y. asked if it is on a historical registry and if not already registered, the City should register it on the National Registry, which would provide federal protection. The committee agrees that if they want to focus on the Georgetown neighborhood, the center of that focus must be the Chipman Center. It was asked why Poplar Hill is maintained by City and the City pays a curator to live there. It was **recommended that** the committee get the board at Chipman involved in a larger conversation about

programming, rentals, the house next door, etc. J.Y. said a conversation needs to start with City and continue with others regarding Chipman and suggested it could be a form of reparation for the City to ask for it to be added to the National Registry. An idea for moving forward is to host a history tour with Ian Post from the Nabb Center and to announce it at Juneteenth.

- **Lot 10 Recommendations**—J.Y. feels that awareness is good but insufficient. A.G. commented that if there is to be redevelopment of the lot, the TRUTH Committee needs to be a part of that plan and also mentioned that historical grants might be available. J.Y. suggested that revenues from the redevelopment be added to a community fund. The committee expanded on that idea and wondered if similar action should be taken in the California and Fitzwater neighborhoods. The committee would like to plan on a conversation with the developer of Lot 10 and any developers of areas in other neighborhoods as well. This topic will remain on the agenda for discussion in future meetings.
- **City of Salisbury Housing Task Force**—A.G. provided the committee with a draft for establishing a Housing Task Force. It was stated that the Greater Salisbury Committee is in support of the City having its own task force specifically focused on rentals. It has also been recommended by our City Administrator and Council President. The Committee agreed there is lots of conversation and planning to be had and agrees this topic needs to stay on the agenda for discussion in future meetings.

Next Meeting and Adjournment

- TRUTH Committee meetings are scheduled for the third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm in the Salisbury Headquarters (HQO Conference room).
- Motion to adjourn by Kat and seconded by Kenisha. The meeting adjourned at 7:09 pm.

Minutes Taken By: Jessie Turner, City of Salisbury staff liaison