

Advisory Commission on Portraits

Meeting Minutes

October 7, 2019

Opening:

Co-chair Lanier called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm on October 7, 2019 at the Supreme Court of North Carolina, 2 E. Morgan Street, Raleigh, NC 27601.

Establishment of Quorum:

Commission staff Amanda Bryan called roll. Quorum was established with the following members present:

Rachel Blunk
Shelley Edwards
Hon. Bob Hunter
Michelle Lanier
Danny Moody
Bree Newsome-Bass
Dr. Elliot Palmer (late arrival)
R.E. "Steve" Stevenson III
Dr. Darin Waters
Hon. Willis Whichard
Dr. Lyneise Williams

Approval of Minutes:

Co-chair Lanier requested a motion to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2019 meeting. Several members so moved, and several members seconded. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote

New Business:

Primary Goals and Timeline. Commissioner Newsome-Bass read aloud the Chief Justice's letter appointing members to the Commission. Commissioners discussed the scope of the Commission's work and proposed priorities.

Co-chair Lanier moved to accept the following goals: (1) author a report, (2) respond to the News & Observer opinion piece, (3) complete a review of the paintings at the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals, and (4) create policy recommendations regarding current and future artwork.

Dr. Palmer suggested amending the motion to indicate that the Commission's work should begin with its response to the News & Observer piece.

After discussion and clarification, Judge Hunter restated the motion as amended: that the Commission's work will begin with creating a recommendation for action to be

taken regarding the portrait of Thomas Ruffin. Commissioner Newsome-Bass seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Co-chair Lanier proposed a motion to set the following goal: to create a report containing (1) a review of art in the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals, (2) recommendations on art in the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals, (3) policies for art, existing and future, and (4) any research materials, opinions, etc. to be included in an appendix to the report. The report will serve as the response to the News & Observer piece. Dr. Waters so moved, and Dr. Palmer seconded. After discussion, the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Dr. Palmer requested that Dr. Williams give a presentation on the Ruffin portrait at a future meeting. Dr. Williams agreed.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.