

RESOLUTION 19-0185
RESOLUTION BOOK 1, VOLUME 1

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING AN
AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE ACTION INITIATIVE COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, on February 12, 2019, the City of Winston-Salem Community Development/Housing/General Government Committee discussed the concept of an African American Heritage Action Initiative Committee; and

WHEREAS, the African American Heritage Action Initiative Committee is an endeavor to convey that while African Americans have performed a significant role in the development of Salem and Winston, their legacy has continued to remain unrecognized; and

WHEREAS, the goals of the initiative include connecting all sectors of the African American community and creating a vision for incorporating African American contributions into the ongoing history of the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Winston-Salem that an African American Heritage Action Initiative Committee is established as follows:

Section 1. Creation and purpose.

There is hereby created a committee to be known as the African American Heritage Action Initiative Committee whose purpose shall be to mobilize all sectors of the African American community to participate in uncensored sharing of life as an African American during segregation and the efforts of desegregation.

Section 2. Membership and appointment.

The committee shall be composed of nine members. Members of the committee shall be residents of the city who possess depths of knowledge about the local African American community and the challenges faced. Members shall be appointed by the City Council upon the recommendation of the Mayor.

Section 3. Terms of office, vacancies, and compensation.

The members of the African American Heritage Action Initiative Committee shall be appointed for a three-year term. Initially, the members shall be appointed for staggered terms. Three members shall be appointed for a three year term. Three members shall be appointed for a two year term. Three members shall be appointed for a one year term. All subsequent appointments shall be for three-year terms. Voting members shall serve no more than two terms. Initial appointees may serve their initial term plus one additional three-year term. Members shall hold office until their successors are appointed. Any vacancy resulting from a cause other than the expiration of a term shall be filled only for the unexpired portion of the term. Appointees to such partial terms may serve for the partial term plus one additional three-year term. For purposes of this section, service of less than 50 percent of a normal term shall not be deemed a term, and service for more than 50 percent shall be deemed a term. Members shall serve without compensation.

Section 4. Officers and administrative support.

The Mayor shall designate the initial chairperson of the African American Heritage Action Initiative Committee, who shall serve a term of two years. Thereafter, the committee shall elect its own chairperson each to serve a one-year term. The committee shall elect from its number a vice-chairperson who shall serve as chairperson in the chairperson's absence. The vice-chairperson initially shall serve a term of two years. After the initial term, both officers are eligible to serve multiple one-year terms as long as they are members of the committee. The Human Relations Department shall serve as secretary to the committee and provide staff support and meeting space to the committee as needed.

Section 5. Duties and responsibilities.

The duties and responsibilities of the committee shall be as follows:

- (1) Seek to coordinate the partnerships of individuals, agencies, and organizations, public and private, to frame a vision for the preservation and melding of African American contributions. The partnerships would provide various community input opportunities.
- (2) Provide leadership to create an African American collection of oral histories, photos, and relics, community-wide.
- (3) Formulate a vision on how local African American history could be melded into the permanent history of the City.

(4) To perform such other tasks as the Mayor and City Council may direct.

Section 6. Meetings and quorum.

The committee shall hold regular meetings at least once every three months. The committee may meet more frequently if the committee determines additional meetings are necessary. Five members of the committee shall constitute a quorum for conducting business. The committee shall be a public body under N.C.G.S. 143-318.9 et. seq. and shall comply with the provisions of Section 2-63 of the City Code.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall become effective upon adoption by the Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and City Council of the City of Winston-Salem, North Carolina.