



Virginia Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Commission

Tribute to Yvonne Miller Work Group

December 16, 2024, at 12:00 p.m.

General Assembly Building, House Committee Room A

mlkcommission.dls.virginia.gov

The Tribute to Yvonne Miller Work Group (the Work Group) of the Virginia Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Commission (the Commission) met in Richmond with Senator Mamie E. Locke, chair, presiding.¹ The meeting began with introductions and opening remarks followed by discussion.

Discussion: Initial Work Plan and Recommendations to the Full Commission

The Work Group held a discussion to develop a consensus on a recommendation to make to the full Commission on next steps to take in creating a tribute to honor Senator Yvonne Miller. At its previous meeting, the Work Group determined that it would explore options for creating a life-size portrait of Senator Miller to place inside the Capitol. Kirk T. Schroder, J.D., Ph.D., updated the work group on his preliminary discussions with Riggs Ward Design to draft a concept for such a portrait that would include an educational component. The Chair reported that the Senate Clerk's Office was not optimistic about finding a space inside the Capitol for a life-size portrait, but that there had been discussions underway in previous years about placing a statute of Senator Miller on the Women's Monument in Capitol Square.

After discussion, members of the Work Group determined that they would prefer to prioritize continuing to seek space inside the Capitol for a large portrait of Senator Miller and would make such recommendation to the Commission. The Work Group voted to recommend to the Commission that it move forward in working to place a life-size portrait of Senator Miller in the Capitol. Members noted that, in making this recommendation, they were not ruling out the possibility of commissioning a statue in addition to the portrait.

¹ **Members Present:** Senator Mamie E. Locke (chair), Delegate Alex Q. Askew, Senator Adam P. Ebbin (virtual), Kirk T. Schroder, J.D., Ph.D., Louise Lockett Gordon, Dr. Karen Turner Ward

Members Absent: Delegate Betsy B. Carr

For more information, see the [*Commission's website*](#) or contact the Division of Legislative Services staff:

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