



Advisory Council on Reparations

Monday, September 15, 2025

11 AM – 12:30 PM

Meeting in person and via Zoom

[Join by Zoom](#)

SEPTEMBER MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Attendance
3. Approval of the Meeting Minutes
4. Public Participation (up to 3 minutes per speaker)
5. Council Response to Public Participation
6. Research Committee Update
7. Underground Railroad Tour
8. Committee Working Groups
 - a. Research
 - b. Community Engagement
9. Adjourn



Advisory Council on Reparations

Tuesday, August 19, 2025

4 PM – 5:30 PM

Meeting in person and via Zoom

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AUGUST DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to Order
 - a. 4:14 PM
2. Attendance
 - a. Present: Bri Carpenter, Justin Hodge, Michael Steinberg, Conan Smith, Naomi Norman, Debi Khasnabis, Daniel Fryer, Alfreda Rooks, Asha Jordan
 - b. Absent: Alfreda Rooks, Anna Taylor-McCants, Asha Jordan, Leo Pittman
 - c. Public Present: Rita Chin, Rob Mickey
3. Approval of the Meeting Minutes
 - a. Motioned by: Naomi Norman
 - b. Supported by: Debi Khasnabis
 - i. Will have amendments from MS
 - c. Approved by consensus
4. Public Participation (up to 3 minutes per speaker)
 - a. Jonah Huskey-Wright: REO Intern, grateful to be in the meeting today
5. Council Response to Public Participation
6. MOU Update
 - a. Debi & Research Committee
 - i. DK: A few updates to the MOU,
 - ii. DK: Agreed Working with the council overtime to shift focus if necessary. MS has made points that the research needs to be responsive to look at the ways the county has perpetuated harm. There needs to be legal grounds for action.

- iii. DK: Rita's group will be starting the work next Friday with Faculty & Students. MS & DK will be attending the meeting to narrate what ACR needs are, but that meeting is where faculty and students will be present. After that opportunity, DS & MK will step out of those meetings for the rest of the year. Emphasized the flexibility of the relationship. Create space for the research to be generative and wide but be responsive.
- iv. RC: Really strict legal threshold for meeting direct evidence for the county's culpability in order to be able to withstand a legal challenge, that if you give that to students at the beginning, what you might end up with is them going through their research looking for the smoking gun, never finding it, and saying "we have nothing." That would be an unsuccessful research attempt. Historians must start broader, and hopefully we will find smoking guns along the way.
- v. RC: We can't really know until they start doing the work and seeing what they will find.
- vi. NN: Feels really good about where we landed. Thanks to DK for prompts for input and editing options.
- vii. MS: Very happy with how it turned out.
- viii. DF: Agrees.
- ix. CS: The only thing I would raise as a thought to keep in the back of your head, the County appointed this board based on a subset of issues, some of which aren't represented in this document. If you see impacts in these other areas, fair game.
- x. RC: That is on the initial statement that is posted on the website.
- xi. NN: Could there be an addition for "other areas possible?"
- xii. CS: Do not believe that is necessary.
- xiii. DJ: I think it is important to include food access in some capacity here. ATM would be grateful for that. And whatever is needed in terms of staffing please let us know.
- xiv. RC: Absolutely. We have great staff at UM that can help organize us. We plan to do field trips Friday from 9-11 AM to different areas of the county to see the harms.
- xv. JH: Sign me up!
- xvi. RC: I have found that it makes a difference for students, once they are in the archives studying, to actually experience what it is now vs. what it was then.
- xvii. RC: Rackham building, 9:30 AM, August 29th
- xviii. DJ: Timing for report backs to the larger group?
- xix. RC: We would use our final meeting of the semester to invite the whole ACR for students to do presentations.
- xx. RC: June 2026 the faculty will come to the ACR for a presentation.

xxi. Alfreda Moves that we approve the Scope of Work and Partnership Framework

- 1. Seconded by: DK**
- 2. Approved by consensus**

7. EOY Timeline & Action Items

a. Conan Smith

- i. CS: Not prepared, but would like to have a working session to discuss this sometime in November.
- ii. JH: Suggested a working session where many councils attend to give their update.
- iii. CS: Does anyone have their own ideas for the rest of the year?
- iv. DJ: We can engage folks through the bicentennial. There is a cool opportunity for us to utilize the bicentennial
- v. NN: Could that be something that the community engagement committees take on? Could see four different types of engagement.
- vi. DK: Is there a way for us to work with the AACHM on this? Recently went to their opening in their new space, so maybe they have space for us to have an event?

b. Meeting Time

- i. Start between 11 AM – 3:30 PM
- ii. Not during school pickup, which is 3-4 PM

iii. Third Monday from 11 – 12:30

- c. DJ: Are folks interested in doing an underground railroad tour as a part of one of our meetings in the future? Also a walking tour?
- d. Consensus: Yes

8. Committee Working Groups

a. Research

b. Community Engagement

- i. CS: Any volunteers for chair of the ACR Community Engagement committee?
- ii. AJ: I would like to do it with a vice chair.
- iii. ATM: I would like to Co-Chair. But if AR wants to do it, we can!

9. Adjourn

- a. Adjourned by consensus