

<b>Location of Meeting</b>	600 Maryland Ave, NW – 400
<b>Time of Meeting</b>	9:30am – 12:30pm
<b>Purpose of Meeting</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. NMAAHC Museum Update</li> <li>2. AE Selection Process Update</li> <li>3. Programming Presentation</li> <li>4. Next Steps</li> </ol>
<b>Attendees:</b>	Sharon Park, SI Kinshasha Holman Conwill, SI Sheryl Kolasinski Phil Freelon, Freelon Bond Gail Lord, Freelon Bond Curtis Davis, SI Jane Passman, SI Peter Cook, Freelon Bond Joy Bailey, Freelon Bond Patsy Fletcher, AAHGS Derek Wilson, ASALH Samuel Alonzo Doge, USCHS Gene Keller, NCPC

**Museum Update**

Kinshasha Holman Conwill announced that there will be another public engagement session to solicit input on what people think about a new museum on the National Mall. Other important NMAAHC milestones include:

- July release of the RFQ for the A/E firm
- Development of a collection of African American artifacts
- Expansion of Lonnie Bunch’s Vision Statement for the NMAAHC into major themes
- Brainstorming session with Smithsonian Institution’s core advisory groups in collaboration with an international delegation from Columbia.

**Update on A/E Selection Process**

Sheryl Kolasinski stated that the deadline for submission is September 19. There have been several hundred enquiries. The Smithsonian Institution will review all submissions and review the key personnel and previous experience from the most highly qualified firms. The Office of Operations and a qualifying engineer are included in the review process; architects and engineers are reviewed by other architects and engineers from the Smithsonian Institution and program staff from NMAAHC.

**Programming Presentation**

Phil Freelon provided a technical presentation of the NMAAHC programming. He noted that the design and programming process confirmed initial estimates of museum size (350,000-450,000 gsf).

Gail Lord presented data on museum visitation. She stated that the projected estimate for NMAAHC 2.5-3 million people. She stated that her methodology consisted of a market analysis (including demographic and psychographic components) and a visitor and resident survey.

In order to determine what would best attract people to the NMAAHC, Freelon Bond conducted one-on-one interviews with over 450 people on the National Mall, held public meetings in eight cities across the country, and performed a comparative analysis with the National Museum of American History (NMAH), National Museum of Natural History (NMNH), National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) and the Holocaust Museum. Their findings yielded three principles of planning. The NMAAHC should:

- 1) Have a dynamic program that attracts range of audiences

- 2) Provide an inviting building to exhibit the artifacts and the collection
- 3) Establish an operational approach to manage crowds and engage them

A powerpoint presentation provided an overview of the programming, including a Space Summary, Building Zoning, Adjacencies, and Blocking and Stacking.

Following the presentation, there was a discussion:

Gene Keller enquired if the house side of operations that would drive space usage was factored into the flexibility of work space.

*Freelon Bond responded yes, there would be office spaces that are not assigned to any individual so there would be flexibility in accommodating multiple staff. During the design phase, they took 2% of the net program to provide latitude for creative exploration.*

Gene Keller also enquired about the depiction of a four level building.

*Freelon Bond responded that they haven't specified height yet. The group agreed that this comment can be addressed in the narrative portion of the document. Sharon Park stated that construction would not move outside those parameters defined in the EIS, or a supplemental EIS would be required.*

Martha Catlin noted that the current approach is very focused on interior space and leaves assumptions of outdoor space to the imagination. She asked if the programming team would be giving more direction on outdoor space.

*Freelon Bond responded that they recognize that outdoor components will be a significant part of the visitor experience. They stated that they would encourage the design process at the very beginning to include the landscape component and bring a landscape architect and sustainability consultant on board.*

*Sara Batchelow noted that the site may have a higher percentage of wanderers due to its location on the National Mall and that museum landscape should engage and draw in these people.*

Patsy Fletcher asked for clarification on parking.

*Freelon Bond stated that there would be dome parking but there won't be a deck. They've assumed strong reliance on metro and bus. There will be bicycle racks and accessible parking.*

Nancy Witherell asked if the outreach process had yielded more insight into the visual impacts, specifically, where the backside of the museum is and how visitors will use the building.

*Freelon Bond provided extensive information on visitor use in the programming document. The Smithsonian Institution and NCPC indicated that this information (visitation numbers and truck traffic and utilization) will require some updating in the Tier II EIS.*

One participant asked if there was flexibility to move some programs off-site to show a building with a smaller footprint.

*Freelon Bond responded yes, and stated that there is more detailed information in the off-site and open/visible storage section of the programming report.*

**Process Review and Next Steps**

- Curtis Davis stated that the design principles will be revisited in spring 2009 and there will be a design expert on board by the summer 2009. The Smithsonian Institution will share the curatorial imperative which will become the basis of the design. The Smithsonian Institution will also share the design with NCPC and CFA.
- The engineering scope of work will be developed once the engineer is under contract (November 2009).
- The design competition will likely occur in December 2008 –January 2009.
- The Smithsonian Institution will commence the Tier II EIS process again, and along with that there will be concept design development and public meetings associated with the EIS and the Section 106 process.