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Sit-In Movement Inc.

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Sit-In Movement Inc. names new executive, deputy directors

BY CHAD ROBERTS
Staff Writer

After a nationwide search, Sit-In Movement Inc. has named two executives to its staff for the International Civil Rights Center and Museum. On Feb. 6 the group's board of directors named Amelia Parker as executive director and Robert Haynes as deputy director.

"We are delighted that Ms. Parker and Mr. Haynes have agreed to take on these key leadership roles," said Melvin "Skip" Alston in a press release. The Sit-In Movement Inc. chairman and county commissioner added, "With their wealth of knowledge they will be a great asset to the Sit-In Movement Inc."

Sit-In Movement Inc. was founded by Alston and former city councilman Earl Jones. The goal of the non-profit organization is to buy

the historic Woolworth building and turn it into a museum. The planned museum is the F.W. Woolworth's store where four A&T freshmen started a national movement by staging a sit-down protest at the segregated lunch counter.

So far, the organization has raised about \$6 million of the \$9 million needed for the project.

Parker is the new executive director. Parker will be taking over for McArthur Davis, who held the position for the last seven years.

In the past, Parker has worked with the Congressional Black Caucus, the National Urban League and the National Business League.

During her time with the Caucus, Parker was the person responsible for arranging visits from South Africa's President Nelson Mandela and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak

Rabin. She has been a contributing writer to publications for the Library of Congress and served as a staff assistant at the White House during the Carter administration.

Parker received her bachelor's degree from Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte and continued her studies at Iowa State University and Georgetown University Law Center.

Haynes is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley, with a master's degree in museum studies from San Francisco State University.

Haynes has worked in several museums, including the African-American Museum and Library in Oakland, Calif. and the Northern California Center for Afro-American History and Life.

Haynes also served as a

Smithsonian Institution Fellow at the National Museum of American History.

Haynes said he expects a variety of duties to come with his new position alongside Parker, but he expects to draw from his past experiences to help bring the Sit-In Movement Inc.'s board of directors' goals to fruition.

"The past experience will certainly add to the pyramid of experience that already exists here," Haynes said.

"A great deal of very fine work has been done already, envisioning and creating the groundwork and foundation for this wonderful museum and civil rights center that will commemorate the groundbreaking efforts that occurred in 1960 by the Greensboro Four," he said.