

2016 Commission 3rd Quarter Meeting Minutes

900 SW Jackson (Landon Building) Rm 560

Thursday, July 14th, 2016

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order and Welcome

KAAAC Chairman Bobby Love called the meeting to order at **10:00**

II. Roll Call

Present-Commissioners Maxwell, Coggs, Elmore, New, Love
Absent-Breathett, Houston

III. Chairman's Opening Comments- Chairman Love thanked Commissioner Coggs for her leadership

10:15 Temporary recess

Action: Bart Sprague (OTIS) took photos of the commissioners for the purpose of updating the website. Mr. Sprague is also working with the ED Cox to reformat the website and update the information as his schedule permits.

10:25 recess is ended, meeting called to order.

IV. Minutes

April 14, 2016 (2nd Quarter meeting), presented by E.D. Cox

Action: approved unanimously with no corrections

10:35 Temporary recess call by Chairman Love

Information: Governor Brownback enters meeting.

Discussion highlights:

The opening of the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture will be September 24th, 2016. Gov. Brownback will be an honored guest.

Key roles that Kansas played in establishing the National Museum of African-American History and Culture:

- **Sen. Sam Brownback** co-authored the bill establishing the Presidential Commission on the Development of the National Museum of African American History and Culture.
- **Members from Kansas serving on the commissioned board; Eric Sexton;** Wichita State University Athletic Director; Vice president for Student affairs and **Beverly Caruthers Thompson**, Topeka, KS Retired Teacher
- **Topeka** was one of 10 cities where a presidential commission held meetings to gather public comment

Governor Brownback believes that race relations in America is in desperate need of serious and substantive dialogue on how we got to where we are, and what we need to do to fix it. Gov. Brownback would like to see a presidential order calling for the establishing of a Truth

and Reconciliation Commission for the United States of America. The opening of the Museum will be a great time for such a clarion call to be issued.

Law Enforcement and Community relationships

Race relations & law enforcement across Kansas communities is reflective of some of the same negative narratives we are seeing all across the Nation. Excessive force, racial profiling, lack of diversity. KAAAC commissioners want to see efforts to address implicit bias through training and policy interventions with law enforcement agencies across the state continued and placed at a high priority.

Commissioner Love shared information on the outcomes from *the Fair and Impartial Policing Community Advisory Board Training* held in Wyandotte and Johnson Co. in March of this year. Gov. Brownback was given a copy of the Nation Police Chief magazine that mentions the ground breaking work that Kansas has been doing in this area. Commissioner Elmore shared information about the training held in Wichita and about the City's new police Chief, Gordon Ramsay. KAAAC was one of the organizations that sponsored a community "meet and greet" with the city's new chief of police. ED Cox served on the selection committee that recommended the hiring of Chief Ramsay.

KAAAC Commissioners also recommended more focus on recruitment and promotion of minority officers.

Brown Mural in the Capitol:

KAAAC Commissioner wanted to know what kind of support the community could expect from the Governor's office in regards to making the mural a reality.

Gov. Brownback said that the Brown V Board decision was a part of Kansas history that all Kansans should be proud of and expressed his support of any effort to see to the completion of the mural. His office will let KAAAC know when the next meeting of *the Capitol Preservation Committee* is scheduled.

Governor Brownback posed for a picture with the Commissioners and thanked them for their local community service and for serving on the KAAAC.

11:27 recess is ended, meeting called to order.

V. Executive Director Update

- Financial Report :
Current copy of KS African Am Affairs Commission Expenditure Report prepared by Dawn Johnson, Accountant, State Agency Service Center | Office of Financial Management distributed to Commissioners for documentation, review and discussion.
- Activity Highlights:
Initial planning of a Bias Based Policing Community/ Law Enforcement Training with Miami County: KAAAC will be partnering with Miami County Sheriff's Department at the request of Sheriff Frank Kelly. Kate Carter from Kansas Attorney General's Office to provide training. Date TBD: Pending AG's office availability.
- Identifying possible locations for the CRA training for community-based organizations. Event will be hosted by FDIC, [Office of the Comptroller of the Currency](#) (OOC) and Federal Reserve Bank. The tentative date is Monday, September 12, 2016 from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. The workshop will provide participants information about the CRA regulation and learn how community organizations can collaborate more effectively with banks. Topics include an overview of the CRA, understanding the impact of bank performance

context, the types of activities that qualify for CRA consideration, and strategies and examples of successful partnerships with banks.

- **Building Better Community/ Law Enforcement Relationships:**
“Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success”. Henry Ford
Met with District Attorney, Marc Bennett:
Gain a better understanding of the responsibilities of the District Attorney’s office.
EXPANDING USE OF DIVERSION- 55% Kansas counties use diversion at just half the national rate - resulting in more prisoners and more costs to taxpayers
Next Steps- Group Outreach efforts moving forward:
DA’s Office 101- developing a workshop for community leaders.
Bi-monthly meeting with small advisory committee.
Committee will help to design and facilitate larger meetings with community.
Recruitment of African American Attorneys (currently 2)
Possible Next Steps- KAAAC
Marc is current President of the Kansas County & District Attorneys Association
KAAAC could work with Mr. Bennett to identify community leaders in the various jurisdictions to replicate the efforts being made in Sedgwick County.
KAAAC ED- Schedule a meeting with the Kansas Department of Revenue to help understand driver license suspension/revocation in Kansas. Group identified this as a beginning gateway spiral.
Senator Faust- Goudeau may be introducing some legislation next year to address this concern.
- Commissioner Elmore (D-4) was able to recruit a college intern to work 3hr- 3days a week from June- July. Sarah Hardyway is a full time online college senior at Clayton State University (located in Morrow, Ga). Born and raised in Wichita Kansas. Biographical information sheet with photo of Sarah handed out to Commissioners.
- Webinar-The U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights (OCR)
Beyond the First Look: Turning Local Data Into Action
Explore the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights First Look Data
- Prepare advocates for upcoming release of the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights district level data
- Share potential strategies for how to use the data in organizing efforts at the local, state and federal level
- Describe limitations of the data and places where those challenges are being discussed

VI. 2017 Legislative Agenda

- A. **The Kansas African American Legislative Caucus update-**
Discussion highlights: A new Tri-Caucus may be forming– Hispanic, Native American and African American. ED will keep Commissioners informed as more information becomes available.
- B. **Kansas Black Leadership Council– September meeting (Junction City Kansas)**
Discussion highlights: KAAAC representative continue to serve on the KBLC steering committee attending monthly conference calls and organizing efforts.

C. Brown-V- Broad of Education Mural in the Capitol-
Discussed earlier during meeting with Gov. Brownback.

D. **Racial Profiling: No discussion**

E. **Payday Lending’s impact on the African American Communities in Kansas**

The 2015 Legislature introduced SB 100, which would have set a single finance charge not to exceed 36.0 percent for closed-end credit consumer loans. SB 100 was referred to the Senate Committee on Financial Institutions and Insurance. A hearing was not held on the bill and the bill died in the Committee. During the 2016 Legislative Session, HB 2695 was introduced and referred to the House Committee on Insurance and Financial Institutions. HB 2695 would have added a new section to the UCCC, to be known as the “Respectful Lending to Kansas Seniors Act.” The bill would have placed a 36.0 percent interest cap on payday loans for senior citizen consumers, as well as allowed a modification for a senior citizen’s federal adjusted gross income for the taxable year. A hearing was not held on the bill and it died in committee.

ED Cox attended the “*Everything you need to know about the Strategy Summit on the Proposed Payday Regulations*” held in Washington DC.

With the forthcoming issuance of a payday rule by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), a coalition of consumer advocacy groups, from across the country, civil rights groups and others are working together to ensure that the proposed rule is strong and effective. **Travel and lodging expenses will be covered by the coalition.*

Event highlights:

- Lenders charge triple-digit interest rates (nearly 400% on average) and will issue a loan as long as they can gain access to someone’s bank account—regardless of whether the borrower can actually afford the loan.
- The industry promotes its products as short-term, quick fix loans but 75% of its fees come from borrowers with more than 10 loans in a year, people solidly ensnared in the debt trap.
- The typical payday borrower will wind up paying \$450 in fees to take out a \$350 loan. One third of the time, when borrowers do pay off these loans, they overdraw their checking accounts, incurring yet more fees.

Discussion highlights: KAAAC commissioners believe that this is an extremely important issue for the African American community and that we need to become more versed on alternative opportunities for viable financial lending options and practices.

F. **Cultivating and growing Minority- Owned Businesses**

Attended the African American Entrepreneurship Round Table in KC
Grow Your Own – Entrepreneurship Based Economic Development

Event highlights:

Entrepreneurship based economic development focuses on creating strong local entrepreneurship ecosystems. No one program is sufficient to build the small business community alone.

5Cs of the Entrepreneurship Ecosystem

- Capital Financial Resources
- Capability Entrepreneur and Owner Skillset
- Climate Regulatory, Economic Development & Policy Environment
- Culture the local communities’ perception and support of entrepreneurship
- The Business Owner

G. **Ban The Box & Criminal Justice Reform-- Smart Justice**

Discussion highlights: Given the Chairman's (Love) experience with this issue he could assist the ED in preparing a KAAAC position statement/letter as a follow-up from the July informal meeting with the Governor.

97% of those sentenced to prison will return to communities how can we help them to become viable citizens and community members?

Follow up points:

Governor Brownback could "Ban the Box" by Executive Order. Giving people with criminal records a "fair chance" when pursuing a job with state agencies.

If a person has not re-offended (committed a crime in 10 years or longer)

Look into automatic expungement after required amount of time needed to fulfill sentence (parole, probation, jail time)

Determine what other States have taken this kind of action and find out who is working on legislation in this area and see how KAAAC can support the effort.

*refer to chart *Severity of Crimes and Expungement -July 1, 2015.*

H. Infant Mortality- **No discussion**

I. Criminal Justice Reform(Smart Justice)

VII. **2017 Calendar of Events --MLK 2017-January 12th, 2017**

MLK Day (officially Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.) is an American federal holiday marking the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr. It is observed on the third Monday of January each year, which is around King's birthday, January 15.

MLK 2017-January 12th, 2017

Theme- **TBD**

Lead Commissioners- **New, Love, Coggs**

Lead legislators- **TBD** Sen. Haley (?), Rep. Winn (?), Rep. Ben Scott (?)

Speaker: **TBD**

Black History Month: The history of the African-American experience in Kansas

Theme- **TBD**

Lead Commissioners -**TBD**

Lead legislators- **TBD**-Rep. Barbara Ballard, Rep. Willie, (?) Dove, (?)

Literacy Day at the Capitol- March 2, 2017

The mission for Literacy Day at the Capitol is to bring awareness to the efforts being made to inspire a lifelong love of reading for underserved Kansas children from birth to age 8. Our goal is to afford an opportunity for children's literacy stakeholders and legislators to convene around the issue of children's literacy and its positive impact on the sustainability of our state's economic future.

**Governor reading roadmap*

Theme- "Why Reading Matters"

Lead Commissioners: **New-Maxwell**

Lead legislators- Sen. Faust-Goudeau

Financial Literacy Month (Money Smart Kansas) March 31st, 2017

April Financial Literacy Month and Money Smart week is a collaborative initiative sponsored by several organizations that understand the importance of and actively support financial education.

Theme- **TBD**

Lead Commissioners- **Coggs, Breathett**

Lead legislators- **TBD**-Rep. Finney, Rep. Toni Barton

VIII. Old Business

2016 Commission Retreat: **Date scheduled for 8-25-16**

Youth and adult Mentoring- *My Brother's Keeper*

Follow Action: ED Cox should contact Mr. Gabriel from Made Men, and his organization is interested in spearheading the MBK Kansas Initiative.

IX. New Business

X. Announcements

XI. Adjournment : 2:35 pm