Minutes of the Kansas African American Affairs Commission Monthly Meeting  
December 8, 2023, 1:30 pm   
Meeting held via Zoom

1. Chairman Mark McCormick called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm.
2. Roll Call
   1. Present: Davis, McCormick, McRoy, New, Penn, Westbrook, Knoell
   2. Absent: Lewis
3. Approval of Agenda – Approval of Agenda
   1. Motion – Westbrook, Penn
   2. Vote – unanimously
4. Approval of Minutes of last meeting
   1. Motion – New, Davis
   2. Vote - unanimously

Executive Director Knoell went to the business of the meeting, the approval of one subsection of the bylaws. The approval was moved by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner McRoy but during discussion, Commissioner Penn objected to the wording change of the bylaws and requested the group follow the agenda and allow for committee reports.

No vote on a bylaws change was held.

The Budget Committee report centered around a demand for financial information contained in letters received on Monday, November 27, at 2:38 am which contain the following passage that dominated the remainder of the meeting.

“In support of the Commission’s meeting on December 1, 2023, the Budget Committee requires all fiscal information shall be supplied, with its confirmation of receipt, to the Committee no later than 6pm Tuesday, November 28, 2023. Simultaneous notification of the Budget Committee’s requirement letter shall also be sent to the Commission’s Chairman, in accordance with the Kansas Open Records Act.”

The resulting disagreement centered on whether a written request for documentation including the phrase, “in accordance with the Kansas Open Records Act,” should be interpreted as a Kansas Open Records Act request. The body failed to reach a consensus.

Commissioner New suggested that the members of the Budget Committee and the Executive Director along with Commissioner Davis should meet offline to discuss how the concerns of the Budget Committee may be addressed.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:56 pm.