Minutes from 1\_6\_2023

Chair Mark McCormick called the meeting to order at 1:31 pm.

Commissioners Present: Davis, Lewis, McCormick, Penn, Westbrook, Director Knoell

Special Guests Present: Members of the Black Legislative Caucus, Sen. Oletha Faust-Goudeau, Rep. Ford Carr, Rep. Brad Boyd, and Rep. Patrick Penn

The point of this meeting was for KAAAC and the Black Legislative Caucus to be introduced to one another and to hear what is important to each group.

Sen. Faust-Goudeau indicated that she had emailed everyone that morning concerning the current statute, over time individuals have contacted her about the statute, and she will introduce a committee bill to add language to define the difference between meetings to clarify the original intent of a town hall meeting. She has 10 bills, including holiday sales tax, SB2 revoked driving license bill, Crown Act, and discussed with Rep. Winn about the MLK event (have a law about a Hispanic and Native American day in the law) House Dems have scheduled a retreat on the same time as the MLK event, she wants it to be in law that that day is reserved.

The bulk of the meeting focused on gathering ideas for a KAAAC legislative priority list. There were several ideas mentioned. So many that it was decided that the Executive Director should compile the list of ideas and email it out to the Commissioners. Commissioners should then indicate their top 5 from that list and the following week the group will meet again to vote on the results.

Proposed legislative agenda ideas in the order of how they came up in the meeting

* Medicaid Expansion
* Childcare – how to pay the workers a living wage
* Driver’s license, fees connected with suspensions of driver’s license
* CROWN Act
* Holiday for sales tax on school supplies
* Veteran’s Benefits through the state
* Veteran’s Benefit Bill
* Bail reform
* Medicaid Expansion
* Eliminating the food sales tax
* Policing and training, specifically in-depth stop data
* Child Daycare
* Broadband access
* Mental Health Access
* Black Maternal Care
* Fully Funding Special Education

The balance of the meeting time was to discuss the recent events in Valley Center where students shouted racially derogatory things at Black students on the basketball team. Commissioners McRoy and McCormick have been working on a letter calling on accountability for the students involved in the incident. Since the commission is set to meet the following Friday to discuss the legislative priorities, the full discussion of any letter will be postponed until then.

The special meeting is set for Friday, January 13th, 1:30 pm via zoom

Meeting adjourned: 3:09 pm