4\_7\_23 Minutes

Call to order 2:33

Commissioners Present: Mark McCormick, Jonathon Westbrook, Anthony Lewis, Jonathan McRoy

Absent: Dr. Trent Davis, Dr. Beryl New, Talia Penn

Special Guests: Troy Spain, ED of the Kansas Civic Table.

ED Update: The Monday Lunch and Learn series is continuing and gaining viewers and encouraging people to go to the KAAAC YouTube channel. We have hired an intern, Mia Anthony. Commissioners Mark McCormick and Talia Penn and ED Knoell attended a meeting in Wichita, Kansas focused on the child welfare system in Sedgwick County. The meeting was a joint venture with the Kansas Department of the Child Advocate and Wichita community organizer, Mary Dean. Others in attendance included Brooke Towne and Kerrie Lonard of the KDCA, Tonya Keys (DCF), Dee Nighswonger (DCF), and Valerie Leon (St. Francis). This meeting is viewed as the first of several to be held with the next one already tentatively scheduled for July 22.

Guest Presentation: Troy Spain, ED of the Kansas Civic Table presented on how to power map the Black community in Kansas. This project is in part to answer the question, “How do we reach the Black community.” The hope is to have an in person meeting of the Commission to gather information on the organizations around the state that serve the Black population. This project is in its infancy and we will continue to figure out the best way to gather information as well as the best practice on storing or sharing the information.

Announcements: The 250th US birthday involvement – Rep. Susan Estes first contacted Director Knoell last year about this project and it is now starting in earnest. Our point of contact is Susan Metzger with Daughters of the American Revolution. The Kansas Semi-Quincentennial Commission is charged with planning and implementing a series of events and experiences most fitting for our Kansas citizens to observe 250 years of achievements, events, and trials that shaped our state and nation. The ED of KAAAC, KHLAAC, KNAA, and various others are on the commission. (The ED or someone of their choosing.) This Commission will meet in the Kansas Capitol from 9:00 am to noon on May 3rd. A draft agenda will be provided in advance of the meeting.