7\_7\_23 July meeting minutes of the Kansas African American Affairs Commission

Chairman Mark McCormick called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm

Commissioners present: Davis, McCormick, Penn, Westbrook, Lewis, McRoy, (Knoell)

Commissioners Absent: New

Chairman’s opening comments: Chair McCormick commented that he would like to see the chair position rotate throughout the commission so that everyone would get the opportunity to have the responsibility.

Director Knoell informed the commission that the audit is complete but will remain confidential until it is made public sometime in the fall. It is unclear when that will happen, but she will inform the commission as soon as she knows. The audit did prompt her to seek input from the Governor’s office legal counsel concerning the responsibilities of the commission. In light of that, the remainder of the meeting would be focused on 3 things: reading the statute, reading the bylaws and holding elections of officers.

Once the statute and bylaws were read the discussion surrounded the feasibility of doing everything listed, the logistics of establishing a large number of committees given the size of the commission, and the potential of having at least a yearly meeting with the Governor.

Chairman McCormick did raise the question of fairness and due process to have the opportunity to respond to the audit.

The commission conducted officer elections, re-electing Mark McCormick as chair and Johnathan McRoy as vice-chair. Commissioner Penn pointed out that the board does not have a treasurer. Executive Director Knoell suggested for the commission to establish a finance or budget committee and for Penn to chair that committee. Due to time, the discussion of specific committees was tabled until the next meeting.

The motion to adjourn came with a reminder for members to consider what sub-committees they would like to serve on and that will be the discussion at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:03pm.