

COAA JULY 2015 MINUTES

7/1/2015	6:05PM	OFFICE ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS	4 th Floor
Meeting Called By	Chairwoman/ Commissioner Akua Asare		
Secretary	Commissioner Kedist Geremaw		
Attendees	<p>Commissioners: Akua Asare, Chime Asonye, Ify Nwabukwu, Lafayette Barnes , Kedist Geremaw ,Loide Jorge, Louisa Buadoo-Amoa, Yinusa Yusuff .</p> <p>OAA Dir: Mamadou Samba Deputy Dir: Heran Sereke- Berhan</p> <p>Outreach Specialist Bezawit Mane Interns: Busola Fajolu, TifeAdetunji</p> <p>Public : J. Jackson, D. Koroma, F. Barrie, M. Ford, J. Mbianda, R. Maheteme, C. Lampejo-Pyne,</p>		
OLD BUSINESS			
May Minute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes were approved (with minor correction) by Commissioner Ify and seconded by Commissioner Yusuff. 		
Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daniel Koroma- Community Outreach Manager, Montgomery County M. Ford- Mignon Innes Ford Foundation R. Maheteme- Middle Passage Media John Jackson – <u>UNIA</u> African Union Liaison Officer J. Mbianda- ACCDF F. Barrie –AAA Montgomery County 		
STANDING BUSINESS			
COAA/OAA Community input/ public Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioner Chair Akua- opened the meeting by focusing on the untimely death of Dr. Nana Seshibe former chair of COAA, as request was made by the family for a monetary contribution. Commissioners voted to honor that request and raise the funds. Deadline was set for July 15 (the fund will be collected from each Commissioners and sent to the chair and be presented to the family (some of the Commissioners will join the chair on the day of the visit). In order to connect with the community effectively, the chair stressed on the need for COAA to have structural changes when conducting business. One of the ways discussed was to form representatives /2 ambassadors from each ward based on the 8 wards of the city (a total of 16 ambassadors) and 4- 5 commissioners serving as direct liaison. Commissioner Kedist asked if that creates an overlap / duplication of duties for the Commissioners. Commissioner Lafayette- suggested the need for civic engagement at all levels Commissioner Chime and Commissioner Louisa-- talked about the proposed COAA draft bylaws, and the need for commissioners to review and suggest changes by July 15. Commissioner Loide talked about all task to have a systematic approach in order to create accountability and cohesiveness. Ras –wanted to form a working relationship between adjacent cities and requested the participation of OAA at a function on September 26th to be held in Montgomery County. F. Barrie – Stressed the need to collaborate to work on issues facing the African Diaspora in the tri-state regions (DC, MD, and VA). Public participants, both Miniabiy and John stressed the need and importance of including every sector of the African diaspora in the decision making process. 		
OAA REPORT Issue 1: Director Mamadou Samba	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young African ConneXions Annual Summit 2015 is slated for July 17, 2015 at Howard University’s School of Business In the spirit of civic engagement and advocacy, Mandela Day of Service will be commemorated on July 18, 2015by street clean up activity. All are encouraged to attend. The event will be held at Alabama Avenue and Naylor Road. Office of the Chief Technology Officer in collaboration with OAA will provide training for each 30 participants of 4 sessions (a total of 120 participants) with the goal of 5% of the top performing interns to find gainful employment after training. 		

