

COAA Meeting - 04/09/2014

Call to order – 06:30pm

Present: Mamadou Samba; Loide Jorge; Akua Asare, Kedist Geremaw; Lafayette Barnes; Ify Nwabukwu; Ngozi Nmezi; Heran Sereke Brhan; Sherif El Hassan; Tsedey Aragie ; Tereguebode Goungou; Louisa Buadoo-Amoa

Introduction & Announcement

- Last meeting minutes accepted pending attendance log edits
- Co-Chair to email list of committees to new commissioners to select which one they would like to be involved with.
- Loide provided update of meeting with Mayor's Chief of Staff, Chris Murphy regarding the proposed African Community Center. A discussion was held about the take-always, and learning lessons from the meeting; how we could have better prepare for it and better strategies going forward. The COAA also discussed re-strategizing and revamping the proposal to better defining the funding strategies, operational strategies, and the role the COAA will play.
- Ngozi gave an update of African Community Grant launched, noted high attendance.
- Commissioner Kedist Geremaw introduced idea of tallying Africans in DC – entertained creating a sub-committee to conduct research on this topic and collect data. Idea was put aside until clear definition and identification of resources and methods.
- Commissioner Lafayette suggested the restructuring of the existing committees to align them with priorities and goals of the COAA.
- Meeting adjourned: 07:45pm