

**COAA August 2017 MINUTES**

**The following minutes are taken as the COAA/ MOAA and the public input was reported.**

		<b>OFFICE ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Floor</b>
<b>Meeting called by</b>	Lydia Nylander		
<b>Secretary</b>	Noel Karl Lebondzo Gandou		
<b>Attendees</b>	<u>Commissioners:</u> Lydia Nylander, Abdel Maliki, Kedyst Geremaw, Noel Karl Lebondzo Gandou, Lafayette Barnes <u>Intern:</u> N/A <u>Public :</u> Willie Kahindo, Judy O`Babatunde, Truit Prosper		
<b>July Minutes</b>	Meeting minutes were accepted as distributed with minor corrections		
<b>Introduction</b>	Chair Nylander opened the meeting by welcoming the commissioners and public attendees.		
<b>STANDING BUSINESS</b>			
	<p>Debrief</p> <p>The director Mamadou Samba</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thanked all the commissioners particularly Commissioner Lafayette who was the MC for the 3rd Annual Young African ConneXions Summit and Chair Lydia Nylander for being an outstanding panelist</li><li>• Mandela Day of service was great and the Director expressed how glad he was for the large turnout of participation. He reiterated that these sorts of events are very important and MOAA can always use the support from COAA and the communtoy.</li><li>• Director Mamadou asked for suggestions on how to improve future events.</li><li>• Commissioner Lafayette was also happy about the events we had on July with The MWF.</li><li>• He suggested that MOAA and COAA should remain in</li></ul>		

	<p>contact with the Mandela Washington Fellows and continue in looking for ways to develop further relationship upon their return</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow up with the Mandela Washington Fellows is needed to make sure that the idea of volunteerism promoted during the Mandela Day of Service can continue even in their respective countries.</li> <li>• Madame Chair Nylander added that Mandela Legacy must be remembered and that we need to play our part, and remain engaged with the community that we serve</li> <li>• Next year will be Nelson Mandela 100 years and we need to plan a bigger event and get even more people involved in the community services to honor his memory.</li> <li>• Commissioner Chibu highlighted some challenges faced during the event especially the directions to get to Anacostia Park during Mandela Day of service.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Upcoming events</b></p>	<p>1 . September African Heritage Month  African Heritage Month Kick-off with COAA/ August 31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Happy hour similar to what we had with the MWF on August 31st to start September African Heritage Month</li> </ul>