

COAA May 2015 MINUTES

5/6/2015	6:10PM	OFFICE ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS	4 th Floor
Meeting Called By	Chairwoman/ Commissioner Akua Asare		
Secretary	Commissioner Kedist		
Attendees	<p>Commissioners: Akua Asare, Chime Asonye, Ify Nwabukwu, Lafayette Barnes , Loide Jorge, Louisa Buadoo-Amoa, Yinusa Yusuff</p> <p>OAA Dir: Mamadou Samba Deputy Dir: Heran Sereke- Brhan Outreach Specialist Bezawit Mane Intern: Goshu Wolde, Fatoumata Conde, Behailu W/ Yohannes</p> <p>Public: J. Jackson, D. Koroma, S. Bobanie, J. Ugorji, C. Oriaku, K. Pyne</p>		
OLD BUSINESS			
April Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes were approved by Louisa Seconded by Kedist 		
Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daniel Koroma- Community Outreach Manager, Montgomery County Chidi Oriaku Okeoma- VP National Association of Nigerian Nurses in north America Julia Uggorji- President National Association of Nigerian Nurses in north America John Jackson – African Union liaison officer Kwesi Pyne- Private citizen Sonia Bobanie- intern Montgomery County OCP 		
STANDING BUSINESS			
OAA REPORT – Director Mamadou Samba	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new Community Outreach Specialist was introduced The immigration work shop was successfully conducted spearheaded by commissioner Loide. The budget hearing went well, and a remark was also made that COAA members’ absence at the hearing was felt by OAA , it was pointed out that future members participation is pivotal for every activity. In the meantime there was also an acknowledgement that COAA members have participated in previous budget hearings and other activities. 		
COAA/OAA ISSUE 1: Community input	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Koma the outreach manager talked about the need for Montgomery county and OAA to work together in order to maximize outreach by working as a united force. Mr Pyne- suggested on a need for establishing PAC (Political Action Committee) Commissioner Lafayette- suggested the need for civic engagement at all levels Commissioner chime- agreed on collaborative work and suggested on points of engagement Commissioner Louisa- suggested for COAA to be part of the unified team The chair/ Commissioner Akua- stressed on readiness and timeline, as well as means and ways of what the focus should be. 		
Issue 2: Deputy Director Heran	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned workshop on grant proposal will focus on entities serving the African Diaspora. Commissioner Kedist brought about the concerns brought by some in the Diaspora on grant awarded to repeated grantee 		
ISSUE 3: Budget Mark up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The response was that it is designed as a capacity building mechanism and the grant was awarded for those who have their proposal submitted in accordance to what is expected from OAA. There have been and will be several workshops designed to address the needs in submitting the proper proposal and on the requirement. Public safety the diaspora 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandela day of service - Youth summit, seminar • As to Commissioners Yusuf commented on the need for those interested to testify in the budget hearing or the markup to be well versed and familiarize with the procedure.
NEW BUSINESS	
ISSUE 1: ISSUE 2:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget mark up to be held on May 13. • Grant proposal workshop May 15 & 18 • Public Safety Raskforce- May 27 • Mandela Day of Service July 18 • Bylaws will be drafted by Commissioners Louisa and Chime by July • Commissioners Ify and Lafayette will collaborate with the Montgomery chapter

End of meeting 8:20PM