

African-American Affairs Commission
 Approved Minutes for September 5, 2012
 Legislative Office Building – 1B

Present: Commissioner **Canterbury**, Commissioner **DelGado**, Commissioner **Harris**, Commissioner **Hugley**, Commissioner **McBride**, Commissioner **Pierre-Louis**, Commissioner **Thompson** and Commissioner **Washington**

Absent: Commissioner **Campbell**, Commissioner **Clark** and Commissioner **Wright**

Staff in Attendance: AAAC Executive Director, **Glenn Cassis**

Public:

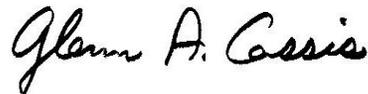
Agenda Item	Discussion (<i>brief summary</i>)	Action (<i>and by whom</i>)
Meeting called to order	6:00 pm Called to order	Chairperson Fred Pierre-Louis
Roll Call	8 Present and 3 absent	Executive Director Glenn Cassis
Public Comment	<u>None</u>	
Minutes	May 2, 2012 Minutes Approved.	Moved by Commissioner McBride , seconded by Commissioner Canterbury
Treasurer's Report	<u>Treasurer's report</u> – The Executive Director distributed a revised FY 2014-2015 budget. He met with the Office of Legislative Management and it was recommended that more money go into personnel. There is now in the budget 3 permanent full time positions. Executive Director, Legislative Analyst, Sr. Legislative Secretary and a part-time session person. This has been added into the budget. There may be increases for staff of 3 – 4%.	
Chairperson's Report	<u>Chair Report</u> – Chairperson Pierre-Louis shared information from the August 15, 2012 Executive Committee Meeting. The Commission will be implementing the consultant's follow up plan. The Commission will have 4 Committees: <u>Public</u>	

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	<p><u>Relations</u> to be headed by Commissioner Kristen Clark, <u>Internal Affairs</u> by Commissioner Donna Campbell, <u>Community Issues</u> by Commissioner Darryl Hugley and the <u>Classic Awards</u> by Commissioner Alphonse Wright. Chairperson Pierre-Louis will make sure that all other Commissioners are approached about serving on at least one of the four committees.</p> <p>Commission vacancies were discussed. There are currently 10 vacancies, Litchfield, Windham, New London, New Haven, Middlesex and Tolland Counties.</p>	
<p>Executive Director's Report</p>	<p>The Executive Director mentioned that the AAAC Talent Bank has been revised and updated. All in the Talent Bank were contacted to see if they remained interested in serving on boards and commissions. All information was updated and the bank is now current.</p> <p>Mr. Cassis informed the Commissioners that the summer interns assisted the staff over the summer; 2 high school students and 2 law students were able to assist the staff with updating data bases as well as a great deal of research work. The law students researched information about prosecutors in CT. One of the law students expressed an interest in continuing to work with us during session.</p> <p>Mr. Cassis also shared information about upcoming events that the AAAC will be taking part in. He asked that the Commissioners pass along the important events and mentioned that these events are open to the public.</p> <p><u>NAACP Harmony Classics</u> – NAACP Harmony Classic football game will be held at Southern Connecticut State University on September 15, 2012 at 1:00 PM. Tailgating parties will begin at 10:00 AM. At this event there will be a Health Fair which is open to the public. The health fair will be conducting health screenings, blood pressure testing and</p>	

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	<p>much more, including voter registration.</p> <p><u>The Battle of Antietam Reenactment</u> – Will be held at Wickham Park in Manchester, CT on September 29 – 30th from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM.</p> <p><u>Black Men: Take Charge of Your Health Day</u> – October 27, 2012 at Hartford Hospital. A half day of information sessions, health screenings, networking, healthy cooking demonstrations, and much more.</p> <p><u>Red Cross Diversity Reception</u> – October 30, 2012 The Red Cross Diversity Reception will be held at the Governor’s residence. The purpose of the reception is to increase the number of African-American blood donors.</p> <p><u>Commission on Health Equity</u> – Is moving forward with setting up their legislative agenda for the fall.</p>	
Resolutions	<u>Resolution # 165</u> – BE IT RESOLVED: That the African-American Affairs Commission will adopt the use of Consent Agenda for all regular Commission meetings.	Moted by Commissioner Harris , seconded by Commissioner McBride
Committee Report	<u>None</u>	
Old Business	<u>None</u>	
New Business	<p><u>Federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA)</u> – Mr. Cassis mentioned that the AAAC was asked to consider joining as a signatory “friend of the court” challenging Section 3 of the Federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA).</p> <p>Federal guidelines do not support same sex unions as states do. Federal government denies some of these rights. The challenge is, if a person has rights that are recognized by their state then the federal law should be the same.</p>	

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	<p>After discussion the Commission decided that this is not an issue for the AAAC. Because the NAACP is a civil rights organization this should be passed on to the NAACP.</p> <p><u>Xcel myRetreat</u> – The organization Xcel will be holding a woman’s retreat in Chester, CT on September 22 and 23 for women between the ages of 18 and 25. Scholarships will cover the cost for selected women. Workshops will be offered to help women achieve their educational and professional goals. Mr. Cassis distributed the information and asked the Commission to forward the information to their communities.</p> <p><u>International Tracing Services</u> – A service provided the Red Cross to assist families separated by armed conflict or disaster. Families have no way to reconnect with their loved ones and this service is free of charge. Mr. Cassis asked that the Commissioners pass along this information.</p>	
Upcoming Events	See Executive Director’s Report	
Adjournment	Adjourned at 7:05 PM	Moved by Commissioner Canterbury seconded by Commissioner DelGado

Respectfully Submitted



Glenn A. Cassis, Executive Director

Approved by

Donna Campbell, Secretary /Date