

African-American Affairs Commission
 Approved Minutes for September 4, 2013
 Legislative Office Building – Room 1B

Present: Commissioner **Campbell**, Commissioner **Canterbury**, Commissioner **Clark**, Commissioner **DelGado**, Commissioner **Harris**, Commissioner **Hugley**, Commissioner **Jones**, Commissioner **McBride**, Commissioner **Pierre-Louis**, Commissioner **Thompson**, and Commissioner **Wright**

Absent: Commissioner **Darity** and Commissioner **Washington**

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

Public: **Dr. Bonsu Osei, Professor ECSU and the Ghanaian High School Principals**

Agenda Item	Discussion <i>(brief summary)</i>	Action <i>(and by whom)</i>
Meeting called to order	6:01 pm Called to order	Chairman Dr. Fred Pierre-Louis
Roll Call	11 Present and 2 absent	Executive Director Glenn Cassis
Public Comment	Commissioner Canterbury introduced Dr. Bonsu Osei, Professor at Eastern Connecticut State University and the Ghanaian High School Principals. The principals are leading educators from Ghana visiting Connecticut to learn best practices in secondary education that can be operationalized in Ghana. Executive Director, Cassis shared the group's agenda for the week with the Commission. The group expressed their gratitude for the hospitality shown by the AAAC.	
Consent Agenda	Consent Agenda - Budget Report, Approval of May 2013 Minutes, July (unofficial) Summary of minutes and Executive Committee Reports.	Moved by Commissioner Wright , seconded by Commissioner Jones
Chair Report	The Chairman, Dr. Pierre-Louis announced Commissioner Hugley's resignation as Chair of the Community Issues Committee. Commissioner Harris has agreed to chair the committee.	
E.D. Report	The Executive Director shared information about the Ghanaian principal's visit to local high schools and information on the conferences they attended and the reception hosted by the AAAC. The visit has been very	

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	<p>successful. Mr. Cassis talked about the achievement gap study that was performed on Windsor High School. Copies of the study were distributed to the board, they were asked to review and share it with their districts. Commissioner Harris shared information about the achievement gap in both the Bloomfield and the Windsor school systems. He shared that “low expectations” has a great effect on this issue. He has asked that the Commission become more involved in this issue.</p>	
Committee Reports	<p><u>Internal Affairs Committee</u> – Commissioner Campbell mentioned that the committee is moving forward with the decision to reconnect with Kenya Rutland regarding strategic planning. October 12th and October 26th from 9:00 – 1:00 were suggested dates for the session. Motion to proceed was made by Chairman Pierre-Louis, was seconded by Commissioner Canterbury.</p> <p><u>Classic Awards Committee</u> – Commissioner Wright shared the ceremony photos with the Commission and has asked that the photos be posted to our face book page and our website.</p> <p><u>Public Relations Committee</u> – Commissioner Clark continues to update and maintain the Commission’s face book page. She mentioned that the Commission has over 200 friends and that we should continue to share our face book link when possible to create a greater following.</p> <p><u>Community Issues</u> – Commissioner Hugley shared NAACP report that focused on the hiring disparities of hospitals in Connecticut and the elimination of key provisions in the voting rights act. He has asked the Commission to look further into the issues and provide support where needed.</p>	
Resolutions	None	

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Old Business	<p>The Commission discussed the upcoming October Commission meeting. The meeting will be held in New London at Connecticut College. Suggested themes were voter suppression, criminal justice, education, affordable care act and job creation. Commissioner Clark suggested that the Representatives and Senators from New London be notified and invited to attend. She also suggests that they inform us on any key issues in their area that should be addressed. Commissioner Jones will finalize all details.</p> <p>It was announced that Patsy Darity has rejoined the commission. A total of 8 vacancies remain. Commissioners were reminded to send out reappointment letters to their appointing authorities.</p> <p>Commissioner Hugley shared information about the Apology for Slavery Ceremony that he and the Executive Director attended in New Haven on August 29th.</p> <p>Mr. Cassis informed the Commission about the status of the Legislative Analyst search. Still in the review process, interviews will be held next week and the Commission will be notified when a decision has been made.</p>	
New Business	None	
Legislative Agenda	No Report	
Upcoming Events	September 20, 2013 – Amistad Committees 25 th Anniversary Celebration Banquet at Amarante’s Sea Cliff in New Haven.	
Adjournment	Adjourned at 7:35 PM	Moved by Commissioner Pierre-Louis seconded by Commissioner Wright

Respectfully Submitted Glenn A. Cassis
 Glenn A. Cassis, Executive Director

Approved by _____
 Donna Campbell, Secretary /Date