

COMMITTEE NOTES

**Ad Hoc Committee Meeting on Black Archives of Mid-America, Inc.
Kansas City Public Library
Board of Trustees
August 19, 2011**

The Ad Hoc Committee on Black Archives of Mid-America, Inc. of the Board of Trustees of the Kansas City Public Library, pursuant to official notification, met Friday, August 19, 2011 at 12:00 p.m. at the Black Archives of Mid-America, Inc., 1722 E. 17th Terrace, Kansas City, Missouri.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Olivia Dorsey (Chair)
Leon Dixon
Billie Howard Barnes

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rose Marie Bell
Jonathan Kemper (ex officio)

OTHER TRUSTEES PRESENT: David Mayta

STAFF PRESENT: Crosby Kemper III, Chief Executive
Cheptoo Kositany-Buckner, Deputy Director
Heather Pedersen, Administrative Officer

OTHERS PRESENT: Anthony Arnold, Trustee - Black Archives of
Mid-America, Inc.
Taylor Fields, Trustee - Black Archives of
Mid-America, Inc.
Denise Gilmore, Trustee - Black Archives of
Mid-America, Inc.
Barbara Peterson, Chairperson - Black Archives of
Mid-America, Inc.

Dorsey called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m.

Dorsey welcomed the Black Archives of Mid-America, Inc. Trustees in attendance.

Kositany-Buckner reported that exhibit development is nearing 85% completion and that the reaction from the community was positive regarding the exhibit panels displayed at the Junteenth celebration. An RFP for fabrication of the exhibits will be posted in September with an October due date. Fabrication is expected to begin in November with completion in February 2012. The exhibits for the main floor were designed to tell the story of African Americans in Kansas City using the collections within the Archives. The exhibit will be entitled "With Eyes No Longer Blind" after the poem by Langston Hughes. The Alvin Ailey exhibit is still in development. The designer is working on

interactive elements which will include monitors and touch-screen displays to allow visitors to explore beyond the themed captions.

Peterson reported that the proposed grand opening date for the Archives is June 2012. The proposed schedule allows for completion of exhibit fabrication and installation and will maximize public awareness by coinciding with the Juneteenth celebration and activities planned by the 18th and Vine community around the All-Star Games to be played in Kansas City.

Discussing the search for a Director, Peterson reported that the Black Archives Board is preparing to enter negotiations with the top candidate for the position.

Discussing financials C. Kemper stated that the budget is under revision based on operations expenses to date and expectations of salary requirements for the Archives Director. The revised budget will be presented to the Black Archives Board at an upcoming meeting.

Howard Barnes arrived at 12:00 p.m.

Peterson announced that the Black Archives is going to participate with the Kansas City Museum in the “America I Am” exhibit coming to Kansas City in October. Portions of the Archives exhibit panels will be on display as part of this event at Union Station.

The meeting adjourned at 12:33 p.m.

Olivia Dorsey, Chair
Ad Hoc Committee

Date