



## Commission Board Meeting Minutes Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Chairman Robert Marshall Jr. called the Commission Board Meeting to order on Wednesday, March 17, 2010 at 10:15am in the Indiana Government Center South Conference Room 4.

### **Roll Call**

Kenneth Allen (KAFFE, Inc.), Laura Heinrich (proxy for ISDH), Tony Kirkland (ICRC), Mindy Lewis (member-at-large), Robert Marshall (100 Black Men), Elijah Neal Jr. (member-at-large), Adrienne Shields (DFR), Lynn Smith (proxy for DMH), Representative Dr. Vernon Smith, Senator Greg Taylor, Wayne Wellington (IPS)

**Staff** – James E. Garrett Jr., Malika Mays

**Guest** – Shatana Nixon w/ FSSA/DFR, Rodney Bussell w/ Boys & Girls Club of Indpls

### **Prayer**

Kenneth Allen

### **Adoption of Minutes**

Tony Kirkland made a motion to accept the February 24, 2010 minutes; Mr. Allen second; minutes approved unanimously

### **Financial Report**

Shatana Nixon briefly went over the budget report. Currently \$74,958.14 is our operations account (1000) balance, and \$28,173.77 is our donations account (6000) balance with \$90,000.00 invested through the State Treasurer.

### **Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Garrett briefly went over his Executive Director's report. He reminded members about upcoming events for the Commission. He also provided members with a copy of his report for review.

### **Old Business**

#### *Commission Retreat Update*

The Commission's retreat will be held on Tuesday, April 27, 2010 on the IUPUI campus from 8:30am – 1:30pm; Lunch will be provided. The agenda for the retreat will focus on the Commission's statute, sharpening the focus on one or two focus areas, and addressing some of the issues brought forth to assist the commission with moving forward through process. Reminder notices will be sent out to Commissioners and proxies.

### ***State Conference Update***

Mr. Garrett briefly provided members with an update on the conference planning process. The theme for this year's state conference is "Black Men: Preparing To Succeed." It will be held on October 14-15, 2010 at the Indiana Government Center. Due to the economy, planning for this year's conference remains to be a challenge as we are trying to keep the budget under \$25,000. Commission staff has also prepared solicitation packets for distribution. Due to the Deputy Director's vacant seat, members briefly discussed their concerns in regards to planning of the conference; members decided to put together a sub committee to assist with the planning. Sub committee members include Kenneth Allen, Elijah Neal, Tony Kirkland, Wayne Wellington, and Senator Taylor

### **New Business**

#### ***Grant Project Initiative for Local Commissions***

Mr. Kirkland has been looking into ways of more engagement and support with our local commissions. He would like to start a grant initiative to be given annually or as seed monies for the creation of programs. Members feel this idea needs to be discussed in more detail as we have a small staff and this type of project requires a lot of time and management. He also explored the idea of using the remaining funds from the Lumina Foundation's grant. Members also agreed that we should review the Lumina agreement first to get clarity on whether or not the remaining funds have to be returned, and if our plan falls within the expected guidelines. Mr. Garrett will look over the original proposals request to see what the commission has done and accomplished. He will then put together a recommendation of what we should/would like to do with the remaining funds; it was recommended that he also include justification as to why the original report was not completed. Mr. Kirkland will continue working on the grant initiatives project.

*Meeting adjourned @ 11:07am*