



**African Descent-Citizens Reparations Commission
Full Committee Meeting
Friday, September 20, 2024 at 1:00 pm**

Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order – 1:07 pm

II. Roll Call of Commissioners

Commissioner Algee – Present
Secretary Elion – Present
Commissioner Mayers – Present
Commissioner Moore – Absent
Commissioner Sachnoff – Present
Chair Slaughter – Present
Commissioner Williams – Present Virtually
Vice Chair Taylor – Absent
Commissioner Cosey-Lane – Absent
Senator Belt – Present Virtually
Representative Harper – Absent
Commissioner Watson – Present
Representative Weber – Present Virtually

Quorum was not established with 6 members in attendance in person.

Commissioner Trask – Present, but had not been officially added to ADCRC yet

III. American Descendants of Slavery Advocacy Foundation – Data Disaggregation

- a. Not covered as Yvette Carnell could not be into attendance today.

IV. Approve Meeting Minutes – Not Covered

V. Chair’s Report – Not Covered

VI. Public Engagement Subcommittee Chair’s Report

- a. Secretary Elion informed that was a brief subcommittee meeting and they have been cancelled indefinitely due to not meeting quorum. The Springfield meeting was discussed by Program Manager Johnson. Strategic Planning Session and Organizational Outreach was covered briefly.

VII. CMS Coordinator Updates



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- a. Parliamentarian Ninfo explained that ADCRC meetings are under governor's office so they are subject to OMA enforced by AG and the Assembly is excluded from OMA for their commissions.
- b. Director DeVaughn announced that MaCassa Johnson has been promoted to Program Manager and introduced Rob Dixon is CMS Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs.
- c. Program Manager Johnson reminded the ADCRC to complete the pending poll on the scheduling future full commission meetings. She also reminded commissioners to complete mandatory training needs by end of year.

VIII. Old Business

- a. Public Hearing Planning
 - i. Springfield Public Hearing
 1. Run of Show Walkthrough
 - a. Commissioner Watson has spoken to 3 out of the 5 presenters. 3 expert speakers have been confirmed. Senator Doris Turner will deliver the welcome and Shawn Gregory will provide the closing. He stated the Audio Visual will be covered and the Springfield police department will be present as security. He added that after this weekend he will turn his focus to driving turnout. Assistant Director Williams added that his wife is an administrator in education at the high school and there will be outreach performed to educators.
 - b. Director DeVaughn mentioned that there will be no CMS staff to support check in. Commissioner Watson stated the he will secure local volunteers. Program Manager Johnson added that Coordinator Hiram White from DEI will be present to assist.
 - c. Commissioner Watson added that he will bring refreshments.
 - d. Program Manager Johnson volunteered to do AV material compilation. Chair Slaughter directed her to update bios to add new commissioners.
 2. Event Dissemination Reminder
 3. Live Streaming Link
 - a. Program Manager Johnson stated that the live stream will be provided through the YouTube page. Director DeVaughn added that going forward we must continue to livestream for parity.
 - i. Public Participation in Research Process
 1. Chair Slaughter conveyed the research team's ask of the public to submit family narratives and that community organizations may help capture those narratives.



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2. He also stated that the next research meeting is November and there are 5 members on research team.
- c. Public Affairs RFP Process Timeline Update
 - i. Secretary Elion mentioned that the new timeline ends in Jan and help could begin with the first 2025 public hearing. Assistant Director Williams confirmed new timeline and prioritization.

IX. New Business

- a. 2025 Public Hearing Topics Vote
 - i. Commission Mayers informed that the 2026 NAACP national convention will be in Chicago maybe in August and its 3 branches will be heavily involved in planning.
 - ii. Chair Slaughter shared the 4 topic divisions from the earlier strategic planning session.
 1. 2nd set of Topics: Housing Segregation, Separate and Unequal Education, Racism in Environment and Infrastructure, Unjust Legal System
 2. Last Set of Topics: Pathologizing the Black Family, Stolen Labor and Hindered Opportunity, Mental and Physical Harm and Neglect, Wealth Gap
- b. 2025 Public Hearing Locations Discussion
 - i. Commissioner Mayers suggested Springfield in February and Evanston in any month. Director DeV Vaughn mentioned the ILBCF will have it Soirée in February during the week, but the date is not set. She also mentioned that Peoria and Rockford are requesting public hearings. Secretary Elion suggested that the ADCRC participate in an event in Springfield as an invited guest instead of hosting a public hearing. He and Chair Slaughter agreed that co-hosting with ILBCF in February would be beneficial. Commissioner Williams added that Evanston would align with the recent historical housing related reparations and the ADCRC housing topic. Commissioner Watson suggested Cairo, Rockford, and Peoria. Commissioner Sachnoff stated Carbondale would be more people than Cairo. Secretary Elion reminded that the ADCRC has connections and a venue in Carbondale. Commissioner Algee suggested the south suburbs. Chair Slaughter suggested Rockford, Evanston, South suburbs for Northern Illinois, Cairo and Carbondale for the Southern region, then Peoria for Central Illinois.
 - ii. Secretary Elion recounted that 6 public hearings be planned for every other month of 2025 starting in February and commission agreed. Chair Slaughter added this would culminate in the research report publication in December 2025.
- c. Invitation to the ILBCF Policy Summit
 - i. Program Manager Johnson stated that Rob is helping collaborations with ILBCF and the Executive Director wants the ADCRC on a panel at the policy summit that was originally scheduled for October, but may now be December.
 - ii. Secretary Elion described the recommendation of State Representatives for the ADCRC to share requested bills at the policy summit in follow up



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conversations after the Chicago Public Hearing. Commission Watson offered that the ADCRC legislators could introduce the bills instead of the ILBCF. Senator Belt request that the research and draft legislation be shared with Deputy Director Dixon and himself and he support and draft the legislation in house. He added that as the ADCRC deliberates, CMS can pen the legislation. Director DeVaughn responded that anything ADCRC drafts, CMS would have to deliver, but if a legislator advances the legislation it will be an easier path.

X. Public Comment

- a. William Crosby, in person stated that an RFP has not been put out for the videographer or marketing. What are the 10 largest black cities? Peoria, Blooming-Normal, Rockford, Danville, Kankakee, Zion. California had European overseers of their effort. Where is the research that has already been gathered?
- b. Unnamed man in person stated he was a descendant of US chattel slavery. Thanks ADCRC for work. He suggested focus on counties rather than cities. He commended ADCRC for referencing California misstep in developing bill strategy.

XI. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 2:22 pm