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, October 16, 2015 at 3:30 p.m. at the Black Archives of Mid-America, Inc., 1722 E. 17th Terrace, Kansas City, Missouri.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Olivia Dorsey (Chair)
Rose Marie Bell
Leon Dixon

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jonathan Kemper (ex officio)
Billie Howard Barnes

STAFF PRESENT: Crosby Kemper III, Chief Executive
Cheptoo Kositany-Buckner, Deputy Director
Carrie Coogan, Director of Public Affairs & Community of Readers
Elizabeth Eddings, Administrative Officer
Kate Hill, Special Collections Librarian

OTHERS PRESENT: Emiel Cleaver, Black Archives Director
Monique Johnston, Black Archives Director of Development
Glenn North, Black Archives Director of Programming and Education
Geri Sanders, Black Archives Collection Librarian

Dorsey called the meeting to order at 3:42 p.m.

Kositany-Buckner introduced the new Black Archives Director, Emiel Cleaver and the new Black Archives Collection Librarian, Geri Sanders.

Staff provided a presentation of the Black Archives with the following highlights:

- Cleaver presented management and operations information.
  - A new logo and campaign including t-shirts were developed as part of a branding initiative.
  - Community outreach includes working with other organizations in the 18th & Vine community in the following ways:
    - Goal to acquire additional and replacement signage for Black Archives.
• Collaborating with Greek organizations for volunteer work in trade
  for use of Black Archives space.
• Working to establish a Jazz District Redevelopment Corporation
  (JDRC) monthly meeting.
  o Partial TIF for the 18th & Vine district to be decided November 19, 2015. A
    request for $1 Million was submitted for Black Archives.
  o The Black History Month Theme for next year will be Black
    Entrepreneurs.
  o Black Archives building issues include the following:
    ▪ Acquiring Black Archives address listing in Google’s search
      engine.
    ▪ Collaboration with the Parks and Recreation Department to repair
      sinking floor in Exhibit Room. Parks and Recreation is responsible
      for cost of repairs.
• Johnston discussed funding development.
  o Resource development one year goal is $255,000 to be accomplished
    through the following methods:
    ▪ Grants and proposals include Common Heritage Grant, Francis
      Family Foundation, Speas Trust, Curry Family Foundation, and
      GKCCF.
    ▪ Special events with speakers and luncheons, including an Egypt
      Sherwood event in February 2016.
    ▪ Individual giving which involves promoting community knowledge
      of Black Archives community giving.
    ▪ Corporate sponsor work with Board of Directors to build new donor
      relationships.
• North provided programming, education and exhibits information.
  o Horace Petersen III Lecture Series was part of the Juneteenth Series.
  o The Mmbembe Milton Smith Poetry Series included several prominent
    authors including Mama C, Frank X Walker, and Kevin Young.
  o Adult programming activities including Black Documentary Series and
    development of a Teacher’s Committee to coordinate student tours and
    more.
  o Youth programming for Academie Lafayette work on Highland Cemetery
    headstones in disrepair.
  o Mayor’s Night Out hosted 75 students for a scavenger hunt.
  o Louder Than a Bomb Poetry event attracted 25 students for attendance.
  o Leonard Pitch Jr. Event held October 16th with more than 200 planning to
    attend.
  o Hale Woodruff papers are the current exhibit at Black Archives and his
    paintings are currently at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art.
• Sanders overviewed collections.
  o Collection and Research
    ▪ Goal to acquire Lincoln High School Yearbooks. Recently acquired
      the 1924 Yearbook.
    ▪ Black History Month Posters for 2016 include partnerships with
      Community LINC, Kansas City Public Library and Black Archives
      and may be renamed to encourage year-round marketing
      opportunities.
• Kositany-Buckner and Cleaver discussed Black Archives financials.
  o Focusing on gaining additional funding for Black Archives next year.
  o Historical Tax Credit restrictions imposed initially for Black Archives
    development are in process of being removed. Unrestricted funds of
    $130,000 will be received by Black Archives.
The meeting adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Olivia Dorsey, Chair            Date
Ad Hoc Committee