



Full Council Teleconference pt. 1

Date of Meeting: July 13, 2009

Minutes Prepared By: Travis Dudley / Sandra Robertson

1. Call to Order

- Meeting call to ordered at 2:21 PM by Chairman McCoy
-

2. Roll Call

<i>Name</i>	<i>Agency</i>
Dr. Anthony McCoy	DCF
Earnie Brewer	AHCA
Lillian Lima	DCF
Tory Alston	DMS
Rep. Perry Thurston Jr.	Florida House
Sen. Frederica Wilson	Florida Senate
Rev. Dr. Albert Simpson Jr.	The Philemon Church
Rep. Julio Robaina	Florida House
Gypsy Gallardo	The Power Broker Magazine
Andre Smith	DOE
Ana Maria Sanchez, Esq.	DJJ
Lois Scott	AWI
Dr. Eddy Regnier	
Levi Williams, Esq.	Absent
Sen. Stephen Wise	Absent
Dr. Billy Close	Absent

Fredrica Doctor	OAG
Travis Dudley	OAG
Rick Nuss	OAG

3. Reading of Minutes; Officers and Committees reports

- A motion to approve the minutes from the past four meetings was brought to the floor by Representative Robaina and seconded by Senator Wilson.
- The meeting Minutes for the past four meetings were approved by the council.

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

- Chairman McCoy brings the issue to the floor regarding the two versions of the by-laws. Chairman explained the confusion that the council has had with the two sets of by-laws, saying that since there were two versions, he combined the two versions of the by-laws into a single version of by-laws that he would like to have the council approve if they did not have objections to any of the changes that were made.
- Senator Wilson asked the Chairman why he deleted the Historian position from the by-laws?
- Chairman explains that we have a Historian in the OAG Office, due to the fact that the Staff documents everything that the council does. Chairman states that when he did the by-laws there was not currently a council member holding that position.
- Senator Wilson explains that since the OAG's Office changes due to its political position, the staff that we have now might not be there when the new administration takes over. Since that is the case, the council might want to reconsider having a Historian on the council.
- Chairman McCoy agrees that the council should add the Historian position back in the by-laws as the person who checks with the OAG staff to ensure the council is documented properly and if there is a change of staff, the Historian is the person in charge of hiring staff.
- Senator Wilson recommends that Representative Thurston become the Historian for the Council.

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

- Representative Thurston agrees that he will accept the recommendation.
- Chairman McCoy then appoints Representative Thurston as the Historian for the Council. Chair also states that the by-laws draft dated July 6, 2009, will be amended to show the position of Historian.
- Ms. Lima asked why the Executive Director position was taken from the by-laws; would the council be able to create this position in the future.
- Chairman McCoy said that the problem that the council is facing is the fact that they do not have any statutory authority to create a position within the council. Chairman thinks that the council should just remove the position from the by-laws until the council has the authority.
- Senator Wilson explains her concern that the council needs an Executive Director in the by-laws for future reference; if the position is not in the by-laws then the Legislature will think that the council has no need for funding of that position.
- Chairman agrees with the concerns of the council members and states that he will put the Executive Director position back in the by-laws, but there will be a statement in parentheses' that the Executive Director position is pending legislative approval.
- Chairman asks Mr. Nuss to further explain why the council cannot create a position on the council.
- Mr. Nuss explains that according to legal staff the issue the council is facing is that nowhere in the statute is the council given authority to create a position on the council. Mr. Nuss explains that the DSO has authority, but not the council.
- Ms. Lima asks about Section 5 Article 7 regarding the quorum. If the committees do not meet a quorum, how are they supposed to get any work done?
- Chairman McCoy tells Ms. Lima that in Section 7 Article 7, the committees will be able to do work as long as a majority vote is present. The fact is the committees will not be able to do anything unless they have the approval of the full council.
- Ms. Lima then wants to know what can be done about the quorum issue for the full council.
- Chairman McCoy understands Ms. Lima's concern but states that quorum for the full council is statutorily mandated and the only way to have the quorum reduced or changed is to have the whole statute rewritten.

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

- Vice Chair Alston asks if the committees have to ask the full council prior to beginning their research.
- Chairman McCoy responds that the committees do not have to ask for the council's permission to begin research. Every council member can see what each committee is doing and if a member has a question about what the committee is doing or the direction they are headed, they can bring that issue in front of the whole council.
- Chairman states, that unless a person has a concern with what a committee is doing, then whatever the committee votes on will be approved.
- Vice Chair Alston asked what is considered a term of office, one year or two years?
- Chairman states that the officers are expected to serve two years, but after the first year there will be a vote to either keep the person who is in office or elect a new person to serve in that office.
- Vice Chair Alston then asks the Chairman was thinking in deleting Article 5, Section 4, Terms of Office?
- Vice Chair Alston recommends that Article 5, Section 4 be re-inserted into the by-laws, as it states that a person shall only serve one year, unlike the current by-laws which expect a person to serve two years.
- Before the council cast its vote, Chairman restates that he believes that a year is not enough time for a person to establish what he or she would like to accomplish. Giving a person that second year will help that person be better suited for the upcoming year.
- Mr. Smith seconds the motion to re-insert Article 5, Section 4 back into the by-laws.
- The motion is approved by the council.
- Representative Thurston asks once you re-insert Article 5, Section 4 does that change anything as it relates to Section Three?
- Vice Chair Alston responds that re-inserting Section 4 will not change anything in Section Three. The term of office will only be for a year.
- Senator Wilson asks if after serving one year, if the body has to vote to approve the person serving a second year?
- Chairman McCoy responds that after one year if the body decides to keep that person in office there will not be any nomination for that position, but if the body does not retain that person, then there will be a nomination for that office.

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

- Vice Chair Alston asks the Chairman to discuss the council members' attendance. Vice Chair Alston points out that the by-laws state that a member shall have no more than three unexcused absents at quarterly meetings for the entire year.
- Chairman states that there were some changes. The by-laws now read members shall have no more than one unexcused absent for the entire year.
- Chairman states that the purpose of this measure is to give the future chair the power to find out why a person is not attending meetings.
- Vice Chair Alston states that on that line it states one or three unexcused absences and that the chair might want to clarify that in the by-laws.
- Chairman McCoy tells Vice-Chair Alston that the version he is looking at is not the updated version of the by-laws.
- Ms. Lima asks if the council is trying to do business and a quorum is not reached then what happens.
- Chairman states that the Council would have to wait until the full council reaches a quorum to discuss the issue.

5. Action Items

<i>Action</i>	<i>Assigned to</i>	<i>Due Date</i>	<i>Status</i>

6. Announcements

7. Next Meeting

<i>Target Date:</i>	<i>August 6,2009</i>	<i>Time:</i>	<i>9:00AM – 5:00 PM</i>	<i>Location:</i>	<i>Tallahassee – School of Journalism and Graphic Communications, FAMU</i>
<i>Objectives:</i>	2009 Annual Report				



Full Council Teleconference pt.2

Date of Meeting: July 13, 2009

Minutes Prepared By: Travis Dudley / Sandra Robertson

1. Call to Order



2. Roll Call

<i>Name</i>	<i>Agency</i>
Dr. Anthony McCoy	DCF
Earnie Brewer	AHCA
Lillian Lima	DCF
Torey Alston	DMS
Gypsy Gallardo	The Power Broker Magazine
Rep. Julio Robaina	Florida House
Rep. Perry Thurston Jr.	Florida House
Ana Maria Sanchez, Esq.	DJJ
Sen. Frederica Wilson	Florida Senate
Rev. Dr. Albert Simpson Jr.	Philemon Baptist Church
Andre Smith	DOE
Lois Scott	AWI
Dr. Billy Close	Absent
Dr. Eddy Regnier	
Mr. Levi Williams	Absent

Mr. Richard Davidson	Absent
Dr. Eddy Regnier	Absent
Sen. Stephen Wise	Absent
Ms. Fredrica Doctor	OAG
Mr. Travis Dudley	OAG
Mr. Rick Nuss	OAG

3. Reading of Minutes; Officers and Committees reports

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

- Senator Wilson expresses her concerns about how the council is one of the best kept secrets in the Legislature. Senator Wilson explains that there are a lot of people in the Legislature who are concerned about black men and boys in the state of Florida.
- Representative Robaina agrees with Senator Wilson and thinks the problem with the membership is that there are too many meetings a week.
- Chairman McCoy agrees with both Representative Robaina and Senator Wilson. Chairman explains that the meetings will be reduced by combining some of the committees.
- Vice Chair Alston makes a motion to accept the by-laws from July 13, 2009 with any necessary corrections that need to be made.
- The motion was seconded by Ms. Lima. The motion was approved.
- Chairman explains to the council how they will combine the committees to make two standing committees that will teleconference once a month. The first committee will be Criminal Justice and Gangs, Economic, and Education. The second committee will be made up of the Foster Care and Health committees.
- Representative Robaina makes a motion to accept the re-organization of the committees.
- Ms. Lima seconds the motion. The motion was approved.
- Chairman McCoy talks to the council on what the focus will be for the 2009 Annual Report. Chairman McCoy makes mention of an article that Ms. Gallardo brought to the council last month.
- Chairman McCoy believes that the council should look at the dropout rates throughout

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

the state of Florida to bring attention to the situation affecting black males in our state. Chairman believes that the council should partner with some local groups to help address the issue of dropout rates across Florida.

- Senator Wilson states that the statistics for Pinellas County most likely mirror every county throughout the state of Florida. Senator Wilson says that the council should advocate that every child is not college bound, some kids need training in other vocational areas so that they may excel.
- Chairman McCoy states that what the council will consider is presenting the 2009 Annual Report before the Legislature when it is released.
- Senator Wilson makes a motion to accept the report proposal for the 2009 Annual Report.
- Motion was seconded by Ms. Lima and approved by the council.
- Chairman McCoy tells the council that the committee drafts for the 2009 Annual Report are to be submitted to the full council no later than October 1.
- Chairman McCoy also informs the council that he spoken with Dr. James Hawkins of FAMU, to discuss whether FAMU would be able to provide assistance for editing the 2009 Annual Report and what the cost would be if FAMU provided this service.
- Senator Wilson inquires about the money from Preventing Crime in the Black Community.
- Mr. Nuss explains that the Preventing Crime in the Black Community Conference barely has enough money to pay for the two full time staff members.
- Ms. Lima asks if there are other programs at the Attorney General's Office with which the council may be able to partner.
- Mr. Nuss informs the council that in his office they have the National Urban League grant, Mankind and Community Coalition. Mr. Nuss explains that it is possible for the council to work with these programs.
- Mr. Nuss recommends that the Legislature take the initiative to ask for some money in those programs to be appropriated to the council.
- Senator Wilson makes a motion for her proposal to get more money for the council.
- The motion was seconded by Rep. Robaina and approved by the council.
- Ms. Scott asks if it is possible to contact the Urban League to see if there are dollars

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

available.

- Senator Wilson states that she believes that it is possible to get the money before it even leaves the Legislature. Senator Wilson says that at this point they are not able to give us any money.
- Chairman states that he will get with Mr. Nuss to see if it is possible for the council to ask the different urban leagues throughout the state for any monies that they have yet to use.
- Ms. Lima asks if the council is asking for money at the local or at the statewide level?
- Ms. Scott answers by saying at both levels.
- Chairman asks the council for their input on whether the council would like to fundraise at this time or at a different time.
- Ms. Lima thinks that the council should look for other ways of receiving funds, especially by taking a look at the different grants that are available.
- Chairman McCoy believes that the fundraising would help to get the local councils established; the money would not be for the long term.
- Vice Chair Alston agrees that the council should create a fundraising committee to raise funds so that the council can perform all of its desired duties.
- Vice Chair Alston asks if the fundraising committee will be independent of the by-laws or will it be included?
- Chairman McCoy says he does not believe that a fundraising committee will cause any problems with the current by-laws.
- Ms. Doctor brings up the idea that maybe the council could charge for ads in the back of the Annual Report.
- Ms. Lima makes a motion for the creation of a Fundraising Committee. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Alston and approved by the council.
- Chairman McCoy thinks that the DEWS System should be a program that the committees should take a look at and decide if they would like to use DEWS information in the 2009 Annual Report.

5. Action Items

<i>Action</i>	<i>Assigned to</i>	<i>Due Date</i>	<i>Status</i>

6. Announcements

7. Next Meeting

<i>Target Date:</i>	<i>August 6, 2009</i>	<i>Time:</i>	<i>9:00pm</i>	<i>Location:</i>	<i>Tallahassee – School of Journalism and Graphic Communications</i>
<i>Objectives:</i>	<i>2009 Annual Report</i>				

3. Reading of Minutes; Officers and Committees reports

- The reading of Minutes for April 20, 2009 was confirmed and approved and properly second.

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

- Chairman would like to review the by-laws so that the final draft can be sent to the full council for approval.
- Chairman went through the by-laws and he asked the committee for the input.
- Ms. Lima had a question regarding the Councils goals.
- Chairman stated that this will be established in the future with the community.
- Vice Chair Alston asked if the committee had the same version as Chairman McCoy.
- Chairman stated they would not have some of the changes he has made because it has not been submitted yet to Ms. Doctor to distribute to the council.
- Dr. Regnier stated that something should probably be added to the by-laws to allow an alternate to attend a meeting where a council member can't attend.
- Chairman McCoy did not believe that can be done but he will bring the question to the legal staff.
- Ms. Lima asked what was the rationale behind the executive committee members not being able to vote in the appeals process?
- Chairman McCoy said the reason is because those members would be the ones to determine if there was an excused absence or not, so they would not be able to vote during the appeals process on the same issue.
- Vice Chair Alston recommended that the Chairman spell out what is an excused absence along with what is considered not to be an excused absence. Then the executive committee will not have to judge whether the absence was excused or not.
- Chairman McCoy asked how the other members on the council felt about Vice Chair Alston's recommendation.
- Everyone agreed with Vice Chair Alston's recommendation.
- Chairman McCoy recommended that the legal staff review Article 4, Section 3, and determine if there are any issues with this clause and provide the council with criteria

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

for determining excused or unexcused absences.

- Vice Chair Alston recommended that it be clear as to who is going to remove a member since the committee does not have the authority to do that.
- Chairman McCoy replied that he is correct and that it should read that the council will make a recommendation to their appointing authority to have a member removed.
- Vice Chair Alston then asked when it comes to one unexcused absence does that pertain just to the full council meetings or the committee meetings as well?
- Chairman McCoy states that the one unexcused absence is for full council meetings and committee meetings where left open for discussion.
- Chairman McCoy asked if Vice Chair Alston would change the language in the by-laws so that it reflects committee meetings as well.
- Vice Chair Alston asked when it comes to conduct, would the appointing authority relay that issue back to the member.
- Chairman McCoy stated that someone has to report back to the appointing authority and let them know just in case it is something that will not be main stream.
- Vice Chair Alston asked whether the intent of this section is to just report any wrong doing by a council member to the Attorney General's Office or what?
- Chairman McCoy explained that the intent of this section in the by-laws is that if a member gets arrested, then they should report that to the Attorney General's Office.
- Dr. Regnier stated that it should only pertain to a person's term on the council, because before appointment a member has to go through a background check.
- Chairman McCoy thought that once the Attorney General was informed, the council will determine what to do. This section is more for the members who are not state workers because if they get arrested they have to report that to their appointing authority anyways.
- Vice Chair Alston then asked if each member of the council is given a background check.
- Chairman McCoy responded that he cannot answer that because he is only sure that the people who are state workers have background checks.
- Dr. Regnier asked Vice Chair Alston if he is worried about the council being used as a

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

political weapon against members of the council.

- Vice Chair Alston replied that yes that is his issue. Vice Chair Alston hoped that the council will not have to use this section.
- Chairman stated that he understands where Vice Chair Alston is coming from but this section is just to cover the council and we cannot remove a member from the council.
- Vice Chair Alston suggested that the committee should change the terms to First Vice Chair and Second Vice Chair.
- Chairman McCoy asked the committee if anyone had any objections to the change?
- Dr. Regnier stated that the only problem he had was that it changes the functions of what that person does.
- Chairman stated that the problem will only occur when outside people ask about their position but the council members will know who is supposed to be doing what.
- Vice Char Alston asked if officers have a one year term.
- Chairman explained that the term is for two years; after the first year the council decides whether to retain that person in the position for another year.
- Vice Chair Alston voiced his dissent to the decision to delete Section 4 under article 5.
- Chairman said that since there is a dissent, this part of the by-laws will be taken to the floor in front of the whole council.
- Ms. Lima asked if the Vice Chair is going to produce the report.
- Chairman stated that he will assist in the preparation and development of the annual report.
- Vice Chair asked if this was something that he would like to pursue this year?
- Chairman McCoy replied that in the future this is the way that the council will plan on producing the report.
- Chairman stated that the Second Vice Chair will assist OAG staff with the preparation of the budget and meeting minutes.
- Chairman said that the by-laws are not etched in stone; they will be a work in progress as the council continues.

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

- Ms. Lima wanted to know what or who is the nominating committee.
- Chairman McCoy explained that the nominating committee is there for the officers of the council, and will consist of five members.
- Ms. Lima asked if the quorum can be eliminated for the subcommittee?
- Chairman stated that he will add that there is no requirement for a quorum in the future and the committee may approve or disapprove.
- Vice Chair Alston recommended along with staff, that it would be easier to put in the by-laws that during committee meetings, the majority makes the decision.
- Chairman agreed with Vice Chair Alston and said that it should be changed to a majority instead of a number of members.
- The Chairman believed that the Council should focus on what it can do, instead of what might happen with the DSO.
- Ms. Doctor suggested addition that the council meet in the third quarter as well as the first, second, and fourth quarters of the year.
- Vice Chair Alston suggested that the by-laws be clear as to who will be selecting the nomination committee.
- Chairman McCoy stated that the committee should probably add that the past immediate chair or the council will select the nominating committee.
- Vice Chair Alston asked if the nominating committee will develop a process in the event that there are more than two people running for a position?
- Chairman McCoy stated that the way the by-laws were set up was by a single slate but he suggested that he can change it to nominate candidates for the office.
- Ms. Lima recommended the deletion of the section of the by-laws dealing with special elections. Chairman McCoy agreed that those needed to be deleted.
- Vice Chair Alston asked if a 2/3 vote was necessary to approve the by-laws.
- Chairman McCoy said he was unsure and that he would have to check Robert's Rule.
- Vice Chair Alston then asked if the council is currently operating under any by-laws.
- Chairman McCoy answered that he is not really sure because there are two sets of

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

by-laws.

- Vice Chair Alston asked whether it will take a majority vote or a 2/3 vote to approve the by-laws at the full council meeting?
- Chairman stated that the vote of the majority rules, due to the fact there were no by-laws.
- Staff informed the chairman that the issue is that there are two versions of the by-laws and there are by-laws that were established in October.
- Chairman then agreed that the 2/3 vote will be used for any position to be approved.
- Vice Chair Alston asked if there had been any follow up with Mr. Keith Jacobs as to whether they were going to assist the council.
- Chairman McCoy responded that the council can be asked and a vote taken on Mr. Jacobs or the committee can see if the English Department at FAMU or TCC will be able to assist the council with producing the annual report.
- Vice Chair Alston asked what Mr. Jacobs charged for his services?
- Chairman McCoy responded that the only thing that was received from Mr. Jacobs was a flat rate of \$19 that he would charge the council each month.
- Vice Chair Alston recommended that Staff get all the information from Mr. Jacobs about the dollar amount and what services he will be able to provide the council.
- Chairman asked staff to send an e-mail to Mr. Jacobs asking what he would charge the council for his services.
- Chairman stated that he will be contacting the heads of the English Departments at FAMU and TCC to see if they have individuals that might be able to help with editing the annual report.
- Staff indicated to the council that they already contacted FAMU's Journalism Department about assisting with editing the Annual Report.
- Vice Chair Alston asked if his committee needs to go back and tie their recommendations with the Criminal Justice and Educational committees?
- Chairman McCoy stated that the goal is for the committees to come together and try to accomplish one goal. Chairman McCoy states that he does not want any information that has already been done to be thrown away.

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

- Ms. Lima stated that the committees need a specific theme on which they will be doing their research.
- Vice Chair Alston asked whether his committee needs to wait on the other committees before continuing?
- Chairman McCoy thought that some kind of reorganization was needed and that his committee should continue work, but meet with the other committees.
- Ms. Lima asked if the other committees will have separate themes or will there only be one committee?
- Chairman McCoy believed at some point the council is going to have to focus on one theme instead of a broad range of issues. Chairman stated that there will be two themes.
- Vice Chair Alston asked whether his committee was meeting next week?
- Chairman McCoy said that the meetings will commence as planned for the month of July with the understanding that after those meetings the committees will combine as two committees.
- Chairman believed that in the past recommendations have been too broad. This year the goal is to be more specific.
- Ms. Lima stated that the subcommittees should be informed that now they will be meeting on the same day as two other committees and they are combined as one.
- Chairman McCoy stated that Ms. Lima's recommendation is a good idea, and that we will use that idea as the format for what they are going to do.
- Chairman McCoy said the research for the Criminal Justice Committee will be determined by those committees when they come together and the deadline for this will be at the August meetings.
- Staff asked Chairman McCoy when the committees were supposed to meet to be able to come up with the research.
- Ms. Lima answered by saying that the July meetings will be the last meeting for the seven different committees, then they will be combined into two committees.
- Chairman McCoy stated that the research will be determined by August 6 by the two combined committees.

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

- Staff asked what the focal area of the report is.
- Chairman McCoy replied that one committee will focus on economic disparities while the other looks at the disproportion of children in the foster care system.
- The draft annual report is due by October 1. In August, the council will have a working meeting in Tallahassee.
- Ms. Lima asked if in July we will tell the council what we are going to be doing and that their drafts need to be turned in by October 1.
- Chairman asked if staff could notify each Committee Chair of what they will be doing for the annual report and how things have been reorganized.
- Vice Chair Alston wanted to know where are we with the DSO and how to get it going.
- Vice Chair Alston inquired about the structure of the DSO. He said that since it is a separate entity, then there has to be some type of dialogue between the two. Who would be that contact person?
- Ms. Lima stated that the DSO will be a separate entity. It will have its own statute to follow. So the Council should establish their own Executive Director position to raise funds.
- Staff informed the Chairman that they are still waiting on four appointments so that the DSO can be established.
- Chairman McCoy explained that the Council needs to focus on what they need to do and not get bogged down with the DSO appointments. Chairman stated that we need to go ahead and define what we are going to do.
- Vice Chair Alston inquired if fundraising objectives for the council will be established at some point.
- Chairman McCoy said that the council has not arrived at that point yet.
- The DEWS System will be tabled until August 6th.

5. Action Items

<i>Action</i>	<i>Assigned to</i>	<i>Due Date</i>	<i>Status</i>

6. Announcements

7. Next Meeting

<i>Target Date:</i>	<i>August 17, 2009</i>	<i>Time:</i>	<i>10:00am</i>	<i>Location:</i>	<i>Tallahassee</i>
<i>Objectives:</i>					



Criminal Justice and Gangs Teleconference

Date of Meeting: July 6, 2009

Minutes Prepared By: Travis Dudley

1. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 2:15 PM by Chairman McCoy
-

2. Roll Call

Name	Agency
Dr. Anthony McCoy	DCF
Ms. Lillian Lima	DCF
Andre Smith	DOE
Mr. Isiah Weatherspoon	Community Participant
Rep. Perry Thurston Jr.	Florida House of Representatives
Rep. Julio Robaina	Florida House of Representatives
Mr. Levi Williams	(Absent)
Dr. Billy Close	(Absent)
Ann Marie Sanchez, Esq.	(Absent)

3. Reading of Minutes; Officers and Committees reports

Meeting minutes were approved from May through June 2009.

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

- Chairman McCoy talks about the direction in which the council will move in for the 2009 Annual Report.
- Chairman McCoy explains to the Criminal Justice and Gangs committee that they will be combined with two other committees to focus on one particular theme for the 2009 Annual Report.
- The upcoming meeting in Tallahassee will be a working meeting. From this point there will only be two committees that will consist of all the committees to help produce the Annual Report.
- The delegations and updates for the 2007-2008 Matrix were tabled until the next meeting.

5. Action Items

<i>Action</i>	<i>Assigned to</i>	<i>Due Date</i>	<i>Status</i>

6. Announcements

7. Next Meeting

<i>Target Date:</i>	August 17, 2009	<i>Time:</i>	2:00pm – 400 pm	<i>Location:</i>	Tallahassee
<i>Objectives:</i>	2009 Annual Report – in collaboration with Economic and Educational Outcome committees				



Legislative Review Teleconference

Date of Meeting: July 7, 2009

Minutes Prepared By: Travis Dudley

1. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 1:05 PM by Vice Chair Alston
-

2. Roll Call

<i>Name</i>	<i>Agency</i>
Dr. Anthony McCoy	(Absent)
Mr. Earnie Brewer	AHCA
Ms. Lillian Lima	DCF
Mr. Tory Alston	DMS
Ms. Gypsy Gallardo	The Power Broker Magazine
Mr. Andre Smith	DOE
Ms. Anna Marie Sanchez	DJJ
Mr. Travis Dudley	OAG
Mr. Rick Nuss	OAG
Rev. Dr. Albert Simpson Jr.	(Absent)
Dr. Billy Close	(Absent)
Rep. Julio Robaiano	(Absent)
Mr. Levi Williams	(Absent)

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

5. Action Items

<i>Action</i>	<i>Assigned to</i>	<i>Due Date</i>	<i>Status</i>
E-mail to Committee Members	Chairman	ASAP	In Progress

6. Announcements

7. Next Meeting

<i>Target Date:</i>		<i>Time:</i>		<i>Location:</i>	
<i>Objectives:</i>					

3. Reading of Minutes; Officers and Committees reports

The Meeting Minutes were tabled until the next meeting.

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

- Chairman McCoy updated Ms. Granger on anything that she might have missed in the last meeting and informed Ms. Granger that he has done some research and found a book dealing with foster care and children by Dr. Harvaey.
- Chairman McCoy would like to get a copy of his book and research the references cited.
- Ms. Granger stated that she made contact with One Church One Child in Palm Beach, and the coordinator explained to her that once the child is adopted there is no record of outcomes. The idea is to transition the kids into society and they are not monitored.
- Chairman McCoy thought it would be a great idea to find out if other states look at the outcomes of adopted children.
- Chairman McCoy also explained that the Foster Care committee will be combined with the Health committee to make one committee.
- Chair Lima informed the council that she has received information from Ms. Sailor to put in the annual report.
- Chair Lima said that this committee can take a look at the outcomes and the number of children who were from One Church One Child and are still with a successful family. Plus we can show the need to get this program throughout the state.
- Chairman McCoy would like for this committee to find out if OPPAGA has done any research on the effectiveness of One Church One Child.
- Chair Lima stated that there may only be five One Church One Child programs throughout the state.
- Chair Lima said that because of the employment incentives, the council will be able to track how the stimulus money is being distributed to the summer youth work programs.

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

- Chairman McCoy would like the council to check and see if there has been any legislation to fund the One Church One Child program.

5. Action Items

<i>Action</i>	<i>Assigned to</i>	<i>Due Date</i>	<i>Status</i>

6. Announcements

7. Next Meeting

<i>Target Date:</i>	<i>August 20, 2009</i>	<i>Time:</i>	<i>9:00am-11:00am</i>	<i>Location:</i>	<i>Tallahassee</i>
<i>Objectives:</i>	2009 annual report – in collaboration with the Improving Health Status committee				

3. Reading of Minutes; Officers and Committees reports

A motion was made by Chairman McCoy to accept the minutes and second by Ms. Lima and approved by the committee.

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

- Chair Regnier said that he would like to know when the first draft is due and how the health committee is going to contribute to the Foster Care committee.
- Chairman McCoy explained that on Monday the council will discuss the Annual Report further and what the chairman would like to accomplish is to combine committees to focus on researching a particular issue.
- Ms. Lima explained that the main issue that this committee along with the Foster Care committee will be looking at is how to reduce the number of African American children in the child welfare system. The two committees will try to focus on family preservation services and Family planning programs and teen pregnancy.
- Chair Regnier asked if there is a source to update him on the foster care system.
- Ms. Lima stated that she has information for Chair Regnier on the foster care system and that she will send it to him through staff.
- Ms. Doctor stated that he can look at the past two reports that the council has released.
- Chairman stated that the deadline for the Annual Report draft will be October 1, 2009.
- Chairman would like a copy of the letter sent to each council member that highlighted the importance of meeting attendance, to be sent to Dr. Regnier so he can review the document.
- Chairman explained to the committee why he decided to submit a letter to the whole council about member participation.
- Ms. Lima stated that she believes that the reason participation is starting to decline is due

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

to the fact that nothing but research has been done for the past two years and then what happens. Ms. Lima said that is why she did the proposal so that everyone's input can be heard.

- Chair Regnier said that he wants to look at mental health issues. He would like to find out how to early identify people with mental health issues, and people who may have problems with substance abuse. He would also like to know how to prevent these people being incarcerated for mental health issues.
- Chair Regnier did not realize that so many people in the foster care system had mental health issues or a health problem. When he compared some of the data with the people in the criminal justice system, these were the same people who were committing violent crimes or having problems with substance abuse.
- Ms. Lima asked Chair Regnier if he was opposed to uniting with the Foster Care and Family Issues committee.
- Chair Regnier stated that he is receptive to the idea.
- Chair Regnier expressed his concerns about being able to have a flow of communication with the state agencies while he was completing his report last year.
- Ms. Lima said she does not understand that either, since we have people on our council who can take the information back to the agencies so they can accomplish what the council recommends.
- Chair Regnier stated that one of the issues is, how do we start implementing things to make things happen?
- Chairman McCoy believes that if we start to focus on people in a particular area that will help the council get things accomplished.
- Ms. Lima asked who is going to assist us with the leg work? For example, who would do the work?
- Chairman stated that we would make partnerships with the appropriate people who are in that area to assist us with actually being on the ground doing the work.
- Ms. Lima responded by saying that the reason she asked that question is because the council is going to need a plan when we start recommending Community Action Programs that will be able to assist communities at a local level.
- Chair Regnier said that the problem is the council has run into a learning curve, and that is something that the council is going to have to face.

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

- Ms. Lima and Chair Regnier will determine a timeline for their committees to meet and turn in research at the Council meeting on August 6, 2009.
- Ms. Doctor stated that she has already prepared a draft to submit to DOC and OPPAGA to see if there are two different perspectives.
- Chairman McCoy would like to add more questions such as how many of the inmates that have mental health problems also were in the foster care system?
- Chair Regnier and Ms. Lima thought it was a good idea. Even if DOC does not have the answer, then the council will know that DOC is not tracking that information.
- The committee came to the conclusion that a letter should also be sent to DJJ as well as DOC, and OPPAGA.
- Chairman McCoy believes that the stats in DJJ will be amazing and there is not really anything being done.
- Chair Regnier said that we need to identify the number and the types and see if the council can figure out how to prevent this issue of mental health.
- Chair Regnier and Ms. Lima believe that the council has to formulate ideas that will help the communities that we serve but also help the agencies that pay the council members to even take a part in the council.
- Chair Regnier and Chairman McCoy discussed the issue of how children are receiving health care when a lot of the times the parents are not able to provide health care for the child for more than 12 months.
- Chair Regnier stated that he will get his research together and in about two weeks he will send the information to Ms. Lima through Ms. Doctor.
- Chairman McCoy thinks the committee should ask DJJ how many of the inmates come from foster care and how many are released into foster care?
- Ms. Lima informed Chairman McCoy that at DCF youth as just described are considered cross-over youth, and her department does not track that information because there is no way for DCF to track it.
- Chairman McCoy said that when the council asks these questions, the information needs to be broken down by county, gender, and race.
- Ms. Lima asked if the committee should assume that since certain counties in Florida

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

have higher numbers of African Americans, those areas will be the focus initially.

- Chairman McCoy agreed that focusing on areas known to have a higher number of African Americans will give the council a place to start.
- Chair Regnier and Chairman McCoy came to the conclusion that the 2007-2008 Matrix update will be put on the back burner and that the committee only needs to find one or two recommendations that they would like to update.

5. Action Items

<i>Action</i>	<i>Assigned to</i>	<i>Due Date</i>	<i>Status</i>
Updated draft letter to go to DJJ	Ms. Doctor	ASAP	Complete

6. Announcements

7. Next Meeting

<i>Target Date:</i>	August 20, 2009	<i>Time:</i>	9:00am 11:00am	<i>Location:</i>	Tallahassee
<i>Objectives:</i>	2009 Annual Report – in collaboration with the Improving Foster Care and Family Issues committee				



Improving Economic Outcomes Teleconference

Date of Meeting: July 9, 2009

Minutes Prepared By: Travis Dudley

1. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 2:02 PM by Vice Chair Torey Alston
-

2. Roll Call

<i>Name</i>	<i>Agency</i>
Dr. Anthony McCoy	DCF
Mr. Torey Alston	DMS
Ms. Lillian Lima	DCF
Ms. Perri Demps	Community Participant
Mr. Isaiah Weatherspoon	Community Participant
Pastor Carl Reeves	Community Participant
Dr. Billy Close	(Absent)
Ms. Gypsy Gallardo	Power Broker Magazine
Mr. Levi Williams	(Absent)
Ms. Fredrica Doctor	OAG
Mr. Rick Nuss	OAG

3. Reading of Minutes; Officers and Committees reports

Chairman McCoy made a motion to accept the previous minutes, and the motion was second by Ms. Lima and approved by the committee.

Vice Chair Alston stated that the name of Mr. Henry Bullard needs to be changed to Mr. Henry Ballard.

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

- Chair Alston would like for Chairman McCoy to talk about the annual report and Ms. Lima to talk about the proposal that she has developed for the council to use as a guide.
- Chairman McCoy informed the committee that one of the main things that the council will be looking at is economic disparities in the black community. Chairman talked about some of the data that he has seen and described to the council how bad the situation is in Florida.
- Chairman McCoy also informed the committee that the Economic committee will be combined with two other committees to make one committee. When these committees come together, they will decide the exact issue they will look at dealing with economic disparities.
- Ms. Gallardo asked the Chairman if that is the final version of what the Council will be focusing on this year?
- Chairman McCoy responded yes, it is the final version unless someone brings a better idea to the table by Monday.
- Ms. Gallardo also stated that the committee may also want to focus on how education can be the key to equality; many of the great thinkers of our era believe that education may be the key.
- Chairman McCoy agreed with Ms. Gallardo and said that he had kind of set that issue to the side until further discussion.

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

- Ms. Lima explained to the committee the proposal and how the two areas that were chosen were focal points to help the committees have a common theme. There are many different things that fall under economic disparities that the committee may choose to look at, including education.
- Chairman explained to the committee that each committee will now only be meeting three to four times a month so that they can finish the annual report.
- The next quarterly meeting will be August 6, 2009, and it will be a working meeting. Everyone's final drafts will be due by October 6, 2009.
- Chair Alston would like to thank Ms. Lima for her proposal along with Chairman McCoy for explaining to the committee the actions of the Council.
- Chair Alston asked the committee members if this committee should wait and see what the other committees are focusing on or go ahead and do research on four topics that the economic committee had already chosen.
- Chairman McCoy told the committee that it is not too late to continue doing research on what the committee was already doing.
- Chair Alston explains to the Chairman that the Economic committee had already come up with recommendation.
- Chairman McCoy stated that the more local we get the better off we will be in the future than being board.
- Ms. Gallardo and Ms. Demps will be working together to help find research on the recommendations that the Education committee can discuss.
- Pastor Reeves will also be looking at research on the recommendation that he made and will bring it back to the committee.
- Chair Alston informed the committee that all of the research is due back by Friday, July 31.
- Ms. Gallardo suggested tapping the experts, meaning we should find out who the experts are in the communities and go to them and ask for the research, talk with the people who are the experts in the field.
- A motion was made by Ms. Lima for the four recommendations that the Economic committee developed at the last meeting to be approved and brought to the council. The motion was second by Chairman McCoy and approved by the committee.

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

- Chair Alston stated that he received some information back from the Secretary of DMS, but is still waiting to receive information from the Small Business Network.
- Chairman McCoy said we need to find out the information from Mr. Cartwright as soon as possible.
- The next committee meeting will be August 17, which will be the first time that all three committees will be meeting as one.

5. Action Items

<i>Action</i>	<i>Assigned to</i>	<i>Due Date</i>	<i>Status</i>

6. Announcements

7. Next Meeting

<i>Target Date:</i>	<i>August 17, 2009</i>	<i>Time:</i>	<i>2:00pm-4:00pm</i>	<i>Location:</i>	<i>Tallahassee</i>
<i>Objectives:</i>	2009 Annual Report - In collaboration with the Criminal Justice and Gangs and Educational Outcome committees				



Educational Outcomes Teleconference

Date of Meeting: July 10, 2009

Minutes Prepared By: Travis Dudley

1. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 11:20 AM by Chairman McCoy
-

2. Roll Call

<i>Name</i>	<i>Agency</i>
Dr. Anthony McCoy	DCF
Mr. Earnie Brewer	AHCA
Ms. Lillian Lima	DCF
Mr. Tory Alston	DMS
David Denson	Community Participant
Mr. Travis Dudley	OAG
Mr. Rick Nuss	OAG
Rep. Perry Thurston Jr.	Florida House
Rep. Julio Robaina	(Absent)
Ms. Ana Maria Sanchez	(Absent)
Dr. Eddy Regnier	(Absent)
Mr. Levi Williams	(Absent)
Rev. Dr. Albert Simpson Jr.	(Absent)
Sen. Frederica Wilson	(Absent)

Sen. Stephen Wise (Absent)

3. Reading of Minutes; Officers and Committees reports

The Meeting Minutes were approved from April 20 and May 20th 2009.

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

- Chairman McCoy decided to table the nominations for chair until the full council meets.
- Chairman explained to the committees that there has been a problem with establishing a quorum. Chairman let the committee know that for this year's Annual Report, there will only be two committees combined from the six other established committees.
- Chairman talked about how the article that Ms. Gallardo distributed to the council was exactly what he was looking for. Chairman hopes that this article would be an example for the council to use to move forward this year.
- Chairman told the committee that the recommendation that he received for the 2007-2008 matrix did not make any sense to him.
- Chairman has decided that he would like to follow up with the recommendation dealing with teacher culture competency. Chairman stated that he will send a letter out to DOE.
- Chairman asked Mr. Smith was aware of anybody who has raised the issue of cultural competency among teachers.
- Mr. Smith answered not to his knowledge, but he will check with his co-workers at DOE.
- Ms. Gallardo stated that it was included in the desegregation lawsuit in Pinellas County; the case is still in mediation under Bradley v School Board of Pinellas County. Ms. Gallardo also informed the committee that the National Access Network at Teachers College of Columbia University tracks all of the information that the Chairman is looking for.

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

- Chairman thinks that the Education Committee should follow up with the universities and will ask them if they have any faculty present that are in the areas that the legislative body has charged the council to pursue.
- Ms. Gallardo explained to the Chair that the recommendations that he would like to follow were not the recommendations that the Education Committee formulated in Jacksonville.
- Since the Chair did not understand the recommendation that he received in Jacksonville he asked Mr. Smith if he could relay what was recommended.
- Ms. Smith stated it was to evaluate the impact of accountability in education on low performing students, particularly black males.
- Chairman stated that there will be a letter sent to DOE to address that issue. Chairman explained that the Council has to follow up with the recommendations that were already done in 2007-2008.
- Mr. Smith's concern is whether the legislators actually have an effect at the local school districts, what exactly we are doing as a council.
- Ms. Lima explained that in the annual report we are planning on highlighting successful community action projects which are projects in the community that can be used to help alleviate the problems in that area.
- In the Statute the council can raise money for different fundraising projects, explained Ms. Lima. Also she raised the fact that the DSO and the Council are two different entities.
- Chairman McCoy believed that a decision was made that the council would wait on the DSO to be formed.
- Ms. Lima told the Chairman that the problem with that is the DSO has not been established yet because they are waiting on appointments which might take a while. Since the council is already formed then why not move ahead and not wait on the establishment of the DSO to get established.
- Chairman McCoy thought this issue will need to be discussed during the full council meeting.
- Mr. Nuss stated that now the council has statutory authority to fundraise money for the council and the DSO has the same ability.

4. Unfinished Business / New Business

- Chairman McCoy stated that the Council should create a committee for fundraising and that it should be discussed at the next teleconference.
- Ms. Lima asked what exactly are we fundraising for?
- Chairman thought the council will be able to raise money if they ask people to donate for the research of the council and explain that the council is just requesting a donation.

5. Action Items

<i>Action</i>	<i>Assigned to</i>	<i>Due Date</i>	<i>Status</i>

6. Announcements

7. Next Meeting

<i>Target Date:</i>	August 17, 2009	<i>Time:</i>	2:00pm-4:00pm	<i>Location:</i>	Tallahassee
<i>Objectives:</i>	2009 annual report – in collaboration with the Criminal Justice and Gangs and Economic Outcome committees				