



Meeting Minutes  
August 13, 2009

**Welcome and Introductions:**

Paulette Bonner – KDOR; Breana Berroth – KDOR; Vicki Harding – DPS; Sharri Shehi – SRS; Lisa Locke – SRS; Janice Craft – Department of Education; Bob Cockrell – KBI; Elias Garcia – Dept. of Corrections; George Vega – DPS; John Williams – Facilities Management; Anthony Fadale – SRS; Mike Smith – KDOT; Debbie Lang – SRS; Doria Watson – KDOT; Shannon Martinez – Parsons State Hospital; Kristine Haynes – PSHospital; Dwight Garman, KDOT

**Cultural Celebration (John Williams):**

The Fourth Annual Cultural Celebration is scheduled for Thursday, May 6, 2010. The event will be held on the South apron of the Statehouse. We are looking to partner with the City of Topeka. Plans are to see if we can extend the Celebration to have 10<sup>th</sup> Street blocked for the event. Lisa Locke volunteered to be the Public Relations chair for the event.

**Career Fair (Vicki Harding)**

Washburn University – September 9, 2009 from 12:30 to 4:30  
Unity Council of Topeka –

**Discussion of Share Mailing Listserv**

Thoughts were to combine mailing lists with the Recruiter's Network and the Diversity Network. After the meeting, Debbie Lang and Vicki Harding thought it would be best to keep the two mailing lists separate however communication with both committees could be improved. When upcoming meetings are scheduled an e-mail will be sent to the other committee. Same goes for meeting minutes.

## **Other Announcements**

September 3, 2009 is our Statewide HR Conference

On August 21, there was an Organizational meeting to start planning for Kansas' 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday. The Historical Society is gathering ideas from the Community to start planning. Debbie is on the planning committee and will keep us apprised of further developments. The Diversity Network would like to be involved.

Our State of Kansas road maps that the Department of Transportation produces now has our [www.jobs.ks.gov](http://www.jobs.ks.gov) website listed! Thanks to an idea Mike Smith from KDOT had. The job website is listed on the Governor's page. The road maps are updated every two years and KDOT produces around 1.5 million maps. What a great advertisement tool for free!

### **Brainstorming Session:**

Currently the only activity the Diversity Network is the Annual Cultural Celebration. Perhaps other activities could be planned besides the Cultural Celebration.

In the past, we had great ideas however, we had no **follow through**. We would like to see the Network be more accountable and responsible.

Discussion of what we would like the **Diversity Network do:**

Update the website mailing list

Develop a Mission Statement

Develop a definition of Diversity

Visit High Schools - Principals

Revisit the information that was gathered in December 2007

Measure our Projects/Successes by keeping track of people impacted

Teach Job Skills

Partner with the Topeka Youth Project

Offer Job shadowing experiences

Educate people on Disabilities

Offer School credit for Work Experience

Kansas Mentors Program

Educate ourselves on New Tools

Some of our **Challenges** are going to be:

Resources

Reporting

Maintaining focus on our Ultimate goal

Communicating Importance

Limiting/Narrowing Actions /Focus

**Future Planning/Expectations:**

Elias Garcia has developed what is referred to as E-Prep 101. The goal is to provide students with basic, informative and practical professional instruction as students begin their life after high school. Class Instructors include Diversity Network members and State employees. There are 16 modules the student would follow. Class length would be flexible depending on the instructor's class schedule. The E-Prep curricula provides students with resume building, networking skills, job research skills, interviewing skills, community partnerships and many other techniques to help the student prepare and be ready to enter the work environment.

**Next meeting:**

September 10, 2009 at the Brown v. Board Historical Site, 1515 SE Monroe

**Diversity is the State of Kansas!**