**The Links Incorporated**

**Middlesex County Chapter Meeting Minutes - Final**

**November 9, 2019**

**HOSTESS/MEETING LOCATION:** Link Petrina Cherry/Sofia’s Italian Steakhouse/Dedham, MA

**ATTENDANCE:**

|  |
| --- |
| ***Active Members: 25 present*** |
| X | Kaye Allen |  | Julia Cofield | X | Cassandra Lockett |  | Stephanie Robinson |
|  | Earlene Avalon |  | Terri Williams Cohee | X | Kathy Lucas | X | Kim Savoy |
|  | Rebecca Barnett | X | Donna Cramer | X | Juliette Mayers |  | Nikole Skoko |
|  | Vivian Beard\* | X | Barbara Cruz | X | Desiree McNeil |  | Shanique Smith |
|  | Deborah Bernat |  | Terri Cubia |  | Dani Monroe | X | Shelby Smither |
| X | Michele Bingham |  | Jennifer DaSilva |  | Valerie Mosley\* | X | Kathy Taylor |
| X | Clemia Brittenum | X | Chenita Daughtry | X | Angela Motley |  | Kathy Thurman |
| X | Tomiko Brown Nagin |  | Natalie Dixon \*\* | X | Nike Okediji |  | Shawnda Walker |
|  | Kimberly Budd | X | Beverly Edgehill |  | Lisa Owens |  | Pat Washington |
| X | Tamara Cadet |  | Latoyia Edwards | X | Janet Palmer-Owens |  | Terry Wilkins |
|  | Sylvia Carr | X | Juarez Farrington |  | Danielle Pelot | X | Sabrina Williams |
|  | Cynthia Carter | X | Jacqueline Glenn |  | Deloris Pettis |  | Theresa Wilson-Coney |
| X | Petrina Cherry |  | Kimmie Jackson | X | Stephanie Pinder-Amaker | X | Paula Wright |
| X | Elizabeth Clark-Donald |  | Aleta Williams Johnson |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ***Alumni Members: 6 members present*** |
|  | Frances Bernat | X | Carolyn G. Hebsgaard | X | Jackie Benson Jones |  | Donna Norris |
|  | Clemmie Cash | X | Marion Grayer |  | Donna Levy Wray |  | Dorothy Terrell |
| X | Claudette Crouse |  | Donna Hardy |  | Patricia Long |  |  |
|  | Jacqueline Fields |  | Perea Hopkins |  | Veronica Lytle |  |  |
| X | Michele Gibbons-Carr |  | Jean Hurd | X | Julia Monroe |  |  |

\* Members on Leave (2) \*\* Affiliate Members

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

 Chapter President, Link Kim Savoy called the meeting to order at 12:42 and led the National Pledge and Song.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

* A motion was made by Link Shelby Smither and seconded by Link Claudette Crouse to approve the October 5, 2019 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT:** Link Kim Savoy

* The president’s report was distributed to all Chapter members via email prior to the meeting.
* Link Kim reminded the chapter that our chapter’s Gala will be held in October 2020 and asked for two members to volunteer to Co-Chair this event

**CARE AND SHARE:**

* Link Trina is hosting an event with New England Blacks in Philanthropy featuring Bebe Winans. The invitations were sent to Link members and Link Trina encouraged those who can, to attend
* Link Jackie Glenn will present her book “Lift As I Climb” at GetKonnected on November 26th, 5:30pm – 8pm at Eastern Bank, 265 Franklin St, Boston.
* Link Kim announced that Link Jackie will also bring her book to the December meeting. Link Kathy Taylor suggested that other authors should also be included and bring their books to the meeting (Link Juliette Mayers, Link Claudette Crouse, Link Terri Cohee).
* Link Kathy Taylor reminded everyone of tonight’s event at the Encore Casino, 5:00 – 7:00pm.
* Link Liz announced that Link Cindy Carter will be one of the honorees at the Whittier Street Health Center tea on December 4th from 4:30 – 6:30. Link Kim will distribute the flyer.
* Link Liz Clark Donald shared that she has started a new position as Associate Director of the African American Institute at Northeastern University.
* Link Claudette asked each member to introduce herself by going around the room and saying their name
* On Nov. 11th Monday night — Link Trina is hosting an event with NE Blacks in Philanthropy
* Link Donna reported on the trip to Agawan, MA; 18 of our Links sisters went on the trip in addition one Boston Chapter Links member, Link Pamela Everhart. A good time was had by all.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:**

* Our treasurer, Link Deloris Pettis was not able to attend today but the November financial report was distributed to the Chapter via email on November 8th. The account balances as of October 31, 2019 were:
* Restricted Account: $18,069.77
* UnRestricted Account: $18,161.68
* **Combined Balance: $36,231.45**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT:** Link Trina Cherry

* We Belong: Representatives (Officer Jeff Lopes and Nicole Grant) provided an overview of their program and shared stories of the impact they have had on participants who experienced their program. They announced the receipt of a $90,000 donation from a group of New England Patriot players. Link Trina invited Links Members to attend a presentation on ‘What is white privilege?’ This presentation will be held at Northeastern University on November 19th. Link Trina would like for a few of our Links members to add to this conversation by attending the presentation if schedules permit. Link Barbara Cruz offered We Belong the use of a community room with space that accommodates up to eighty people
* Next Committee Meeting: The next Program Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 12th at Link Trina’s office in Charlestown.

 **Membership Committee Report:**  Link Liz Clark Donald

* Founders day is November 9th
* There are 12 core values. Membership chairs are asked to review one core value each month. Today’s core value is “legacy”, our rich history
* Proud of the Ann Bell Scholarship and the white rose and the Ann Bell Scholars
* The bus ride to the Freedom Luncheon was a Friendship activity; chaired by Link Donna Cramer
* One of the activities for Friendship month is joining the Links Boston Chapter to see the movie, Harriet, on Sunday, November 17th at the Lux at Chestnut Hill. Members are welcome to bring spouse and children
* A Document providing guidance on how to calculate your 48 hours was distributed to all members. All members are required to service a minimum of 48hours community service each year and hours must be reported for submission to the Links National Office. This form can be used to record and track your service hours. There is an online service “Track It Forward” that we will look into — there is a cost for over 21 people to use it.
* The Friendship Chain Newsletter from our area director was emailed to everyone on November 4th.
* We’re happy to see our alums and platinum members. Plan is to connect younger members to older members to have conversations.
* The Links history book is up and ready. The Chapter members who were inducted earlier this year (Link Desiree’s group) will each be mailed a book. Others Chapter members who would like to have the book can purchase it
* The next Links National Assembly will be held in New Orleans, June 17-21st. This is an election year and it is an important assembly. Any Chapter members who have questions regarding whether or not they must attend (in order to meet the 1 in 5 requirement) should contact our Membership Chair, Link Liz

**Friendship Retreat Committee** Link Liz Clark Donald

* The Friendship Retreat was is another of our Friendship activities. Co-chair, Link Liz, provided the following update on the October 2019 Friendship Retreat:
* The Executive Summary Report was distributed to all members prior to this meeting
* 38 members attended the retreat
* The results of the member feedback survey have been complimented and the report summarizing the feedback results will be emailed to chapter members. 12 of 38 members completed the survey. Data collected will be passed on to the next Retreat Planning Committee for 2021
* The Retreat Expenses were overbudget due to delivery fees, extra rentals, Saturday evening catering, decorations and change in sequencing the Fashion show to take place before dinner. The overage will be taken out of the Membership line item. The committee recommends continuing the brunch for the chapter meeting with the chapter as the host

 **Ethics Committee**

Code of ethics and member acknowledgement forms were distributed to the members. Members were asked to complete the forms and return them.

* Link Angela presented the report on behalf of Link Julia (chair of the Ethics Committee) who could not be here today
* Link Angela asked all members to take time to read the Links Ethics document as part of the Training on the 7 key points of the code of ethics. She noted there is form in the code of ethics document that can be completed if you think another member has committed an ethics violation. Further highlighted was an important note regarding Links Sponsored event. The silent auction is an area we need to reaffirm; specifically, that Links Chapter members and their immediate family members are not allowed to bid on silent auction items held by a Links Chapter.

 **Protocol Committee** Link Juliette Mayers

* Link Juliette reported on the national Protocol conference call. The focus is on updating Links protocols.
* As a chapter we must have a protocol committee
* Link Juliette is chair and is looking for a few members. Link Tamara Cadette, Link Shelby Smither and Link Desiree McNeil volunteered to participate on the Protocol Committee
* Link Juliette requested that any suggested changes for the 2020 protocol manual be submitted to her by Nov. 15th

 **Founders’ Day Ceremony**

* Link Kim led the chapter in the Founder’s Day Ceremony

Meeting adjourned at 2:33 p.m. Link Kathy Taylor made the motion and Link Juliette Mayers seconded

Prepared by Link Juliette Mayers and

Respectfully submitted by Link Pat Washington, Recording Secretary