

2018 Ways and Means Steering Committee

Meeting Minutes

Saturday, November 17, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m.

Via Zoom

- I. Meeting was called to order @ 9:14 a.m. Othniel McGriff
- II. Roll Call Cheryl Hatton

Othniel McGriff	Vicki Boyd
Jurea Harris	Robin Phoenix
Cherrie Hawkins	John Jackson
Freddie Archer	Betty Hunt
Gwen Shannon	William Anthony
Elsie Bowden	Cheryl Hatton

Brenda Thompson

- III. Opening Prayer Othniel McGriff
- IV. Reading of Minutes Cheryl Hatton
- Approval of Minutes Betty Hunt-Motioned; Supported- John Jackson
- V. Financial Report – None
- VI. Old Business
 - a. 2018 Buffalo Reunion Summary Betty Hunt
Comments of enjoyment, pleased with participation and internal problems. Sent assessment to Sheila. Othniel thanked Buffalo on the Reunion.
 - b. Scholarship/Finance Committee Report Elsie Bowden
Starting balance - \$889.88; rec. \$153.00 in donations from NY/NJ = \$1,042.88
2018 Scholarship - \$500.00 + \$10.00 check fee = \$532.88
Total Assets = \$7,534.54 (incl. interest of 0.01%)
\$7,000 CD matures 12/3/18
Discussion held on why Nadia Payne did not receive scholarship, but can possibly re-apply next year. All future applicants should be apprised of timelines to insure timely submissions.
 - c. Youth Committee Report – None
 - d. By-Laws Committee Report John Jackson

- Document in final phases of completion
- Thanked committee on work done thus far
- Has taken into consideration Cousins suggestions in Buffalo on lack of communication, exclusion of names on roster and no contact with people in areas without chapter representation. All voices need to be acknowledged and heard. Freddie suggested doing something that had been done in previous years and that was to pay a nominal fee (\$10) to give all an opportunity to not only voice opinions but to vote.
- Laurus Robinson suggested to John (in Buffalo) that the W/M Committee be open to all members. There was extensive discussion held re: how to inform family that there is a vehicle to use to make suggestions/ideas/concerns known to the main body. It was also suggested that we utilize strategic times when we can communicate, i.e. camp meeting, to family in cities where there aren't established , chapters, i.e. NC, GA, FL, Delaware, Richmond, Oregon.
- John suggested that Anthony Chair a committee to bring/find family for further unification. William Anthony agreed.
- The By-Laws final phase has been posted online.

VII. New Business

a. Chapter Updates

Gwen shared that the new Chapter in Camden is being established and getting a tax ID #. Asked for any known Cousins in SC (Lancaster) who might be interested in joining, to let her know.

b. Membership Directory Update

Robin will send directory electronically to all on e-mail W/M meeting to make corrections and return those corrections to Gwen by December 1, 2018.

c. Historian Report

Gwen Shannon

d. Chapter Recommendations

i. Scholarship Committee

Cherrie Hawkins

- Have letters of recommendation from school personnel sent electronically to an in-house e-mail.
- Have organization(s) where candidate has volunteered to send letter of recommendation electronically to in-house e-mail.

Moved by Cheryl; Supported by Freddie; Motion Carried

ii. National Cousins Account & Scholarship Fund

Elsie Bowden

- Take that account (in Detroit) and move it in or to the National General Fund.
- National Treasurer, Sheila, was not in attendance, but members agreed to pull money out from Detroit, upon maturation of the \$7,000 CD (12/3/18), and place into an interest bearing account. National Chairperson is to contact Sheila to be certain the money will bear interest.

Motion by Freddie; Supported by Cherrie; Motion Carried

- VIII. 2019 South Carolina Reunion Update Gwen Shannon
- Hotel – Embassy Suites in Columbia, SC
 - Rooms (as reported in June, 2018) - \$132.00 - Double/Twin; \$142 - King
 - Shuttles from airport, train station; to shopping; free parking
 - Saturday outing with cookout and tour in Camden, SC
- IX. Open Forum
- Othniel asked for Freddie to provide an update on the hotel search for 50th Reunion in DC. To date, the committee: Cherrie Hawkins, Gerald Brevard, Barbara Johnson, William Anthony and Freddie Archer have checked a couple of hotels and will continue to search to get the best price.
 - Freddie volunteered to work on the Scholarship Committee with Cherrie and Jurea.
 - Freddie wishes to consider our organization as a 501c3 entity. People and organizations will be able to donate for scholarships and have a tax write off.
 - Cherrie inquired whether the 50th Reunion will be a DC/MD endeavor, if co-partnering with National or if a DC Chapter endeavor?
 - It was suggested that something be done to raise funds for financial sustainability.
- X. Closing Remarks Othniel McGriff
- On behalf of the Chairperson, Othniel extended a “Thank you” to all who participated in the meeting and for being involved.
- XI. Adjournment
- Moved by Jurea to adjourn the meeting at 12:15; Supported by Vicki
Motion Carried.....Meeting adjourned!!

Respectfully Submitted by,

Cheryl Hatton, National Secretary

