



DRAFT

A meeting of the Chapter Membership of the Westchester County (NY) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, was called to order by the President Link Dianne Young on November 19, 2016, at Doral Arrowwood in Rye Brook, NY at 9:05am. The Recording Secretary Quay Wallace Watkins was present. Attendees: Links Traci Alexander, Helen Blackwood, Jacqueline Boucher, Earlene Cox, Kellye Davis, Tahira Dupree Chase, Dawn Michelle Fields, Hillary Fleming, Donna Gordon, Sandra Grannum, Dozene Guishard, Priscilla Hambrick-Dixon, TerriLynne Jenkins, Penelope Johnson Moore, Terry Joyner, Yolanda Cannick Kelly, Jennifer Lewis, Belinda Miles, Marilyn Price, DeLores Scott Braithwaite, Mary Spells, Lisa Stenson-Desamours, Joyce Turnipseed, Ginger Waters-Grant, Michelle Weston, Dianne Young, and Carol Carter.

Call to Order

Links Pledge and Song

Reflections: Link Mary Spells

Review and Approval of Minutes: A motion was made to approve the Minutes of the September 24, 2016 Chapter Meeting by Link Quay Wallace Watkins. The motion was seconded and the motion carried. A motion was made to approve the Minutes of the October 22, 2016 Chapter meeting by Link Quay Wallace Watkins. The motion was seconded and the motion carried.

President's Report & Chapter Operations - Link Dianne Young

Updates from National/Area/Cluster

- Link Dianne attended National's 70th Anniversary in Philadelphia on November 12, 2016. The day consisted of two panels and a Founder's Day Ceremony. The first panel was a panel of millennials which included speakers from Kaiser Permanente, MSNBC, IMPACT Strategies, the Detroit Tigers, CNN, and Bernie Sander's Campaign Manager. They had fresh new perspectives they shared with the audience. They talked about the need to show respect for each other during the meetings. Also the need to accommodate the schedules of young mothers who are members. They talked about the importance of not normalizing what was done during the campaign by the president elect; however, we need to move forward. The moderator of the second panel was Link Glenda Newell-Harris and included six past presidents: Links Dolly Desselle Adams, Gwendolyn Byrd Lee, Margo James Copeland, Regina Jollivette Frazier, Patricia Russell-McCloud and Gladys Gary Vaughn. They shared their experiences while they were president and on the road to the presidency. The majority of the past presidents talked about the importance of being prepared. Each shared their best and worst moments

during their presidency. The day ended with the Founder's Day ceremony. Link Dianne thanked Link Jennifer for attending.

- Recognized Link Joyce who attended in her capacity as National Program Chair. Human trafficking is a new initiative. As an organization, we donated \$5,000 to support a secret location. 60% of women in Philadelphia area who are heroine addicts are more likely to try to escape. The center is sponsored by the Salvation Army. The pimps go right up to the door to get the women to work for them. The staff gets males to sit in the clinic to provide women with safe passage into the clinic. A plaque and \$5,000 check were presented. The Links toured the site.
- The Leadership Summit was held in Norfolk, Virginia in October. A lot of information was disseminated at the Summit. The Cluster will bring selected topics to the Cluster meeting. A key topic is financials. The Area Treasurer and Financial Secretary will come to New York to explain the changes. It will probably be held during a weekend in January.
- Alvin Ailey sold out; however, Link Dianne is going to try to get additional tickets. There will be a post performance reception.
- Greater Bronx is sponsoring Go Red on February 12, 2017 in the Bronx.
- The Area Conference will be held April 21-25, 2017 in Richmond, Virginia. We have 2 or 3 members who should attend if they haven't met their 1 in 5 requirement. If 2017 is your 5th year, members should register immediately right when registration is open because it will sell out quickly. Please let Link Dianne know if you are planning to attend.

Committee Reports

Finance

Operating Account - Beginning Balance \$17,937.49, Closing Balance \$17,661.99

FBO Account - Beginning Balance \$50,085.44, Closing Balance \$38,410.44

Program Balance - \$8,285.00, Closing Balance \$5,003.63

Membership - Link Terry Joyner

- The Chapter has an opportunity to collaborate on a fundraiser with the Deltas on a movie screening of *Hidden Figures* with Taraji P. Henson on January 14, 2017, at 10am. Tickets are \$15. The theater charges \$8.70 per ticket. Anything above that is profit for the Chapter. We must purchase from their concession stands because they won't allow us to bring in outside food. They are considering purchasing coffee in order to make it available for the attendees. Our Chapter would be responsible for sharing the cost of the coffee. The theater holds 200 people. If we sell more tickets they will open another theater. It will be held at the Greenberg Multiplex at 320 Saw Mill River Road in Elmsford. Link Terry made a Motion that the Chapter participate in the movie screening of *Hidden Figures* in partnership with the Deltas on January 14, 2017. The event will be a fundraiser. Motion was seconded. Motion carried.
- Another fundraising opportunity is with Barnes & Noble at City Center. They are having a charitable gift wrapping service during the holiday season. They provide all of the wrapping paper, etc. and are asking groups to come out and wrap paper and they will be able to keep any donations they receive. The Deltas will be there on December 4th

with a Santa Claus for photos. They have asked if we would like to join them and wrap gifts. The shifts are December 4th 10am-2pm 2pm-6pm, 6pm-10pm.

- The next Chapter Meeting and Christmas party will be held on December 3rd at the Whartburg. It will be a Day of Service with caroling. We are inviting alumna and platinum members.
- On Wednesday, December 28th there will be a Girlfriends Night Out to go see Fences.
- Another Girls Night Out will be held at the Clay Arts Center in the Spring.
- In March will have a tea to celebrate Women's History Month.

Programs

- Link Delores spoke about the Across the Miles "Precious Pearls" Project. The Chapter is partnering with Voices of African Mothers (VAM) on a baby shower for the baby orphans in Mampong Ghana, Africa. She explained the difficult conditions under which the babies are living and the horrendous circumstances they have suffered. They need diapers (newborn to toddler) crib sheets, youth bed sheets, lightweight blankets, pull-ups and training pants (boys & girls) clothing of all kind, non perishable baby food, baby lotion, baby powder, and baby toys newborn to toddler. Link Sandi inquired about the ability to contribute to the organization on a regular basis.
- In the past we have collected gifts to donate to children who are Aids patients at Mt. Vernon hospital. This year we would like to donate them in memory of Link Anne Young Berkeley. Link Jennifer will spearhead the collection of funds for the gifts.
- Activities:
 - November 12th NTS and The Arts had an *In An Arts State of Mind* session.
 - November 15th STY will hold a Dress for Success session for the Young Achievers.
 - In conjunction with Voices of African Mothers, ITS is sponsoring a Baby Shower on December 3rd. at the Theodore Young Community Center. Everyone is asked to bring donations.
 - December 7th Young Achievers workshop 3:30-5:30 at NRHS on Interviewing Skills.
 - December 10th *In An Arts State of Mind* session.

New Business

- Link Joyce reported that there is an opportunity for the Links to partner with other organizations to see the movie *Hidden Figures* on January 14, 2017. NTS will reach out to National on this issue.

Announcements

- Link Delores' husband fell and broke his hip. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Link Tahira and Link Belinda were recognized by the NAACP.
- Metro Manhattan's fundraiser is December 11th. Link Margo Copeland is one of the speakers.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 10:20am.

Respectfully submitted: Quay Watkins, Recording Secretary

