



## **DRAFT**

A meeting of the Chapter Membership of the Westchester County (NY) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated was called to order by the President Dianne Young, on March 26, 2016, at 7:25pm EST at the Crown Plaza in White Plains, NY. The Recording Secretary Quay Wallace Watkins was present. A quorum was present. The following Links were in attendance: Claudia Edwards, Terrilynne Jenkins, Helen Blackwood, Mary Spells, Delores Scott Brathwaite, LaTia Martin, Kathie Davidson, Dozene Guishard, Sandi Grannum, Ann Moore, Priscilla Hambrick-Dixon, Janice Carter Shaw, Penelope Moore, Mary Graves, Terry Joyner, Javette Hines, Barbara Gundy, Jackie Boucher, Yolanda Cannick Kelly, Joyce Mills Kitrell, Donna Dozier Gordon, Lisa Stenson Desamours, Dianne Young, Traci Alexander, Karen Hill, Bettye Perkins, Ginger Waters Grant, and Marilyn Price.

Review and Approval of the Chapter Meeting Minutes from February 27, 2016. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Link Quay Wallace Watkins. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved as read.

**Reflections:** Link Mary Spells  
Link Priscilla gave a prayer of comfort.

## **REPORTS**

### **President's Report: Link Dianne Young Recognition**

Link Javette & Connecting Link Keith were appointed as Deconess and Deacon at Abyssinian Baptist Church

### **Chapter Operations**

- Members were encouraged to review the Webinar schedule and participate in some of the sessions.
- Registration for National Assembly is open. Link Dawna asked if she could have a dinner for the Chapter at the National Assembly.
- Welcome back to Link Penelope and Link Terry Joyner.
- A series of short committee presentations will take place at the April meeting.
- The Executive Committee is still working on the Chapter Handbook. It is requested that members submit their sections so the handbook will be ready to distribute to the new members.

- The Hospitality Committee has been discussing how to recognize our members who have received awards by community and other organizations.
- Communications & PR: Link Dawna has taken on the co-chair role along with Link Lisa Stockmon. They will be reviewing internal and external communications. More use of the Members only section of the website is encouraged in order to reduce the number of emails. Link Joan & Link Terrylynne will review communications from a technology perspective. Recently, two communications were distributed by email and some members did not approve. Link Delores said that the Ethics & Protocol Committee will discuss and make recommendations.
- Link Dianne reached out to the NAACP to see if the Chapter is already a Lifetime member. She is waiting for a response.
- Members were encouraged to participate in Vision 2020. There were three members who did not participate.

## **Membership**

- Link Terry Joyner expressed her deep appreciation for the prayers, calls, cards, and words of comfort upon the passing of her mother.
- The Orientation Sessions Schedule is as follows:
  - April 4, 2016, the Wartburg President's House
  - April 23, 2016, following the Chapter Meeting
  - May 1, 2016, at clubhouse in Link Lisa Stenson Desamours' neighborhood at 4:00pm.
- Thanked members for submitting Service Hours. In the future, it is requested that members submit the hours on a quarterly basis due to the significant amount of time it takes to enter the data into National's system.
- Link Terry made a motion to accept Link Rosalyn Carnage's request for alumni status. The Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.
- Link Minnette is requesting to resign in good standing for family reasons. Link Terry Joyner made a motion to accept her resignation in good standing. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

## **Finance Report: Link La Tia Martin**

- The Finance Report was presented by Link La Tia Martin.
- Enter Opening & Closing Balances

## **Program Report: Link Marilyn Price**

- The Program Report has been posted on the website.

## **Presentation by Arts & NTS Facet - Link Lisa Stenson Desamours**

- Link Earlene gave the Arts Facet's presentation on sculpting. She displayed some of the extraordinary pieces she has created. She shared how she got involved with art during the process of grieving for her mother. She recommended trying to sculpt someone's face or body if you want to start using your left side of your brain. When she was asked how did she know she could create, she said, "I was created by a creator who created me in his image. I am a creator. The greatest sculptor in the world is God."

He uses rocks, wind, and water to create things." Also, she distributed the pieces made by members who attended the Clay Party at the Clay Art Center in Portchester.

- Link Dozene from NTS spoke in great detail about a very important public health concern that will impact each of us one way or another, Alzheimers. She related that it is an epidemic in our society that cuts across generations. She moderated a very detailed and informative PowerPoint presentation she developed with Link Earlene. Link Earlene added her personal experience with Alzheimers and her passion about raising awareness about this deadly disease. Link Dozene also shared her experience with a family member, as did a few other members. Information was distributed to each member. Link Earlene is advocating for Alzheimer's becoming a national issue with the Links. Link Dozene stated we must attack the Alzheimer's Disease epidemic across four pillars:

Health & Wellness

Finance

Care Giving

Social Engagement

- Link Dozene spoke about the work of the Chapter at the Wartburg. During their last visit, some of the seniors said we remember you and want the Chapter to come back as soon as possible.
- Wartbug/CAC Art Program - the two Facets are having conversations with the Clay Arts Center about going into the Wartburg to teach clay arts. The Clay Arts Center representatives are excited about this project. Link Yolanda said she spoke to the Wartburg and they are very excited about collaborating on this project.
- NTS's goals are to collaborate with the Chapter's Facets to integrate National's AARP initiative across all facets.
- Link Dozene stated that members should be thinking about long term care insurance. There is a plethora of information about Care Giving and creating Care Circles.
- Some of the contributing factors to Alzheimers are: high blood pressure, diabetes, stress, and lack of exercise. Activities that involve doing something creative are encouraged in order to keep the mind active.
- The following are upcoming activities relating to Alzheimers:
  - May 13, 2016, Meeting of the Minds Alzheimers Conference 9am-4pm at Double-tree Hotel in Tarrytown.
  - September 18, 2016 Purple Sunday for houses of worship to heighten the awareness about Alzheimers.
  - Westchester County Walk for Alzheimers September 25, 2016.

## **Announcements**

- Link Traci spoke about having a fundraiser in connection with going to see *Head of Passes*, a play about family and faith starring Felicia Rashad on April 24, 2016. The cost is \$75 for a ticket and the reception. She is trying to arrange a discussion with Ms. Rashad. If 40 members commit to selling 3 tickets at \$150 each, the Chapter could raise approximately \$9,000 for the evening. The Chapter would need 75 people to have a discussion with Ms. Rashad. Several members felt that April is not enough time to do this as a fundraiser. Consensus was to pursue it as a Chapter activity. Traci will send more information via email.

- Link Ruby had surgery and it went very well.
- Saturday April 9, 2016, 55 people will be going to see the Dance Theater of Harlem performance at 2:00pm and have dinner at 4:15pm after the performance at Pazza Note.
- Tickets for the Taste Off on April 30th at Woodlands High School will be held. It is a fundraiser for scholarships. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door.
- For Women Only is having their wonder-filled weekend celebrating their 38th year of “Love, Friendship and Sisterhood.” They have extended invitations to the Links and others to attend their “open” events. The Masquerade Party will be held on May 14th at 8:00pm at the Davenport Mansion. The hats luncheon will be held on May 15th at 2:00pm at the Renaissance Westchester Hotel. Link Margo Copeland is the guest speaker at the luncheon. A private reception for Links and reserved tables for Links are available. Link Jackie has invitations and further information.
- Link Ann requested that the Executive Committee complete the Survey Monkey for the Strategic Plan.

### **Correspondence**

- The Lois Bronz Children’s Center gala will be held on May 26, 2016.
- Link Delores thanked everyone for their love and support during the passing of her brother.
- A card was read from Link Penelope thanking her Link Sisters for their love and support during the passing of her husband.

Review and Approval of the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes from January 26, 2016. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Quay Wallace Watkins. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved as read.

**Adjournment** - a Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Link Barbara Gundy. The Motion was seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 12:13pm.

*Quay Wallace Watkins, Esq.*

*Recording Secretary*

### **COLLABORATION - INTEGRATION - ALIGNMENT**