



The Links, Incorporated Westchester County (NY) Chapter Crowne Plaza, White Plains, New York

Membership Meeting June 27, 2015

Attendees: Links

Tracy Alexander, Helen Blackwood, Linda Bradshaw, Janis Carter-Shaw, Earlene Cox, Kathie Davidson, Barbara Edwards, Claudia Edwards, Hillary Fleming, Mary Graves, Dozene Guishard, Barbara Gundy, Priscilla Hambrick-Dixon, Terry Joyner, Yolanda Kelley-Cannick, Joyce Mills-Kittrell, Joan Lewis Shepherd, LaTia Martin, Bettye Perkins, Florence Scott, Ruby Sherwood, Lisa Stenson-Desamours, Lisa Stockmon, Joan Thompson, Joyce Turnipseed, Ginger Waters-Grant, Quay Watkins, F. Dianne Young, Anne Young-Berkeley

Absentees: Jacqueline Boucher, Minette Francis-Haden, Donna Gordon, Sandra Grannum, Karen Hill, Illonka Javette Hines, Brenda Jackson-Butcher, Terrilynne Jenkins, Jennifer Lewis, Penelope Johnson Moore, , Ann Moore, Carol Morales Riggs, Marilyn Price, Louise Quick Spann, Delores Scott Brathwaite, Mary Spells, Michelle Weston

Call to Order: President Dianne Young called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.

Reflections

Link Priscilla Dixon provided the reflections which covered the losses in our lives (within our Chapter and our Nation – most recently the tragedy in Charleston, SC). Link Priscilla read Maya Angelou's poem "Still I Rise" and also reflected on the moving eulogy by President Obama.

Review and Approval of Minutes: Link Joan Lewis Shepherd, Recording Secretary. Link Joan Lewis Shepherd motioned that we approve the May 15, 2015 minutes. It was seconded by Link Anne Young Berkeley. Motion approved unanimously.

President's Report: President Dianne Young

- Our Chapter president welcomed members to our last meeting of the year.
- Congratulations to the Java and Jazz/65th anniversary team for a successful weekend of celebration.

Chapter operations

- Signup for Facets and Committees to be completed by July 12th.
- Per our bylaws, the current administration of Facet and Committee chairs stays on board until the new members are assigned to the role.
- Our Chapter bylaws should be updated this summer. Link Sandi Grannum will lead this effort.
- The communications to members on LOA: It is appropriate to have LOA members have access to our “Members Only” section of the website, but not required for email distribution.
- Chapter meeting location: There is a core group of members who have expressed concerns about the current Chapter meeting location.
- Our Chapter is rich with talent, and as a result some members have been assigned to National and Area positions.
 - Link Joyce Turnipseed has been assigned as Chair of the HBCU Committee.
 - Link Earlene Cox will Chair AARP.
 - Link Dawna Michelle Fields has been assigned to the Corporate Liaison committee.
 - Link Barbara Edwards will chair the Organizational Effectiveness committee.

Eastern area

- Our Chapter has sent a “get-well” card to Link Dianne Hardison wishing her a speedy recovery.

Cluster

- Invitations from different Chapters for upcoming celebrations have begun. Link Dianne Young encouraged our members to attend and support these activities. Communications about each event will be sent separately.
- Link Dianne Young submitted a recommendation for journal ads which will help all chapters.
- The National Leadership conference will be held in September. Link Terry Joyner will attend. Members interested in attending should discuss with Link Dianne Young.

Treasurer’s Update – Link LaTia Martin (Treasurer) – see emailed report.

- Link LaTia Martin presented the Chapter’s financial report on our operating and program accounts.
- Members are reminded to get expenses submitted for processing.

Scholarship

- Congratulations to the Scholarship committee for doing a wonderful job with the awards reception and publicity entry. This year’s closing speech included online programs that the students could access for use in college. It was noted that the reception this year included boys, and they received boutonnieres. There was great interaction between the students as well as the parents. Link Linda Bradshaw thanked the Committee members and volunteers.
- Link Linda Bradshaw made a motion for a budget modification of \$300. It was seconded by Link Ginger-Waters Grant. The motion carried.

Program Update: Link Marilyn Price, Chairman-See emailed reports.

- Workshop on Programming for the upcoming year

Java & Jazz & 65th Anniversary—Links Terry Joyner & Mary Graves Co-chairs—See emailed reports.

- Link Dianne Young talked about the importance of Java and Jazz and that it funds our Programs.
- Link Terry Joyner provided a preliminary financial report resulting from this year's fundraising event. Link Terry Joyner also provided initial feedback received from this year's event.
- Link Terry thanked all members for their support in our Chapter's signature fundraiser.
- Congrats to the Chapter for making it to the Time Square billboard!
- "Special thanks" to Link Dawna Michelle Fields for the tremendous support that she personally provided for the fundraising event.
- Motion made by Link Terry Joyner that the Java & Jazz celebration for 2016 be held on May 15th at the VIP Country Club (with the condition that at the time the contract is entered into with a deposit, that the venue demonstrate how it will improve the valet parking provided for our guests on the ate and improve the timeliness of food service.. It was seconded by Link Hillary Fleming. Motion carries.

Announcements:

- Link Barbara Gundy on behalf of Link Javette Hines expressed "special thanks" to the following members of the Membership Committee for their support. Links Joyce Turnipseed, Dozene Guishard, Anne Young-Berkeley.
- Link Barbara Gundy encouraged everyone to get their hours submitted to Link Carol Morales Riggs.
- Applause! Applause! Once again, our Chapter made it in the journal news/
- Reminder that Link Helen Blackwood's petition is underway. She is running for Westchester County Court Judge.
- Congratulations to Link LaTia Martin who was elected president of the statewide organization "African American Judges of Color".
- Link LaTia Martin was the Commencement speaker for Mount Vernon High School graduation.
- Link LaTia Martin is organizing a Legal Research seminar which will be held in Cuba for lawyers and judges on October 13th thru October 20th. This year, non-lawyers can attend. If interested, please send an email to Link LaTia.

Recognition

- Link Bettye Perkins was recognized the by the Westchester County Democratic committee.
- Link Dawna Michelle Fields was recognized by the African Mothers. Link Delores Brathwaite was the keynote speaker for the event.

Correspondence

- Our Chapter received a thank you letter from Link Natalie Fan for the opportunity to join us at the recent Java & Jazz/65th anniversary celebration.
- Thank you card received from Link Javette Hines for the many cards, calls and text messages with words of comfort during her recent illness.
- Marion Howard (one of the artists) sent a thank you card for our Chapter's support and patronage at the recent Java and Jazz/65th anniversary celebration.

- Our Chapter received via email a thank you note from Link Dianne Hardison for the beautiful flowers we sent to her while she recovers from her injury.
- We received a save-the-date card from the Long Island Chapter for their "Day at the Races" to benefit scholarships and programs. It will take place on September 26th. Additional details be forthcoming.

Motion made by Link Quay Watkins to start September Chapter meeting at 9am. It was seconded by Link Claudia Edwards. Motion approved unanimously.

Adjournment: Link Joan Lewis Shepherd made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Link Hillary Fleming. President Dianne Young adjourned the meeting at 11:52 am.

Submitted by:

Joan Lewis Shepherd
Recording Secretary

-----END OF CHAPTER MINUTES DATED JUNE 27, 2015-----