



***BWHAA Executive Board Meeting
Metro Chapter Board Meeting
Saturday, October 20, 2007***

Attendees:

Handel Diggs	Darren Willkins	Yvonne Hansford
Himie-Budu Shannon	Elyne Padmore	Comfort Kenneh
Gudrun Harris	Daffeh Hansford	Bendu Hansford
Stephen Taylor	Charles Johnson	Wilhelmina Wilson
Dora Ernst	Eudora Gardiner	Roseline Sims
Tonea Fowler		

- The National Chairman, Handel Diggs convened the meeting at 1:45 P.M...
- The National Chaplain, Eudora Gardiner gave the opening prayer.
- Metro Chapter President, Roseline Sims welcomed the board and chapter members.
- Wilhelmina Wilson motioned to adopt agenda and it was seconded by Gudrun Harris and approved.
- Chairman Diggs acknowledged Charles Johnson from Rhode Island as an observer at the meeting. He also congratulated the news letter team for the outstanding job in publishing the news letter; and the Benevolence Committee for reaching out to members in need.
- The Chairman also stated that the he and his officers will participate in a quarterly "Live with National" town hall meeting to engage chapter members highlighting national initiatives and generating dialogue to enhance organization and chapters
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- **Website Update:**
 - ❖ Darren Wilkens told the body that the organization had a new domain and it would be up and running within the next 2 weeks.
- **State of the Chapters:**
 - ❖ **Tri-State Chapter:**
 - Gudrun Harris, President-elect informed the body of the Tri-State Chapter newly elected officers.

- 1st Vice President – elect informed also informed the body of the chapter’s 2007-2008 fundraisers. They were:
 - Officers Installation Program
 - Honoring Fathers and Churches
 - Bishop George D. Browne Award & Banquet
- ❖ Wilhelmina Wilson asked about the Tri-State Science lab project for the school. Gudrun Harris stated she had some of the lab supplies, but Tri-State can not furnished the entire lab because the supplies are too expensive.
- ❖ Budu Shannon suggested that we find out what we need to furnish the lab, and ask if any one outside of Tri-State can make contributions toward the supplies. He also said we should ask the school what type of supplies they needed for the lab. Chairman Diggs said he will send an email to the school with the question.

- ❖ **Metro Chapter:**
 - Roseline Sims, President of the Metro Chapter gave a synopsis of the 2008 convention. She stated the convention will start Thursday July 3rd and end Sunday, July 6th. She also suggested that the Board meeting will be held Thursday evening, July 3rd, and the convention meeting will be held Saturday, July 5th.

- ❖ **MidWest:**
 - Comfort Kenneh, President of the Midwest Chapter stated they had 4 fundraisers for 2008.
 - Pre Valentine day February
 - New Year’s Eve Ball
 - Spaghetti Drive – April
 - Culture Show and Dance

- ❖ **Georgia:**
 - Wilhelmina Wilson, former Chairlady spoke on behalf of the Georgia Chapter stating that the president, Gail Farnvalo will send the chapter fundraising plan to National. She also stated that they were planning to sell Christmas cards with pictures of the students.

- ❖ **North Carolina:**
 - Budu informed the body that the North Carolina chapter was schedule to have a meeting at the end of November. He said there are 20 persons committed to revitalizing the chapter, and they are looking for a point person. The chapter also has \$500 in the bank to purchase a printer for the school.

- ❖ **Texas:**
 - Chairman Diggs said he spoke to the folks in Texas and they are still

looking to revitalize their chapter. He asked them to send their email list to national so they can receive the quarterly news letter and the promotion of registration and the capital campaign.

❖ **Deleware / South Jersey:**

- Darren Wilkens said they are still in the process of forming the chapter and Berma Findley is the organizer. Budu suggested we be careful how the South Jersey members leaves the Tri-State Chapter to join the Deleware / South Jersey Chapter.

❖ **Rhode Island:**

- Charles Johnson told the body that a meeting was held at his house with some of the Rhode Island chapter members, and they are asking National to write the chapter a letter of apology to the 47 members for not acknowledging them for hosting convention.
- Budu stated that if National writes the letter it will be the 4th apology to the Rhode Island Chapter. The 1st was in Detroit, 2nd at Prudence King house, 3rd came from Charles Hansford and Budu. The Chairman indicated that the association should write the letter and the body concurred.

The Chairman asked chapters to consider executing birthday Reaching Out and benevolence to members to maintain goodwill and grow membership.

● **Audit Committee:**

- Chairman Diggs informed the body that he did not get audit report from the Audit Committee Chair, Pierre King .term has expired.
- Wilhelmina stated that all documents have been sent to Pierre King for the Georgia Chapter 2005 audit with the exception on the convention report.

● **BW Harris School – Potential Projects:**

- Supplement and upgrade the Teachers salary and training – Chairman Diggs will get clarification and current breakdown of salaries from the school.
- School Restoration – Chairman Diggs will also get a comprehensive proposal from the school and present it at convention. He also told the body that we need someone who is knowledgeable in Grant writing.
- He said he will ask the local alumni association to take a walk through the school and give a comprehensive study of what the school needs.
- Smart Technology: Darren Wilkens gave proposals to update the school library and upgrade computers on site. The body decided to get input from school to ensure it is a priority.
 - Proposal 1 – involves the installation of a 25 computer laboratory.
 - Proposal 2 – involves the conversion of the library into a media center.

The Chairman will engage BWH for input.

● **Convention Honorarium:**

- Chairman Diggs stated that we have not met the 50% funding to be sent to the school. He proposed to discontinue paying the national officers and board

members honorarium at convention. Wilhelmina suggested setting up a committee to study the proposal made by Chairman Diggs and leave the honorarium as is. Budu made a motion discontinue the honorarium, it was seconded. The board voted over whelming for the discontinuation of the honorarium at convention.

- Chairman Diggs also proposed to discontinue the honorarium for the chapter presidents. Comfort Kenneh suggested that the chapter president's honorarium stay as is and the body should consider changing the way we meet, how often and where. Budu suggested the body set up a committee to do a study. Elyne Padmore and Stephen Taylor volunteered to study the proposal made by the Chairman and report back to the body.

- **Capital Campaign: The Chairman introduced Budu Shannon and Bendu Hansford as Chair and Co-Chair of the campaign to enhance fundraising both internally and externally for the association. Daffeh Hansford suggested that the association aggressively pursue corporate sponsorship.**
 - Budu asked the body to look at the campaign write-up and email him any suggestions. He also asked that we send him a list of corporate sponsors. He asked that each chapter send the name of their representative by 11/15/07 that will be on the capital campaign committee. He proposed to kick off the capital campaign with a ball.
 - Class Challenge/Chapter Challenge
 - Registration Campaign

- **Financial report:**
 - Copies of the financial report for the period May 31, 2006 – June 28, 2007 was passed out to the body. It was also stated that National had \$5,205 in the scholarship account, and \$5,800.73 in the operating account. Yvonne Hansford, Midwest Chapter Treasurer and Comfort Kenneh, Midwest President presented convention report. The report was incomplete and body requested completion by November 20, 2008.

- The National Chairman thanked board members for participation and called for greater sacrifice by Alumni. Meeting adjourned at 4:15 P.M. and closing prayers led by National Chaplain, Eudora Gardiner.