

**MINUTES OF THE FIRST CONFERENCE CALL AFTER CONVENTION 2009**

**OCTOBER 11, 2009...(CONF PHONE # 218-486-1616, PASS CODE: 60391#)**

AGENDA

Prayer-----Ms Mildred Karpeh

Welcome Statement-----W. Howard

Convention 2009 financial report.....A. Morris

Scholarship Update

    Disbursement of appropriation

    Instructional materials

Selection of guest speaker.....

Other business.....

Adjournment.....

**ATTENDANCE**

Calvin R. Johnson.....Atlanta

Roy Reeves..... Atlanta

Alexander J. Morris..... Maryland

Lucinda Joko Nagbe..... Georgia

Charles G. Nagbe..... Georgia

Oscar Barnard..... Virginia

Frances Potter..... Maryland

Emmanuel N. Reeves..... Maryland

Nathaniel Brumskine..... Maryland

Joseph D. Sinyan..... Maryland

Ms Joanna Caulcrick.....Texas

Esther Caulcrick..... Texas

Alma H. Smith..... Indiana  
 Victor King..... New York  
 Mildred H. Karpeh.....North Carolina  
 Ida J. Lloyd ..... Iowa

The conference began at 7:05 with prayer by the chaplain, Mrs. Mildred Karpeh and welcome remarks by the president, Mr. Wilmot Howard. Mr. Howard thanked the Marylanders for a successful hosting of the convention as well as everyone who attended the meeting or contributed to its success in any way.

The agenda was read by the secretary and a motion to accept it was made by Mr. Victor King and seconded by Mr. Nuku Reeves. The financial report for the convention was given by the treasurer:

\$16,500..... generated at the convention  
 \$7,220.....convention expenditure  
 \$3,100.....annual dues by 31 persons; 29 persons paid cash,  
 2 persons Paid in kind  
 \$30,214.86..... Bank Balance as of 09/30/09

The treasure also gave the following breakdown:

**A. REVENUE**

Revenue from tickets.....	\$2,815.00
Raffle.....	1,289.00
Souvenirs.....	825.00
Fund raising by board chairman.....	10,000.00
Drink (sales).....	877.00
Georgia Food sale.....	549.00
Maryland food sale.....	155.00
Total revenue.....	<b>16,510.00</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME IN BANK.....</b>	<b>\$32,200.00</b>

**B. EXPENDITURES**

Ticket printing.....	\$ 312.00
Advertisement (FrontPage).....	113.52
Raffle prizes (1st, 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> ).....	300.00
Catering.....	2,000.00
Disc Jockey (DJ) .....	500.00
Souvenirs.....	695.00
Hall rental (night session).....	2000.00
Hall rental (morning session).....	400.00
Farewell party.....	100.00
Video recording/DVD.....	500.00
Live performance (Mrs. Barnard).....	300.00
Security deposit for all to be refunded.....	2,000.00

(will bring balance up to \$32,200)

At this time Ms Ida Lloyd observed that per the financial report from the convention balance as of August 13, 2009 (\$26,815.85), the totals do not reconcile. Can you explain?

Clarification by Nuku: the convention report including tickets, raffles, and souvenirs is different from the annual financial report. The annual financial report covers all activities from January 1, 2009 thru September 30, 2009. Mr. and Mrs. Nagbe paid their dues in kind by paying for the website.

The president requested that the financial report be mailed to everyone to have a copy for the next meeting. Motion was put forward by Mr. Calvin Johnson and seconded by Mr. Roy Reeves. Mr. Victor King added that we need two reports: one from the treasurer and one from the financial secretary. This suggested was okayed by Mr. Wilmot Howard and asked the body to suspend the financial report until everybody has received a copy. Ms. Alma Smith noted that all reports should be available for each meeting.

Mr. Nuku noted that the financial reports of the convention did not include all the expenditure/incomes before and after the convention Mr. Howard agreed to Nuku's clarification but requested a report from the convention actives as well.

Mr. Oscar Barnard suggested that the report read by the treasure not be considered official until the next meeting when everyone has a copy to read and follow during the discussion. Mr. Mildred Karpeh

then added that we wait until we all get the financial report to avoid wasting time. This suggestion was accepted by the president.

### **SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE**

According to the president, the vice president, Mrs. Nagbe realized that the amount for the scholarship fund was over estimated for the five students so we contacted the Chief Education Officer and decided that ten students (5 duxes and 5 2<sup>nd</sup> duxes) were awarded the scholarship. Thanks to the board chairman for under writing the cost of the scholarship for the ten students and to Mrs. Alma Smith, the VP and the president for providing funding for three extra students. These three students are not part of the scholarship, their funding was a private donation made by the three persons named above as a onetime gesture.

The president then explained the background for the awarding of the scholarship and stated that the scholarship committee submitted their report, but due to time constraint, we did not discharge the committee or thank them for the job well done. He then thanked the committed and asked them to continue in office pending the approval of convention 2010. He acknowledged that the committee did a good job. Mr. Victor king wanted to know if the committee is re-instated and the president answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Calvin Johnson thanked everyone concerned for sponsoring the students, including the board chairman for underwriting the cost, but wanted to know the criteria used to sponsor the additional three students. At the time, Mr. Nagbe and Mr. Howard answered that the three students were sponsored from private contributions (from the president, Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Nagbe) not part of the scholarship fund. Ms. Ida Lloyd wanted to know if the three students are aware that they are not part of the association's scholarship fund and Mr. Howard answered "yes, they are".

Mr. Howard asked if everyone agreed to accept the ad hoc scholarship committee till the next convention. Mr. Nuku reeves moved to have the committee remain in place and was okayed by everybody. At this time Mr. Calvin Johnson tendered his resignation as member of the scholarship committee.

Mr. Victor king wanted to know if will get feedback from the school about the students. Mr. Howard answered "yes" and the scholarship committee will determine the criteria for continuation of the program.

Mr. Howard stated that disbursement of funds for the school materials has not yet been done, the computer lab does not have a printer and printers are needed for the laboratory. Mrs. Nagbe will through more light on the computer issue.

According to Mrs. Nagbe, the president suggested that we put a printer in the principal, dean and registrar's offices and 2 or 3 printers in the computer lab. Two choices to get them are:

- A-----HP printer in the US.....\$800.00
- B.....Liberia...5 laser printers @ \$350.00 each

- C. .... Other needs: ink, paper, office supplies
- Big printer (all in one).....\$892.00 networking laser printer
- Small networking printers-----\$350.00 each
- Principal’s office-----not networking
- Vice principal’s office..... “
- Registrar..... “

Mr. Nat Brumskine stated that he does not support expensive laser printers for the principal/vp/registrar’s offices. Mr. Nuku Reeves stated that he can ship the printers to Liberia free of charge. He also reiterated that we need small printers costing \$69 each which the current in Liberia can support. Mr. Howard suggested that we need a group of 3-4 persons to examine the printer issue. Mr. Brumskine and Mrs. Karpeh suggested time factor be considered and that the people be named right now. The following persons were appointed and mandated to select, pay for and transport the printers to Liberia.

- ❖ Joseph Sinyan
- ❖ Mrs. Joko Nagbe
- ❖ Nat Brumskine
- ❖ Nuku Reeves

**SELECTION OF GUEST SPEAKER**

Mr. Howard solicited suggestions for the next guest speaker and the following persons’ names were suggested:

- ❖ Bill Ayres-----
- ❖ Bishop John G. Innis
- ❖ Dr. Gustav Barnard
- ❖ Ms. Patricia Railey....

**BRIEFING ON RHODE ISLAND CONVENTION**

The chairman was not on line to give a complete briefing but the following information was provided by Mr. Howard:

- ❖ The halls in Provident do not allow drinks to be sold
- ❖ The Jewish hall is \$100/hr after 6 p.m. and has to be booked 3 months before the convention
- ❖ The hotel needs a licensed liquor seller, security to sell liquor in there.

Brumskine suggested that the find out the refund policy of the various halls.

**Other business**

Calvin Johnson asked why there is no information on the BHS website about the convention 2009? Who is the webmaster? Any committee on website. Is there a committee on the website? Mr. Howard answered "no", the \$500 for the website was not disbursed because someone needed to be trained. Ms. Alma Smith suggested that we need a professional website to put all our information on the website. Mrs. Joko Nagbe said that BHS never had a website, she asked Calvin to build the website and later she asked Krangar to update the site; if Calvin wants to help out, he can do so. Mrs. Karpeh suggested that we need somebody responsible to get the website up. The president requested time to discuss with people to get the website up again.

Mr. Brumskine asked that by the next meeting the president should have a budget for the association.

Mrs. Joanna Caulcrick said she has contacted some friends in Texas to participate in the meetings and other functions of the organization and will continue to do so.

Finally, Mr. Howard asked that people who have any issue with the running of the organization should call the person/the president and not put derogatory email on the internet. This behavior tends to discourage people against the organization and portray that we are not united to our goals. At this point the president thanked everyone for calling in and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p. with prayer by the chaplain, Mrs. Mildred Karpeh.