

**MINUTES**  
**WNCC LAY ORGANIZATION MEETING**  
**Bethel AMEC – Greensboro, NC**  
**October 14, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Penny Oliver.

**Devotion - Sister Jessie Cardwell**

Opening song: "Lay Hymn."

Prayer by: Wilbert Hooker

Scripture: Sonia Barbre, *Phillipians 2: 5-16*

President Oliver inserted a teaching moment by stating, "*We should give reverence when the word of God is being read and not talk or move around.*" The Devotion was closed by singing, "What a Mighty God We Serve," led by Sister Cardwell.

**Welcome - Reverend McGlen, Pastor**  
**Brother Dale Wragg, Local Lay President**

Our President welcomed everyone warmly and re-interated the Lay registration is **\$5.00 per meeting** and this is done so that we may be able to leave a donation for the host church and packets for each person.

**Roll Call – Sister Diane Foy, Recording Secretary**

<u>Present:</u> Penny Oliver	Wilbert Hooker	Adam Johnson
Diane Foy	Joy Grandy	Barbara Smth
Woodrow Winchester	Mozell Weston	Jessie Cardwell
Sonia Barbre	John Smith	Jackie Kanipe
Renee White	Niki Allen	

Excused: Betty Parker; Mary Royster

Ex-Officio Officers (Present): Mary Dasher-McAdams

(Absent): Gertrude Upperman

(Excused): Dwight Patterson; Starr Battle

President Oliver called for the Adoption of the Agenda. It was moved by John Smith to accept the agenda, as printed, and seconded by Wilbur Hooker.

The Minutes from the last meeting were reviewed as requested by President Oliver and there were no corrections/comments; accepted as printed.

### **Officer's Reports**

#### **\*YAR Event Proposal Presented by Adam Johnston for Mary Harris, YAR**

Copies of the Proposal Report were distributed, (see attachment). The proposed date for this event is April 21, 2017; 9 am- 1 pm, entitled ***Gospel Explosion: "For Your Glory."*** Event ideas were outlined with the understanding that feedback is welcomed from the Lay Body. Questions were entertained regarding this report. Further information to follow in December.

#### **\*Western District Coordinator – Renee White**

Two churches have been added to the District, bringing the total Western District total to 30. If you need the services of either Coordinator, (Renee White or Betty Duell), or the Director of Lay Activities, Jackie Kanipe, please feel free to call them.

#### **\*Historiographer – Sonia Barbre**

Sister Barbre thanked everyone that allowed her to take their picture and also, thanked those persons that did not allow her to take their picture for the history of the organization. During the reign of President Oliver, Sister Barbre has taken approximately 500-600 pictures. The photo albums are being circulated today documenting our various events.

#### **\*Social Action – Kenneth Woods**

Brother Woods reported on the ***Real ID Act*** that was introduced at the Biennial, involving your Driver's License. Traveling as a resident and citizen of the US, you are encouraged to travel with identification. A form of photo ID will likely be necessary for checking into hotels, writing checks or traveler's checks, or verifying a credit card. Acceptable forms of photo ID include any state ID card or driver's license, the new enhanced driver's licenses, a military ID or your passport. The Social Security Administration encourages you not to carry your Social Security Card. The effective date, according to the report is January 22, 2018. Much discussion followed. Several members of the Lay Body offered helpful information, as it associated with their daily occupations. President Oliver stated this topic will be reported in the upcoming Newsletter. Please share this information with your church – this information is not to be kept in this room.

#### **Corresponding Secretary – Barbara Smith**

Sister Smith received two *thank you* cards which were read from Diane Foy and the Langley Devine family.

### **Volunteers for Newsletter – Shontea Smith and Angela Elam**

Accolades were given to these two ladies for the great job that they are doing. Both made comments. The request was made to submit the names of any persons in your church that they may ***Spotlight Hidden Figures***; a different figure and church is ***recognized each month***.

The newsletter is emailed to 106 Lay persons and approximately 80 Pastors. If you do not receive a newsletter, please submit your email address to one of these ladies.

### **Treasurer's Report – Woodrow Winchester**

The financial report was distributed. This report goes back several months and reflects a lower balance than what we normally have. This is primarily due to expenses incurred from the Biennial Convention held in August.

#### **Questions/Answers:**

**Renee White – Under Use of Funds: What is the item for Coordinator, in the amount of \$1,513.30?** Expenses incurred by the Eastern District Coordinator, Betty Duell.

Sister White stated, “*She was unaware that she had a budget line and had never used her monies,*” this was never explained to her – **What is the budgeted amount for her, (Western District Coordinator)?** \$1,000.00

**Since her 5+ years in office, she has never requested funds, are the monies still there?** No, the funds do not roll over. The system requires a voucher to be filled out for reimbursement with receipts. After approval, in accordance with the by-laws, you are then compensated.

**Emma Devine – Since there is a budgeted amount for this/all positions, there should be guidelines in place to avoid going over budget and items will not be paid. Does the Finance Committee have guidelines to avoid this happening in the future?** President Oliver recommended tabling this discussion until our January meeting. In the meantime, the Finance Committee comes back to us with a solution for this problem, in order to avoid such occurrences in the future. President Oliver accepted this report as information only.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Prayer Breakfast:** Per President Oliver the Prayer Breakfast was wonderful! Sister Jackie Kanipe and her committee were asked to stand. The Lay Body applauded their hard work. **Sister Kanipe** thanked everyone for their support which was held at Macedonia. She encouraged critiques/suggestions as they -

prepare for 2018; the proposals for bids will be going out to all churches soon, in preparation for the 2018 planning.

### **Lay Institute – Jackie Kanipe**

They are considering having a Lay Institute in the Western District and in the Eastern District. Brother Wilbert Hooker, after consulting with his pastor, the Lincolnville Church family has agreed to host a Lay Institute (free of charge). Any Saturday is acceptable except the first Saturday, as they have activities all day. There is plenty of parking, just let them know when – we are welcomed with open doors. There were several expressions for the pro's and cons of having two locations for a Lay Institute.

Sister Renee White suggested that we put it to a vote for the Lay Members to express their preference for one/two locations for a Lay Institute. **The motion was made by Brother John Smith that we host a single (1) Lay Institute and that the committee be charged to determining the location that could house this event; the motion was seconded by Kenneth Woods. It was so moved and carried that we have *One Centralized Location* for our Lay Institute and the committee will determine that location.**

### **Nominating Committee – Kenneth Woods**

The report was included in our packet. (Attached) **Points of interest included: (1)** *All except one who held and office 2016-2018* may seek the same office, if they desire to do so. Mr. John Smith will have held the position of Parliamentarian for 8 years at the upcoming 2018 election. Brother Smith was thanked for his service and will be eligible to seek another position, if he so desires.

**(2)** A Letter of Intent must be completed for anyone seeking an office at our Website: [www.wncclay.org](http://www.wncclay.org). The Letter of Intent must be mailed (**Certified**) with the signature of your local Lay Organization President and must be (postmarked) or received by the Chair of the Nominating Committee, no later than (1 month) March 21, 2018 prior the convening of the Conference Annual Meeting (April 21, 2018). All persons seeking an elected office must submit a Letter of Intent with Qualifications signed by the Conference President. The Lay Body stated in 2016 they wanted the Letter of Intent to be signed by the **Local Lay President**. (If the President is running for an office, the First Vice-President/Vice- President may sign).

**(3) Host Church for Election:** Springdale A.M.E Church  
5554 South NC Highway 62  
Burlington, NC 27216

**The date: 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, April 21, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. All Offices are open.**

President Oliver asked, “*Do we need to change our dates for the YAR Event Program and the WNCCLC Election?*” The problem is, this an election year and this problem occurs every two years. Much discussion followed.

There was a motion made by Brother Adam Johnston that the **YAR EVENT** program be **permanently** changed to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in April; seconded by Brother Kenneth Woods. So moved, 23 voted in favor of the motion and 3 opposed. Brother Kenneth Woods and the **Nomination Committee** were instructed, by President Oliver, to change the date on their report to the **2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>** and she will have the notice sent out over the internet.

### **Lay Teaching Moment – Bobbi Hague**

Sister Betty Parker was out of town and asked Sister Hague to do the Teaching Moment in her absence about, “**The Election,**” **mainly who** is eligible to run. The bulk of this information was covered by Kenneth Woods and the Nominating Committee. (See Attached Nominating Committee Report) You must attend at least **four (4) meetings in a two year period – physically attended.**

You **are not** to start campaigning, (send out fliers, buttons, postings, etc.), for the elected office you seek until the Nominating Committee clears you. If you start campaigning before you are cleared, you are automatically disqualified. Candidates will be notified *via* email after **submission to Kenneth Woods by Certified Mail.**

Brother Leavie Davis asked Sister Bobbi Hague and the Lay Body, is there a ruling/procedure on hand that governs the participation of those persons in offices or plan to seek any office of the church or Lay Election, if they are causing discord in the church or with the Pastor? Much discussion and comments followed, as Sister Hague sought the input of President Oliver.

Sister Oliver commented she really did not want to “*go there, but since it has been brought up, in this meeting, she will.*” She has received several telephone calls and texts, inquiring as to what is being taught in our Lay meetings. We, as an organization, stand on God’s words and responsible for teaching and sharing love with our brothers and sisters. We are present in the various churches to work hand in hand with our pastors not create discord.

**Reminder:** The election will be held the **2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in April at 10:00 a.m. at Springdale AME Church, Burlington, NC.**

### **Mirroring Ministry - President Penny Oliver**

President Oliver explained that basically this project consist of churches getting a check-up; see if you are doing the work you are suppose to be doing. Are you doing Kingdom Building? This is a Laity Project.

The question was asked, "Who will pick the designee from the church to do the questionnaire? President Oliver answered that she will work with the Presiding Elders and Pastor to get the right person.

The Mirroring Project first roll out date is February 15-17, 2018. Much prayer is needed for what we need to do.

### **Words from the President – Penny Oliver**

She thanked everyone for their presence and their input in the form of questions/answers. Several announcements were made of activities in the Conference area, which are included in the attached packet. Tentatively, the Bishop's Christmas will be held December 9, 2017 at Saint Paul, Raleigh, NC. The Cost is \$25.00/person and anyone may attend.

### **Credentials/Membership Chair – Niki Allen**

At today's meeting we had 73 to register; received a total of \$365.00, which was turned over to our Financial Secretary, Mozell Weston. As of today, we have 1,429 registered and the dues have been sent to the WNCCLO Treasurer.

### **Praise Report – President Oliver**

Warm regards were expressed to Dale Wragg and Diane Foy- very happy to see them both back in attendance, after being ill.

Brother Wilbert Hooker was called upon to give the closing prayer; lead the Lay Body in singing the *Lay Hymn* and say grace over the food. With no further business, the Lay Organization meeting was adjourned.

**Respectfully submitted,**

*Diane T. Foy*  
**Recording Secretary**

## **Attachments**

# **YAR Event Program Proposal**

**Proposed Date:** April 21, 2017

**Time:** 9 am-1 pm

**Location:** TBD

**Title:** Gospel Explosion: "For Your Glory"

**Scripture:** But the time is coming-indeed it's here now-when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. (NLT) John 4:23-24

**Purpose:** This year's YAR Event will center on Praise and Worship and how that looks for Young Adults within the A.M.E. Church.

We will begin the day with either a Music Workshop or some sort of teaching moment for about 1.5 hours before beginning the Gospel Explosion Program.

At the event we will crown a Mr. Gospel Explosion 2017-2018 and a Miss Gospel Explosion 2017-2018.

Since our Conference is split into 2 districts there will be a competition for worship through music- preferably choirs. We will have two categories of choirs. The first category will be Children's choirs the next category will be Youth and Young Adult Choirs. There will need to be at least 2 choirs for each category from each District.

### **Guidelines:**

- Since the young adult age goes up to 35 each choir can have no more than 4 people over the age of 35 for every 10 people.
- Each choir can sing no more than 2 songs and the entire medley must be no longer than 10-15 mins.
- Judges will be pre-selected

Since it will be a battle/competition between the Eastern and Western District, the winning District can get a banner or trophy and we do not necessarily have to give a cash prize unless the Board decides to.

Is it possible to have the YAR Event on April 21<sup>st</sup> to reduce scheduling conflicts with the WMS and banquet season.

Welcome to feed back.

Submitted by,

Mary Royster Harris, YAR Representative

