

MINUTES
Western North Carolina Lay Organization Meeting
Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church, Hickory, NC
Saturday, August 12, 2017 – 10:00 AM

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the Western North Carolina Lay Organization was held on Saturday, August 12, 2017 at Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church in Hickory, NC. President Penny Oliver called the meeting to order.

DEVOTION

Sis. Jessie Caldwell, Chaplain, led the body in Devotion.

Lay Hymn #461; Prayer by Bro. John Smith, *Scripture* I John 4:7-19 was read by Sis. Caldwell.

WELCOME

President Oliver called for Sis. Charlette Gore, Local President to bring the welcome, Rev. Moss was not present at that time. Special welcome was extended to Rev. Holmes and Exhorter Elam.

ROLL CALL

Present: Penny Oliver, Wilbert Hooker, Jr., Betty Parker, Adam Johnston, Joy Grandy, Barbara Smith, Mozell Weston, Jessie Caldwell, Sonia Barbre; John Smith, Jacqueline Kanipe, Bobbi Hague; Bettie Duell, Renee White, and Nikki Allen.

Excused Absentees: Diane Foy, Woodrow Winchester, Mary Harris, Gertrude Upperman, Mary Dasher-McAdams, Dwight Patterson, and Starr Battle

MINUTES

President Oliver asked if there were any corrections to the minutes, which were attached and distributed earlier and on the WNCCLO website. There being no corrections President Oliver stated that the minutes were approved:

OFFICERS' REPORTS

- None
- If treasurer's report is needed, Bro. Winchester will email. Sis. Mozell Weston was present to take vouchers.
- Sis. Jackie Kanipe needs to get voucher for the CLO Economic Development Commission.
Dues \$60.00 per year for delegates (8) + (1). Sis. Kanipe will fill out the registration forms. The cost will be \$120.00 per Biennial.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Eastern District Coordinator** – Sis. Bettie Duell, All 40 churches have a lay organization (100%). She thanked each church that invited her to do workshops. She held a combined workshop in Laurinburg. Several other workshops have been planned. Monies for membership should be sent to Sis. Nikki Allen.
- **Western District Coordinator** - Sis. Renee White, There are 28 churches in the Western District that have membership in the Lay Organization. She asked Sis. Allen to give her a list of churches in the Western District that have sent in memberships.
- All Conference activities and workshops must go through Sis. Jackie Kanipe, Director of Lay Activities. This is not to approve the training, but to review the activity to make sure it is in order with the Constitution and By-laws. Also to get churches to work together in a cluster.

At this point, Rev. Moss Pastor of Mt. Pisgah came in and gave welcome and announcements. The old church parsonage is being rented out to Lenoir Rhyne students, the house is 90 years old and in need of repair. A Gospel Concert for fundraising is scheduled for Sunday, August 13, 2017. We were asked to leave a donation if we cannot attend. The house will be named the Brixton House in memory of Brixton Carmichael, deceased son of Rev. A. O. Carmichael. Church Homecoming will be held on Sunday, August 24, 2017 at 3:00 pm. Rev. Carmichael will be the speaker.

- **Updates from Annual Conference Lay Service – Sis. Betty Parker. 2nd Vice President**
Jack & Jill trophies were given. The program was only one hour long, but it was a good time. Music was provided by Emmanuel A.M.E. Church Men's Choir and the Ethyel Anderson Area Male Chorus. Bishop Davis said he enjoyed the service. Offering taken was split between the Conference and the WNCCLO. We received \$2,200.00.
- **Summer Summit Update** – Information was in the packet. Local Lay Presidents, where given Steward and Trustee training packets. There will be a survey by the end of August to be completed if you attended the Summit. The Bishop wants your honest opinion for this meeting.

Kittrell Project- Sis. Emma Devine – The Red Board met at the Summit and submitted proposal to put a Solar Farm on 80 acres of the land. We will recoup revenue from the Farm. When asked about what to do with revenue we need to vote to invest it and not spend it. More information will be given at the Winter Meeting. Bro. John Smith asked who will benefit from the output of energy? There is no designated recipient but we will sell energy to Duke Power and they will distribute. Direct Sun will underwrite the project.
- **Scholarship Committee** – Sis. Sonia Barbre, Sis. Nikki Allen, Sis. Betty Parker, Bro. Adam Johnston, Bro. Lamont Upperman

Seven applications were received for the Davis/McKinney Scholarship and four were submitted to the District. They are as follows: Janelle Izzard, St. Joseph; Justin Wilson, Greater Bethel; Rita Terbell, St. Joseph and Imani Stephens, Mt. Zion Hillsborough. We have six applications for the Kittrell-Adams scholarship, the deadline was July 31, 2017. Ten applications received for the James C. Johnson Scholarship. Recipients will be notified prior to the Prayer Breakfast so they can receive their award at the breakfast. The scholarships are on the website.

- **Prayer Breakfast Update** – Sis. Jackie Kanipe, Sis. Myrtle Mayo, Bro. Wilbert Hooker, Sis. Betty Parker, Bro. Kenneth Woods, Sis. Renee White.

The Breakfast will be held on September 9, 2017 at Macedonia A.M.E. Church, Milton, NC; Sis Joan Brandon, Local president. \$150.00 was received from St. Paul Raleigh for tickets. The program will begin at 10:00 am, doors will open at 9:00 am. The oldest church on each District will be recognized. Names of deceased members who passed away between September 2016 and September 2017 should be received by August 26, 2017 in order to be printed on the program. Presiding Elder J. Bernard Wilder and others will be recognized. Sis. Emma Devine needs three more hostesses. The following volunteered: Joy Grandy, Joyce Cobb, and Dale Wragg. *Fully Committed* from Macedonia will sing. Participants for the program are being confirmed. The theme is “Building On A Solid Foundation Through Prayer.” Sis. Devine asked that the hostesses wear navy blue and be there at 8:30 am.

- **Words from the President** – Sis. Penny Oliver

She thanked us for support, love, and attending Sunday School, Bible Study, church services and District, Conference and Community activities. We have to do things together and we cannot do it without love, we can't do it with hatred. We have to come together to grow our churches. If you talk bad about your church, what will the community say. We have to take our job seriously. If you're in office just for the title it's time for you to move out of the way.

Elder Pridgen's schedule is in your packet. Elder Wilder promised not to schedule anything on the 2nd Saturday. President Nikki Lyons, Conference Missionary, changed the date of the Missionary Winter Institute, not to interfere with our conference meeting. This is an example of working in love. My officers and I work together even though we don't always agree and that's working in love.

NEW BUSINESS

- **WNCCLC Meeting Locations**

The majority of the members present voted to move around from church to church instead of having meetings in one central location.

- October meeting will be held at Bethel, Greensboro
- January meeting – Greater Bethel, Charlotte
- March meeting – St. James, Asheville.
- April – 2nd Saturday – Jack & Jill
- April Election – 3rd Saturday, Springdale, Burlington.

➤ **Training & Workshops – Sis. Jackie Kanipe, Director of Lay Activities**

The Executive Board will meet and work on trainings and workshops for the Conference Year. Sis. Kanipe asked the body to bring forth topics for training. There is consideration of one training will be held in Eastern District and one in the Western District.

Suggestions:

- Sis. Betty Parker – Church background, election of officers, Duties and History of Organization. Many organizations are not following protocol for the church. We need a teaching moment.
- Sis. Sonia Barbre – Stressed reaching out to our youth and allowing them to be more involved.
- Sis. Watt – Teaching basic fundamentals of the church – like presiding over programs. Also asking questions of what do Stewards & Trustees do.
- Bro. Kenneth Woods – Need training on duties of each entity – Stewards, Trustees & Official Board
- Church etiquette needs to be taught-when it's okay to move around
- Sis. Carolyn Fleming – We have to have a relationship with our pastors. Bishop Fugh taught about our Spiritual Self
- Bro. Hooker – We are putting too much pressure on the pastor. We need to train everyone on what their job is.
- Sis. Bettie Duell – The local presidents need to stand boldly to talk with the pastor and let him/her know how the members are feeling with love.

Sis. Jackie thanked everyone for their comments. She asked that presidents as well as DOL's send contact information to her.

Sis. Oliver appointed Bro. Kenneth Woods chairperson of the Nominating Committee for the Election of Officers in 2018.

Bro. Hooker stated that Lincolnville is working on a training and will let everyone know when it will be held.

Sis. Joan Suddreth asked which comes first Christian Education or Lay Organization. Sis. Cardwell – Christian Education comes first and all other organization fall under Christian Education.

Sis. Betty Parker asked if we can have a workshop specifically for the youth.

➤ **Membership Update – Sis. Niki Allen**

We have 68 churches with a lay organization. 1,397 Adults and 26 Youth – Total = 1,423. She received membership dues for 61 persons (\$295.00) today. Membership

cards are available for each church. The WNCCLO always has the most members in the 2nd District.

Sister Oliver shared that Sis. Bobbi Hague has resigned as Director of Public Relations and ask that we thank her for doing a great job with the newsletter and other duties. Sis. Oliver continued to say “I need someone to do a newsletter.”

Praise Reports & Prayer Requests

Bro. Dale Wragg – Thanks for coming to visit him

Sis. Diane Foy has had surgery and is doing well, she is at home.

Bro. Lamont Upperman is doing well, he’s at a family reunion

Bro. Kenneth Woods had double eye infection but is doing better.

Sis. Myrtle Mayo asked for prayer

Sis. Ruth Witherspoon thanked God for prayers for her husband, as he had heart surgery.

Sis. Renee White – Received a new car after accident

Sis. Bobbi Hague – Thanked all for their prayers

Sis. Emma Devine asked for prayer for her family.

Sis. Bettie Duell asked for prayer for her family, especially Rev. Shelton Miles, after the death of his 20 year old grandson

Sis. Thelma Fox asked for prayer for her husband who has lung cancer.

Sis. Joan Suddreth will have hip replacement and asked for prayer

Sis. Penny Oliver and Bro. Wilbert Hooker ask for prayer for their families

Correspondence – Sis. Barbara Smith

Cards were read from the following:

- Family of Brixton O. Carmichael – Rev. A.O. & Janice Carmichael
- Family of Dorothy Stephenson – Barbara Smith
- Family of Paulette Bowden – Tonya Shoffner

Sis Oliver shared that Sis. Valerie Bell, was elected Connectional President and Sis. Starr Battle, was elected Connectional 3rd Vice President at the Lay Convention in Columbus Ohio.

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned with Bro Wilbert Hooker leading us in prayer and the singing of the Lay Benediction. Lunch was served.

Prayerfully submitted,

Joy P. Grandy, Assistant Recording Secretary