

## **Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization Meeting March 14, 2020 – Bethel AMEC, Greensboro, NC**

President Penny Oliver called the meeting to order at 10:00 am by welcoming everyone. She recognized Bro. Woodrow Winchester to lead us in *Devotion*. The Lay Body was asked to stand and sing two verses of “*Come to Jesus*,” afterwards he led us in *prayer* and read *scripture* from *Habakkuk* chapter one.

### **Welcome:**

The host Local Lay President of Bethel AME Church, Bro. Dale Wragg extended a warm welcome and explained that many activities are going on today at Bethel, but was so glad the Lay chose to meet at their facility. He gave an update on Sister Jessie Cardwell, a local member who is a patient at Heartland Rehab on Church Street in Greensboro, NC. She is requesting no visitors or telephone calls but, cards are acceptable. Her sister-in-law, Sister Womack added that, “*she loves all of you for your concern; she is being prepared for surgery, at this time.*”

Bro. Wragg had to leave later and introduced his Vice –President to the Lay Body for any assistance that might be needed in his absence.

The host *Pastor* Rev. Dr. Clay Barrow arrived a little later and told the Lay Body to be “at home.” He concurred it is a busy time at Bethel but our needs will be met.

### **Roll Call - Diane Foy**

#### Present

Penny Oliver, President  
Betty Parker, 1<sup>st</sup> VP  
Diane Foy, Recording Secy.  
Woodrow Winchester, Treasurer  
Mozell Weston, Financial Secy.  
Bobbi Hague, Parliamentarian  
Mary Royster-Harris, YAR  
Bettie Duell, East Coord.  
Sonia Barbre, West Coord.  
Kenneth Woods, Chaplain, District  
Gertrude Upperman, Ex-Officio

#### Excused

Adam Johnston, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP  
Barbara Myers, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP  
Joy Grande, Asst. Rec. Secy.  
Angela Elam, Dir. Pub Relations  
Barbara Smith, Corr. Secy.  
Jessie Cardwell, Chaplain  
Jackie Kanipe, DOLA  
Shontea Smith, Credentials Chair  
Starr Battle, 3rd VP – Connectional Level  
Mary McAdams, Ex-Officio  
James Hill, Ex-Officio  
Dwight Patterson, Ex-Officio

President Oliver thanked every for attending the meeting this morning. She directed their attention to the packets for the Minutes of the last meeting and asked if there were any corrections/additions. There was a motion by Sister Betty Parker, seconded by Sister Bettie Duell to accept the Minutes as printed for information; so moved.

## **OFFICER'S WRITTEN REPORTS**

In absentia of Sister Kanipe a printed report was sent, via text to President Oliver, read by Sister Diane Foy. (**See Attachment I**)

### **Correspondence read by Sister Betty Parker-**

Received from Vicki Miller, *Wife of the late Past President Ward Miller*, regarding (the Community Care Center), which provides free medical & dental care to uninsured, low-income families in the Winston Salem community, a thank you note for the donation received of \$100.00, in his memory.

### **Treasurer's Report by Brother Woodrow Winchester, *Treasurer***

Brother Winchester distributed copies of his report to all members, for information purposes.

President Oliver asked all Local Lay Presidents to stand for recognition. She further encouraged them to utilize the treasurer's report to educate the local lay on the utilization funds with the conference lay.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **Offices Nomination Update - Gertrude Upperman, Chairperson/2020-2022**

Sister Upperman reported the Nominating Committee has received Letters of Intent for all offices of the WNCCLO except the following:

- Corresponding Secretary
- Director of Public Relations - (Includes preparing the Newsletter)
- Historiographer

All persons who submitted Letters of Intent have been qualified and are all eligible to run for office. The Lay Body was further instructed to see Sister Upperman after the meeting, if they were interested in running for any of the above offices.

### **Scholarship YAR Event Mary Harris, YAR Director/Sonia Barbre**

Each church is asked to pay \$300 toward the support of the YAR event, which goes toward scholarships that are given out in the WNCC. Last year 10 scholarships were awarded. The next conference meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2020 and you may bring your donation to that meeting or mail it in.

The YAR Sip and Paint Event **“What’s On your Canvas?”** has been postponed until June, more information to follow.

Included in the packets and are on the website, are two (2) scholarships;

- Dr. James C. Johnson Lay Scholarship – Deadline June 30<sup>th</sup>  
(Attn: Sonia Barbre)
- Kittrell-Allen-Adams – Deadline July 27<sup>th</sup>  
(Attn: Gayle Ratcliffe)
- Davis McKinney - (Is not Complete, at this time)  
Will be put on the website

All info will be put on the website relating to scholarships, all forms must be completely filled out and accompanied by proper transcripts/documents.

### **Social Action Kenneth Woods & Committee**

President Oliver brought to the attention of the Lay Body the Census information that was recently mailed, can be done on line and takes all of five minutes. It is important that you indicate your correct race or a particular one will be assigned to you. Please **do not** fill out twice, online and the form that comes in the mail, one time only.

Sister Bobbi Hague thanked everyone that showed up and showed out for early voting; counties voted that never voted before. It is very, very important to vote in November 100%. Kenneth Woods concurred with everything Sister Hague stated- early voting was a great success, record-setting! “Collins” is a name to remember in November!

### **2020 Membership Drive**

Sister Betty Duell, Eastern Coordinator and Sister Sonia Barbre, Western Coordinator both agreed that they need at least three (3) persons from each church in their respective areas to join the Lay Organization, this year. President Oliver thanked them both for their input.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Delegates to SEDLO Convention President Penny Oliver**

President Matthew Douglas, District Lay President expressed interest in having the SEDLO Convention here in Greensboro but, the date he wanted to

have it, is not available. The only date available is the same date as our Prayer Breakfast, which is not good for us; Baltimore is looking at a date, also. The last weekend in September is what they are hoping it will be, at this time there is no set date. Either way, we will have to elect delegates. The Executive Board had a Conference Call on Monday night, March 9, 2020 and it was decided to do a **“one-time letter of intent.”** The guidelines were read to the Lay Body by Sister Diane Foy and are attached which will be placed on our Website for reference. At our April meeting we will elect our new officers and Delegates to the Convention, as well. The committee will consist of: Penny Oliver, President, Chairperson; Shontea Smith, Credentials/Membership Chair; Mary Royster-Harris, YAR. Sister Jackie Kanipe is eligible to run as a delegate since she will complete her eight (8) years of service.

The **Community Development Corporation Report** which was read by Sister Betty Parker and our President, Sister Penny Oliver is part of this committee. It summarized activities since the 2019 Summer Summit and has a net profit of \$50,000. The purchase of the this building is at 7610 Pennsylvania Avenue is completed, now owned by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Episcopal District with 15 or 16 suites rented, some with multi-year agreements. This report was given at the Mid-Winter Meeting.

President Oliver announced the play *“Daddy’s Boys”* has been cancelled that was to be held March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 at 5 pm in Durham, NC.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Alternate Delegates to the General Conference in Orlando, Florida are required or mandated to stay 7 days, if you have questions please contact the Bishop’s office. The Alternates will get half of what the Delegates will receive.

**Laity Teaching Moment** by President Oliver: In this climate Coronavirus we need to learn how to wash our hands. It has been suggested that you soap you Soap/wash your hands long enough for you to sing *“Happy Birthday” two times.*

**Reminder:** *Please get your bids in for September Lay Breakfast!*

**Membership Update:** Bobbi Hague

53 Members Present – Collected \$255.00 (1/2 to Bethel AME Church)

**Praise Reports** – Prayer and Blessing of Food by Brother Kenneth Woods. Prayer for Brothers Woodrow Winchester & Robert Jones and Sister Emma Devine & Family.

Respectfully submitted,

*Diane Foy*

**ATTACHMENT I**



TO: President Penny Oliver, Officers and Members of the Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization

FROM: Jackie C. Kanipe, Director of Lay Activities

DATE: March 14, 2020

RE: Report from the Director of Lay Activities

Please accept my apologies for not being in attendance at this WNCC Lay meeting. However, one of our Lay and Missionary members passed away at the age of 90 years old. Her homegoing service is today.

The study guides are available and will be distributed at the next meeting, April 11. If you need them before, please let me know. The cost is \$20 plus shipping if you need before April 11.

There are nine Devotion guides left, ten dollars each. Some have let me know that you would like to have one as soon as possible.

Thank you for all that you did to help us with registration for the SED Lay meeting as well as purchasing the breakfast tickets and serving as host or hostesses for the Mid-winter session held at the Koury Center. Whatever you did to make our Pastors, brothers and sisters from the SED feel welcome, thank you one and all.

We are looking forward to Lay Night. Let us pray for a successful program as the New Lives in Christ are presented to the WNCC. If they have not already joined the Lay Organization, perhaps they will after the service.

As you are aware five officers will be recognized for having served 8 years in the same position.

Hopefully, new officers will be installed at the service.

Lent: what have you sacrificed during this Lenten Season? Have you decided to follow Jesus with no turning back?

**Attachment 2**

The Constitution and By-Laws of the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization states who is eligible to attend and serve as delegate to the Lay Convention. Constitution and By-Laws, revised, September 23, 2018 and adopted September 28, 2018.

**Article IV- Membership** (pages 4 – 5) is the place we need to reference to determine who is eligible to go to the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization Convention to serve as a member of the delegation for the Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization.

**Section 4. The membership of the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization, for the purposes of conducting its business including the SED Lay Convention, shall be composed of:**

- a. All elected officers of the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization.
- b. All persons holding the designation and/or office of President Emeritus.
- c. All persons holding an office in the Connectional Lay Organization.
- d. All Presidents, Directors of Lay Activities, Young Adult Representatives of Annual Conference Organization.
- e. Six (6) elected delegates from each Annual Conference Lay Organization, at least (1) one of whom shall be a young adult, ages 18-35.
- f. Each president or a duly elected representative of each duly organized District Lay Organization of an Annual Conference
- g. Each President and six (6) elected delegates, at least (1) one of whom shall be a young adult, age 18-35, of each organized Station Church, Mission or Circuit Lay Organization where there is a duly organized Lay Organization.
- h. All members of the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization must meet the requirements of members found in Article IV, section 1.