

B. W. Harris Episcopal School Alumni Association Inc. -USA
27th Convention Executive Board Meeting Minutes
June 28, 2019
Brooklyn Center, Minnesota

Meeting Call to order:

The Executive Board meeting was called to order by 1st Vice Chair 1st National Chair Hansford Hansford at 1:42pm. A motion was made by Board Member Mona B. Diggs to begin the meeting and it was 2nd by Board Member M. Decontee Ricks.

Opening Prayer:

Mr. Hansford announced that the National Chaplain Mrs. Theresa Essien was unable to attend convention due to illness. He asked everyone to keep her in their prayers and asked North Carolina's President Wanda Bropleh to offer up a word a prayer. President Bropleh thanked God for the day and safe traveling to Minnesota and bringing everyone together. She asked that God will be present at the meeting to help the board focus on its purpose and work together for the good of the children in Liberia and that everything said and done will be to the glory of God. She also prayed for peace as the board conduct business.

Opening Remarks:

1st Vice Chair Hansford thanked everyone for attending and informed everyone that National Chair Joanna Hawah Freeman Richards will not be able to attend this year's convention due to illness of her husband, Rhode Island Board member Orlando Richards. He promised to do his best to fill her shoes. He continued to say that Convention is a time the members come together to pay homage to the Association for the work done throughout the previous year. He promised to conduct business quickly and efficiently as they have a lot still to do for the convention preparations. He welcomed and thanked everyone for attending.

Welcome Remarks by Host Chapter:

Minnesota chapter President James E. Ledlum welcomed all to the great state of Minnesota. He hoped the entire weekend will be joyful for everyone. He asked for volunteers to assist with stuffing bags and other task immediately after the meeting.

Adoption of the Agenda:

1st Vice Chair Hansford presented the agenda to the board. Board member J. Saba Kla Williams made a motion that the agenda be accepted, and the motion was 2nd by Texas President Naweh George Scott.

Roll Call and Minutes:

Roll Call was conducted by National Secretary Comfort Browne followed by the page by page review of the minutes from the October 2018 board meeting.

- Proxy identify for North Carolina Chapter: Sarah Maximore for Richard Wright
- Proxy identify for PennDel Chapter: Hawah Kamara for Charles Coleman
- Proxy identify for Texas Chapter: Marjon Wiles-Greaves for Grace Smith

List of Corrections:

Page 1: Correction made to spelling of Board Member Georgina Roy Aikins-Scott's name. Hyphen was misplaced.

Page 2: No corrections

Page 3: Corrections made to the spelling of Board Member Rachel Greene-Grigsby's name. 'e' was added to Green_ and 'g' to Gris_by

Page 4: "Overtaken" was changed to "undertaken".

Page 5: No corrections

Page 6: No corrections

Page 7: No corrections

After all corrections were made, a motion was made by Emerita Wilhelmina Wilson to accept the minutes with all necessary corrections and filed into the Association archives. The motion was 2nd by Board Member Georgina Roy Aikins-Scott.

Corrections to the Agenda:

Emerita Gudrun Harris brought to the attention of the board that the current agenda seem to be missing a second page. National Secretary Comfort Browne informed the board that the single page agenda was all that she received from National Chair Freeman Richards. After a brief discussion, PennDel President Berma Findley made a motion that the agenda be reopened and 'other business' and closing prayer be added at the end of the agenda. The motion was 2nd by Emerita Wilhelmina Wilson. Motion was carried, and the board added "other business and closing prayer" to the end of the agenda.

Scholarship Committee Report (By Chair Emerita Gudrun Harris):

Chair Harris informed the board that she usually presents her report at the general convention meeting. 1st Vice Chair Hansford table the Scholarship Committee report until the general convention meeting.

Comments/Discussion on Committee Reports:

- Emerita Wilhelmina Wilson had concerns about the current agenda. She recalled that it was discussed, recommended and agreed at a previous meeting that the National Chair would receive reports from all committee chairs and presidents in advance, consolidate the reports and make a presentation of highlights at the board and general meetings to save time. And if the board or general body had questions, the president or committee chair would step up to answer all questions. However, the agenda does not reflect that policy change.
- 1st Vice Chair Hansford, Emerita Gudrun Harris, Board Member Mona Diggs and others disagreed with Emerita Wilson. They acknowledged that the topic to consolidate the reports was discussed but was never passed as a motion.
- Emeritus Handel K. C. Diggs pointed out that looking at the October 2018 Board meeting minutes, it is structured in the same format as the agenda. If the motioned had been passed at the 2018 convention general meeting, the October Board meeting agenda would have reflected the changes. He said the current format has been around for a long time.
- Board Member M. Deconte Brumskine-Ricks shared that at the October 2018 board meeting, chapter presidents were asked to printout reports which were circulated to the board.
- 1st Vice Chair Hansford said the minutes from previous meetings will be checked to confirm if the motion was approved. But regardless of if it was approved or not, changes will need to be made moving forward to save time.

- Emeritus Handel K. C. Diggs asked if 1st Vice Chair Hansford had received the National Chair's report? 1st Vice Chair Hansford responded that he did not receive a report from National Chair Freeman Richards.
- President David Moore asked if 1st Vice Chair asked Chair Freeman Richards for the report. 1st Vice Chair responded that the National Chair was already at the hospital and he did not think it was appropriate to ask her for one knowing what she was going through at that time.

Chapter Reports:

DC Metro Report (by President Tayonnoh Roberts Gray):

- DC Metro is planning for the 10th annual Rev. Dr. Emmanuel W. Johnson Awards and Recognition program on October 5, 2019. She invited everyone to attend.
- The 2018 awards program was funded by 32 members who donated \$100 each. The chapter did not have to go into its budget to fund the program.
- The Chapter decided to pilot a new program to worship together as a chapter. Due to circumstances beyond their control the 1st service had to be postponed, but the chapter is still planning to worship together in the future.
- President Gray went to Liberia for a funeral and took some time to visit the school. She was able to take many pictures and after sharing her photos, DC Metro chapter is considering a project to refinish the basketball court.

Tri-State Report (by President David G. Moore):

- President Moore asked for time on the general meeting's agenda to make his report directly to the general body. He expressed that it is important to see the transformation accomplished by his administration for the kindergarten class at B. W. Harris, Liberia.
- Tristate Chapter provided the kindergarten class with books and many other educational supplies as well as furniture and other items.
- He expressed that Tri-state's presentation if allowed would not only motivate people to contribute but ignite friendly competition between the chapters.

Response: 1st National Chair Hansford responded that he could not guarantee time, but only promise to try to find time on the general meeting agenda.

Comments/Discussion:

Board Member J. Saba Kla Williams expressed his concern for the effect inconsistencies in procedures will have on the Association and precedence that will be set if Tristate chapter is allowed to make a report at the general meeting. He said it should not be allowed because all reports should go to the chairman and the chairman make the report to the board.

Emerita Gudrun Harris said that if Tristate is allowed to report at the general meeting, other chapters who have spent thousands of dollars should also be given time on the agenda.

Response: 1st National Chair Hansford acknowledge the concerns of the board but expressed that since he had given his word, he would allow it this time if he can build time into the agenda.

PennDel Report (By President Berma Findley):

- President thanked everyone for their hard work they have been doing in the Association.
- PennDel had a successful election

- The chapter did not have the 2019 Cllr. Cyril Jones Awards program
- The chapter is planning the installation of officers' program on August 17, 2019. President Findley invited everyone to attend, support the chapter and purchase a \$35.00 ticket.

Texas Report (by President Naweh George Scott):

- The chapter held its annual H. D. Williamson program and it was successful.
- The chapter also had their installation of new officers' program.
- Thanked all who attended and supported the chapter programs
- The chapter is currently planning a food sale event in July for Liberia Independence Day and the 2019 H. D. Williamson program in November
- Had face to face meeting in Dallas and was able to bring aboard some other members who had not been active.

North Carolina Report (by President Wanda Bropleh):

- Successful year even though they did not complete all programs/activities planned
- Had one in person meeting
- A trip to Raleigh is being planned to meet with members in that area to get them involved
- The chapter is currently planning several fundraisers including the annual food sale and the 2019 E. G. W. King program.
- The chapter added 7 new members to their roster. They now have 67 members on the roster with 43 active members and 28 due paying members
- The members of North Carolina chapter sent a special message to DC Metro and Tri-state that North Carolina chapter is on the move
- As of June 26, 2019, the chapter account balance was \$10,158.96
- President Bropleh thanked her members, vice president and board representatives for working well with her and being available whenever she called on them.
- North Carolina chapter asked to be considered for hosting either 2021 or 2022 Convention. The bid was sent to the National Chair.

Rhode Island Report:

No one was present to make a report

Georgia Report (by Board Rep. Cassuis Sirleaf):

- The president is absent due to flight cancelation issues
- The chapter in preparation for hosting convention 2020 and have many aggressive fundraises planned. They are facing many challenges, but the chapter is capable and will meet all the challenges. Attendees of the 2020 convention will not be disappointed.

Comments/Discussion:

Emerita Gudrun Harris expressed concerns that Georgia as the host of the next convention is not making a more detailed convention report to the Executive Board. She asked if a report for the board is delayed with the president?

Board Rep Sirleaf said he received a proposed convention budget from President Scott and that she had a report/presentation on a thumb drive.

Emerita Wilson shared that due to several of deaths that bereaved the George members, the chapter was unable to have any programs. She reported that the chapter has secured a venue and is preparing to execute convention 2020 efficiently.

National Treasurer Albertha Gillespie asked why the 2 board representatives did not get together with the president to be able to make the report in her absence. Response: Emerita Wilson answered that President Scotts did not know in advance that her flight would be cancelled.

President David Moore said that because hosting convention and making the necessary reports are important, the board members should have gotten together with the president and share information so that each person will be ready to make the presentation to the board.

Board Rep. Thelma Collins expressed the fault is with everyone including the 1st Vice Chair.

Minnesota Report (by President James Ledlium):

- President welcomed the board once more to Minnesota
- The chapter been hard at work preparing for convention
- Due to bereavement and other issues, the chapter was not able to execute the many fundraisers planned. However, members contributed out of pocket to support the chapter

Comments/Discussion:

1st Vice Chair Hansford shared that it had been a pleasure working with Minnesota chapter on the convention. He also commended Rachel Greene-Grigsby's and the members of the class of 79 (J's Incorporated) for a successful anniversary party.

Naming of Projects:

1st Vice Chair Hansford tabled the naming of the projects discussion

Comments/Discussion:

Emerita Gudrun Harris asked why a Budget discussion is listed on the agenda when the board already approved the budget. **Response:** 1st Vice Chair Hansford said that the budget will not be discussed because it was previously passed by the board.

Curfis Report by Meyartha Perry:

- This was Ms. Perry's last Curfis report.
- She suggested that chapter presidents moving forward, will keep the procedures and processes that have been put in place.
- She only received two reports from North Carolina and DC Metro chapters.
- She stressed the importance of Curfis reporting stating that it makes the National Association strong and compliant.

North Carolina Curfis Report:

- Have been compliant with the 60 days financial reports to National for the two major events held.
- They reported 22 due paying members
- They held 2 meetings with an average of 15 people in attendance
- For Fundraisers they had food sales event
- Beginning bank balance in July 2018 was \$6800 and in April 2019 balance was \$8928.96. However, the president updated that amount in her chapter report.

DC Metro Curfis Report:

- DC Metro Chapter has always been compliant with submitting reports
- They reported 21 due paying members
- They had 4 meetings during the period of the Curfis report
- The bank balance in April was \$12,780.22 and in April it was \$22,772.33
- DC Metro was also compliant with 60 days financial reporting to National

Comments/Discussion:

Emeritus Handel K.C. Diggs commented that the strength of the Association is built on the unparalleled level of financial accountability and transparency. If we look back at contributions to the Association over the years it is because people have confidence in financial stewardship. The board put the 60 days financial reporting in place to provide financial transparency to the membership. He hopes chapters will make an effort to comply with the reporting process or the Association will begin to lose membership at the chapter level.

President David G. Moore commented that Tri-State Curfis report was submitted on the 31st by him. He also commented on Ms. Perry's statement that the National Association stands on the pillar of the chapters and for the Association to succeed, the chapters must succeed. With that statement he wanted to revisit the discussion about National Officers providing support to local chapters. He said that a National officer should support the local chapters fundraising events and pay dues to the local chapters. He hopes that the incoming National officers will think of the chapter as a vibrant part of the Association and not look at the local leaders.

Financial Secretary Meyartha Coleman Perry noted for the record that she looked through her mail and did not see the Curfis report from Tristate Chapter.

President Berma Findley made comments related to President Moore comments. She reiterated that National Officers should support events in the local area where they live.

Vice President Hawa Kamara, PennDel disagreed and stated that a National officer like anyone else should be allowed to participate in any local chapter of choice as long as dues are paid, and they participate and contribute.

President Tayannah Roberts Gray responded to the comments from President Moore and suggested that the chapter 2nd Vice President for membership should put in the effort to reach out to the

membership, find out what the issues are and work to resolve all issues is the way to retain members in a chapter. People including National officers can be going through issues or have financial issues that prevent them from participating. But the chapter will not know unless the chapter reach out.

1st Vice Chair Hansford commented that the strength of the Association lies on unity of the chapters and the Association. The chapters do the bulk of the work and the Association is the glue that holds it all together and it is the bridge to the chapter and the school in Liberia to provide what the school needs.

Board Rep. Thelma Collins commented that everyone is to blame. President Moore is the blame for not coming out to say he has an issue with the 2nd Vice National Chair for Membership Teloid Harris Scott who is a member of Tristate Chapter and does not attend meetings or support the chapter. Tristate 2nd Vice President Toyawa Harris is to blame for not reaching out to the membership to resolve issues. 2nd National Chair Teliod Harris-Scott is to blame for not reaching out to her chapter.

Board Rep. Rachel Greene-Grisgby shared that Texas elected new officers and there were no National Officers at the installation program. There should have been National officers at the program to make the new president feel supported by National. **Response:** 1st Vice Chair Hansford apologize and stated that he was contacted by the National Chair to attend the program on her behalf, but he became ill and could not attend.

National Financial Secretary Meyartha Perry stated for the record that 1st Vice Chair Hansford was supposed to attend the Texas installation of officers but became ill. The lack of National officers' presences at that Texas event is a one-time occurrence and not a pattern. National officers have always supported Texas and attended their events. National Officers are people too who have personal lives and personal issues.

1st Vice Chair Hansford stated that National Chair Freeman-Richards had asked him to work with members and leadership in Tristate Chapter to resolve their issues. He contacted Emerita Gudrun Harris who agreed to meet, but when he contacted President Moore on two occassions, President Moore said he was not ready to discuss the issue.

Audit Report:

- 1st Vice Chair Hansford asked if the Auditor was present or if an Audit Report was available?
- The Auditor was not in attendance.

Comments and Discussion:

Board Member J. Saba Kla Williams asked for clarification from the 1st Vice Chair on what Audit report was he asking about. He went on to remind the board that he was appointed to Chair a committee to find external auditors and he provided a list of firms to the board and nothing was done by the board. He reiterated that an internal audit report is unacceptable.

Financial Secretary Perry responded that when Board Rep. Kla Williams made his committee report to the board it was incomplete, and he was given an additional responsibility to return with a short list and

it never happened. **Response:** Board Rep. Kla Williams responded that his impression is that the Association is not interested in External auditing.

President Berma Findley asked what is the Association's issue or stand on getting an external audit? If the committee requested an external audit, money should have been allotted in the budget for an external auditor.

Emeritus Handel K.C. Diggs stated that the decision was never made to have an external audit completed. The committee chaired by Mr. Kla Williams never finalized and presented a report to the board to make a decision. Until the report is submitted the board cannot take action.

Board Rep. Thelma Collins asked Cllr. Mohamedu F. Jones when he stood up in the Rhode Island meeting and said what he said (Emerita Wilson interjected and said Clls. Jones said what good will an external audit do and if it found to do any good he would pay for it) was his statement made before or after the Audit Committee Report? **Response:** Cllr. Mohamedu F. Jones said he did not recall the incident and did not know if it happened before or after the committee report. He did recall that in the Committee report made by Board Rep Kla Williams, there were cost missing from several of the firms along with other information. The board asked him and his committee to complete the report and present a completed report to the board.

Board Member Mona B. Diggs reiterated that the Audit Committee Report was incomplete, and the board never made a decision.

1st National Chair Hansford said the minutes will be checked to see if Board Member Kla Williams was asked to provide missing information for his report. If the report is missing information, the committee will be asked to complete the report and present the completed report to the board. The board will then make a decision based on the report. He reminded everyone that auditors don't make accusations. They only make recommendations.

Board Member Margaret Deconte Brumskine-Ricks asked that the agenda moving forward will have "Internal Audit Report"

Emerita Wilson asked for the minutes to reflect that a review of past minutes will be completed to show if the Audit committee report was completed and if it was completed, the board will move forward with a decision. If it was not completed the committee will be asked to provide a completed report and then the board will move forward with a decision.

Emerita Harris reminded everyone that an external audit will go all the way back to the beginning and include previous administrations. She suggested that all chapter presidents and chairman past and present make sure all of their financial records are available and in order.

Emerita Wilson reiterated that Auditors provided

Ms. Sara Maximore: Wanted to encourage everyone not to be discouraged. It is a sacrifice for the children in Liberia.

Principal Collins Report:

- Brought greetings from the President, Board of Trustees B. W. Harris, faculty, Students, staff and local alumina chapter
- National association promised 700 chairs and they have received 310 chairs which included 100 left-handed chairs
- \$2,500 was received for maintenance. It was used to replace doors, updated class rooms and change toilets in male bathroom
- Received stipend for the Principal and local Liaison
- Received from Tristate Chapter items for the kindergarten class project to include learning materials, 32 colorful chairs and 15 kidney shaped tables. The also completely refurbished the entire kindergarten into a modern classroom. Tristate also provided graduation gowns and backpacks to the students, nap carts and blankets.
- The school provided the Cafeteria with an additional freezer
- Received 48 scholarship for 48 students. This is an increase from the year before of 42 students
- DC Metro provided 15 computers that brought to total up to 35. Due to power fluctuation in Liberia 3 computers blow out. He came with cash to purchase the mother boards to repair the computers.
- Fluctuation in power also blew up the power surges and stabilizers. It also blew up the air conditioner and other equipment.
- Due to the damages by the power fluctuation he asked someone to look into solar power options and cost. He thinks the solar panels will provide 12 hours of continues power to the lab and the school. He has it as a request.
- DC Metro Chapter replaced the tiles in the auditorium. The project was successfully completed
- The 25 Silver Jubilee was also successfully completed
- The 8 classrooms need 49 new windows at \$100 each, retiling of the floors and repairing of the ceiling
- Auditorium needs ceiling repairs
- Reading is a challenge for the young students. Requesting a reading program for grades 1 – 6 for 100 students, for 1 year for \$5,375.00. Teacher train is included in that cost
- Total request on the 2019/2020 wish list from the school is \$50,000

Comments and Discussion:

President Findley: When she became President of PennDel it was her desire to work on improving reading for the students. A member of PennDel Courage Bourbor did an evaluation. If you teach the students and they don't have anyone at home to encourage them how will it benefit them? Reading and math should be the focus for a better future.

Emerita Wilson: commented that since the Association is in partnership with the school is there a line item or portion of the school budget dedicated to this request or is the school asking the Association for 100% of the \$50,000? It is a partnership to help the school become self-sufficient.

President Moore: Tristate Chapter wanted to institute a reading program competition with the kindergarten class. They included materials for a reading program called rock and read and he was personally going to contribute to the competition for the winner.

Emerita Harris: The history has been that the Association present the wish list from the school to the general body and chapters, classes and individuals fund the various projects.

1st Vice Chair Hansford commented that the Principal was just as guilty as some of the chapters because he did not submit a report in advance as requested. He said everyone should strive to do better.

Board Member Georgina Roy Aikins-Scott: What is the diocese contribution or plan to do for the school if the association dissipates?

Principal Collins Response:

- The school is putting together a strategic plan and one of the consultants provided information on self-sustainability. He received a report about an agricultural project that will use Brumley mission land to do an agricultural project that could sustain Brumley Mission, B. W. Harris and the Episcopal.
- The school has an annual budget every year that cover things that are needed. Last year they bought the 2nd freezer for the cafeteria, completed major repairs on the school building and cafeteria. They also installed equipment to be able to use LEC power from either Broad Street or Carey Street whenever one would blow out. However, that was recently blown out as well. They also dug a well in Trinity yard a 120-foot deep and they found water. He received an estimate on pipes and pump to set up the water to the school.
- The new school budget is scheduled to have \$10,000 to cover the window replacement.

New Business:

1. Board Member J. Saba Kla Williams:
 - a) This body does not represent what a board is supposed to be.
 - b) He said it is expensive to travel and he suggested the possibility of having a general meeting every other year, and the board can continue to meet 2 times a year.
 - c) Look at the current constitution of the organization because it is obsolete. One or two people want to dominate
 - d) The board should be smaller, with the presidents reporting to the chairman and the chairman making a brief report.
 - e) Commended National Chair Joanna Freeman Richards and the financial team for a job well done.
2. Board Member Georgina Roy Aikins-Scott: Did not get any information about elections. She is not sure why it did not go out to her. She had no idea about the election. **Response:** National

Treasurer Albertha Gillespie explained that system will stop sending emails to a mailbox that does not open a certain number of mail messages.

3. President David Moore: He thanked everyone especially Albertha Gillespie and Meyartha Perry and the team for their good work and dedication. He said the negative election killed the spirit of the organization and people lost good friends. Other organizations look up to this Association for democracy. He encouraged those who are coming into leadership your friendship should guard you. Don't want to be contaminated with hate and he is leaving the Association.
4. Emerita Gudrun Harris: Responded to Rep. Roy Aikins-Scott not getting the emails about election. She wanted everyone to know for the future. Anyone interested in running for office can always send in their name as early as January of the election year.
5. Board Rep. Thelma Collins: Wanted the Board to discuss the topic raised during the last Board teleconference by Mohamedu F. Jones to increase allotment given to chapters to host convention. President Scott suggested the amount be increased to \$6500, President Findley suggested increased to \$10,000. Ms. Collins said an alternative to increasing the budget is to have the local chapters find the venues for convention and National come and do all of the work. **Response**: National 1st Vice Chair Hansford reminded Board Rep Collins that the conversation during the teleconference ended with an agreement that a committee will be set up to study the idea.
6. President Berma Findley: President Findley stood and thanked DC Metro for honoring her Mother Mrs. Gertrude Findley and thanked Mr. J. Saba Kla Williams for accepting the award on her Mother's behalf. She also explained that due to a family wedding in California she and her family were unable to attend the DC Metro program. She also thanked the Association for the many visitations to her mother. Also, she was thankful to Mrs. Comfort Kenneh and Emerita Gudrun Harris amongst others who have visited her mother in the nursing home in Delaware. Mrs. Findley was very passionate about B. W. Harris and her goal was always to get the students educated.
7. President Wanda Bropleh: President Bropleh brought a request for consideration to the board, in case North Carolina wins the bid to host the 2021 convention, she would like the Executive Board to consider delaying election and extending her presidency until after convention or If elections must be held, if the new officers can start after convention. This will allow the team of officers who start the convention planning to host convention.
8. 1st National Chair Hansford: reminded all chapter presidents who are due to have elections to have elections before September so that all of the new officers can attend the October board meeting.
9. Emerita Gudrun Harris: Emerita Harris shared that the Board can allow an additional 90 days extension of a chapter officer term in office and President Bropleh does not have to worry about serving pass her term to host Convention.
10. President David Moore: He thinks the election process should be revisited. Because if elections according to the constitution should be held in June and the president steps down then the convention responsibility will fall on the newly elected officers. He suggested elections be moved from June to September. **Response**: Cllr. Mohamedu F. Jones responded that terms end on June 30th, but a chapter has until September 30th to have elections. He also said that the chapter can write National with good reason and request an extension to December. **Comment**: Board Rep Collins suggested that if North Carolina wants Wanda Bropleh to host convention and

the constitution prohibits her for serving pass 4 years then the chapter could ask her to be the convention host. **Response:** Cllr. Jones responded that it is North Carolina prerogative to keep Wanda Bropleh on as convention chair. But she is still ok to stay until after convention because elections deadline is not until September 30th.

11. 1st National Chair Hansford: Thanked the secretary team Edam Sasso and Comfort Browne for all of the hard work. He also had a suggestion about elections moving forward. He suggested elections be on an individual bases instead of team oriented.
12. Emerita Wilhelmina Wilson: Emerita Wilson addressed the issue of people leaving the Association because they have been hurt by bad and veil things said about them. She stated that bad things have been said about everybody including herself. Everyone must remember that we are here for a purpose and Spartans must let the love for one another be greater than the despise we have for each other. We sit in these positions but for a moment, but we are Spartans for life. The organization needs a lot of healing. Don't let the hurt be the deciding factor.
13. 1st National Chair Hansford: Leaving does not solve the problem. The new administration will call upon everyone who have announced that they are leaving.
14. Emerita Wilhelmina Wilson: Asked about the timeframe for the committee to be set up to discuss and explore the increase in the amount National give to the convention host Chapter. **Response:** 1st National Chair Hansford responded that a committee will be put together. Since the current Chair is not here and the new administration need time to get moving, he asked for a couple of weeks.
15. President Naweh George Scott asked if the committee have been set up. **Response:** 1st Vice Chair Hansford responded no.
16. Emerita Gudrun Harris: In the past association use to give \$5000 to the chapter to host convention. Association spends about \$12,000 because they took over other costs from the chapter including souvenir & T-shirts, DJ, Photographer, Printing of program, etc. **Comments:** 1st National Chair Hansford reminded everyone that the reason why the process was changed to 2 years was to give the host chapter time to raise money to cover expenses.
17. Board Rep. Thelma Collins: Board Rep Collins asked when did National take on all of the additional expenses because it did not exist when PennDel last hosted convention. After Chapters host convention, the chapters suffer and some even die. **Response:** 1st Vice Chair Hansford said it has been changing since Texas chapter hosted convention.
18. National Financial Secretary Meyartha Perry: In 2010 Georgia Chapter only received \$5000 from National and raised over \$10,000 to host a successful convention. Now, chapters have 2 years to raise money and still falls short.
19. 1st Vice Chair Hansford: Recommended that if a chapter wants to host convention, they have a 2-year financial plan and start raising funds before they submit the bid to host.
20. Board Rep Rachel Green Grisgby: Suggested that the committee be made up of a member from each chapter.
21. 1st Vice Chair Hansford: Thanked everyone for coming. He asked that the board keep National Chair Freeman Richards and Board member Orlando Richards in their prayers.

Closing Prayer: 1st Vice Chair Hansford asked President Berma Findley to give the closing prayer in the absence of the National Chaplain. Board Rep. Gorgina Roy Aikins-Scott asked for a moment of

silent reflections in honored of Board Rep. Orlando G. Richards. After the moment of quiet reflections, the refrain from the hymn 'Lead Me, Guide me' by Doris Akers was song, President Findley prayed for healing, peace and that all the members of the Association will remember the purpose of the Association. She thanked GOD and prayed for Unity and healing for Board Rep Orlando Richards. For traveling mercies and for Principal Collins and all the students at B. W. Harris and the people of Liberia.

Motion to close meeting was made by Emeritus Handel KC Diggs and 2nd by Rachel Greene Grisgby.
Meeting ended at 4:32pm

Attendees:

National Officers:

Daffeh Hansford, 1st Vice National Chair for Programs
Albertha Gillespie, National Treasurer
Meyartha Perry, National Financial Secretary
Comfort Browne, National Secretary
Edam Sasso, Assistant National Secretary

Gudrun Harris, National Chair, Emerita
Handel KC Diggs, National Chair, Emeritus
Wilhelmina Wilson, National Chair, Emerita

DC Metro Chapter:

Tayonnoh Roberts Gray, President
J. Saba Kla Williams, Board Representative
Mona B. Diggs, Board Representative

Tri-State Chapter:

David Moore, President
Thelma A. Y. Collins, Board Representative
Margaret Deconte Brumskine-Ricks, Board Representative

Georgia Chapter:

Cassius Sirleaf, Board Representative

PennDel Chapter:

Berma Findley, President
Hawah S. Kamara, Board Representative (Proxy)

North Carolina Chapter:

Wanda Bropleh, President
Sara Maximore, Board Representative (Proxy)

Minnesota Chapter:

James Ledlum, Sr., President
Sonie V. Karbbar, Board Representative

Rhode Island:

Texas Chapter:

Naweh George Scott, President
Rachel Greene-Grigsby, Board Representative
Marjon Wiles-Greaves, Board Representative (Proxy)

Legal Counsel & Capital Campaign Chair:

Mohamedu F. Jones, Esq

Hilary W. Collins	Principal B. W. Harris School, Liberia
Candy Boayue	Observer
Comfort Cole-Kenneh	Observer
Ebenezer Pratt	Observer
Joe Frank Yuku Stewart	Observer
Judith Karpeh	Observer
Linda M. Vah	Observer
Maima Hansford	Observer
Mary Washington-Moore	Observer
Mildred R. Williams	Observer
Peaches Andrews	Observer
Peauletta Williams	Observer
Rosalyn Coleman	Observer
Ruby Thomas- Addy	Observer
Terrence Brown	Observer
Theola Gibson	Observer
Varney Coleman	Observer
Villette Browne Smith	Observer
Wilfred Grant	Observer
Yvette Ross-Pratt	Observer

Respectfully Submitted by;
Comfort W. Browne, National Secretary &
Edam Sasso, Assistant National Secretary