

ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF AFRICAN AMERICAN LIFE AND HISTORY, INC.®

301 RHODE ISLAND AVE., NW SUITE 2204, WASHINGTON, DC 20001

P 202.238.5910 | W www.asalh.org

EC Meeting Minutes 2020

January 16: No Action Items or Motions

February 21

Motion: Moved by Gilbert Smith to accept the October 4, 2019 Business Meeting notes.
Motion Passed.

Motion: Susan Sims Marsh moved that the monthly Conference Calls be extended from one hour to ninety minutes. Motion Passed: 17 Y; 1 No (Aaisha Haykal)

Motion: Maurice Gipson moved that we limit questions/comments to two minutes per speaker and that no speaker can speak twice (again) until every member has had an opportunity to speak first. Motion Passed; One abstention

Motion: Susan Sims Marsh moved that we conclude Orientation and move to the Agenda items.
Motion Passed

Motion: Zende Clarke moved that we table and [friendly amendment to Natanya] send back to the Governance Committee and follow the proper procedure.
Motion Passed; One abstention (Lionel)

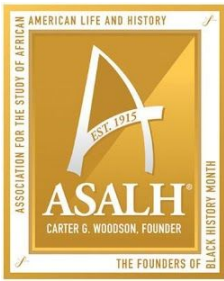
Motion: As a result of the Charleston conference profit and ASALH's overall improved year end cash position. The A&F Committee unanimously recommends that the Charleston branch received as a result of its work towards the financial success of the Charleston conference.
Motion Passed; One Abs (Aaisha)

Motion: Gilbert Smith moved to adopt the Budget. Motion Passed

Motion: The Program committee moves that in each state where there is an ASALH branch, the branch leadership contact the appropriate local, state, and federal elected official(s) and inform them of the current Black History theme and to deliver a statement/proclamation announcing the theme in their respective legislative bodies.
Motion Passed Unanimous

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To promote, research, preserve, interpret, and disseminate information about Black life, history and culture to the global community



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Motion: Gilbert Smith moved that the EC adopts the Anti-Harassment Policy. Motion Passed

Motion to endorse the Jacksonville Branch resolution and to adopt “Lift Every Voice and Sing, the African American national anthem as ASALH’s official song.

1. The Executive Council of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) endorses its James Weldon Johnson Jacksonville branch in resolving that the City of Jacksonville should honor “Lift Every Voice and Sing” written and produced by James and J. Rosamond Johnson in 1899.

2. Whereas “Lift Every Voice and Sing” (LEVS) is the recognized African American national anthem, we, the Executive Council of the ASALH on the 101st anniversary of (LEVS) adopt it as our official song.

3. We, ASALH’s Executive Council resolve to have LEVS, the African American national anthem sung or performed at our annual February luncheon and at the banquet at our annual meeting and conference and we hereby require all ASALH branches to incorporate LEVS into all official public functions.

4. Furthermore, whereas as the ASALH membership resolved at our 2016 Annual Meeting and Conference to display the Red, Black and Green African American flag at our Annual Meeting and Conference, we resolve that all branches should follow suit and display the Black liberation flag at all official public functions.

Motion to accept with necessary corrections (Sundiata’s Motion) Natanya Duncan then moved to Vote it down. Motion was not accepted

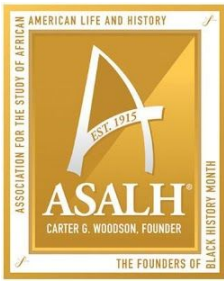
Motion: Sheila Flemming-Hunter moved that the EC approves the resolution for 2020 to endorse the James Weldon Johnson Jacksonville branch in resolving that the City of Jacksonville should honor “Lift Every Voice and Sing” written and produced by James and J. Rosamond Johnson in 1899. Motion Passed Unanimous

Motion: Anita Shepherd moved that we adopt LEVS as the official song for the ASALH organization on the 120th anniversary of the song and we encourage the Branches to do the same. Motion Passed Unanimous

Motion: Natanya Duncan moved “Whereas as the ASALH membership resolved at our 2016 Annual Meeting and Conference to display the Red, Black and Green African American flag at our Annual Meeting and Conference, we encourage all branches to do their same at their meetings and programs.” Motion Passed Unanimous

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Note: Natanya Duncan will purchase 38 flags and Barbara Spencer Dunn will pay for them to be mailed out to each Branch.

March 19: No Action Items or Motions

April 16:

Motion: Moved by Gladys Mack for ASALH accept the full amount of the application for \$62,300 that may be available under the payroll protection plan.

Y-20; 1-Abstention

Motion: Moved by Gladys Mack for ASALH to accept the full amount of \$10,000 that may be available under the Economic Injury Disaster Loan. Motion passed

Motion: Motion by Lionel Kimble to launch ASALH TV.

Gilbert: What is the anticipated cost of ASALH TV?

Lionel: About \$200 and I am committed to putting it up myself; monies for editing

Sundiata: We need a clear plan on how to sustain

Anita: From a planning perspective, we should not be rushed into a decision; we asked for a list of programs and budget (it would be easier for everyone if you had done this)

Motion tabled

May 21:

Action Item: STEPS FOR ACTIONS REQUIRING EXECUTIVE COUNCIL APPROVAL

Regular Approval

Actions that require approval by the Executive Council must be presented at a Regular Meeting of the Executive Council. Attached is a graphic showing of the steps involved in moving an action from introduction through the approval process.

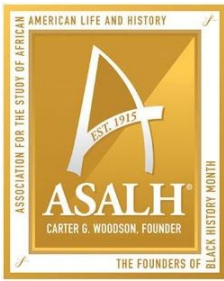
An action can be proposed by any member of the Executive Council to any Committee or Cluster Chair, informally, or in a called meeting. Once proposed, the recommended action must be accepted by the appropriate Committee or Cluster. The Committee Chair and Cluster Chair will manage the proposal through the process as described in the attached graphic.

Expedited Approval

If action is determined to require expedited approval. All steps described in the attached document must be observed following a schedule worked out by the responsible Committee and Cluster Chair.

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June 4-5:

Motion: Susan Sims Marsh moved the adoption of the Agenda. Motion passed

Motions: Susan Sims Marsh moved:

1. The Executive Council shall consist of: Twenty-four (24) persons (members of the Association in good standing) elected by the Association for a term of three (3) years with eight (8) persons being elected each year, one a graduate student. One graduate student will serve on the Council at any given time. A student will be elected for a three-year term every three years and will be eligible for re-election to one additional three-year term. Two slots for representation from the Corporate Sector shall be set-aside in each Executive Council class. In the event that two persons from the Corporate Sector are not voted on the Council in a given year, then it is the responsibility of the Executive Council to vote those two persons on the Council. Motion Did Not Carry N=12; Y=11; Abs =4

2. Constitution Amendment 2: Removal of Officers: Our document currently provides for the removal of officers only (President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary). The proposed change expands the process to include Executive Council Members. Motion passed

3. Bylaw Amendment: Add a definition of Standing Committees and provides language for Ad Hoc committees. Motion passed

4. Standing Rule Supports the change to a current standing rule regarding noncompliance of Executive Council members to fulfill their financial obligation Motion passed

Motion: Gilbert Smith moved to adopt the 990 and Auditor's Report. Motion passed

Motion: Gilbert Smith moved to approve the Management and Finance Report. Motion passed

Motion: Barbara Spencer Dunn moved that the EC approve for chartering in 2020 the five Branches that submitted their paperwork by May 15. Motion passed

Motion: Barbara Spencer Dunn moved that the EC approve for chartering in 2020 the five Branches that asked for an extension until August 15th.

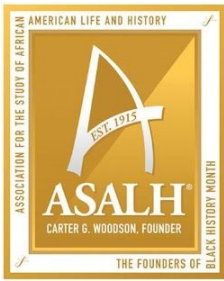
Branches that will be chartered on September 12, 2020

ORGANIZING BRANCHES OF ASALH

1. Richmond Org Virginia
2. Charles A. Brown - Birmingham Alabama
3. H. Council Trenholm, Sr. (Montgomery) Alabama
4. Romare Bearden (Charlotte) North Carolina

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5. Huntington Tri-State West Virginia

Met extended deadline of August 15, 2020

6. Mobile County Organizing Alabama
7. Savannah Yamacraw Georgia
8. Roy L. Roulac (Bergen County) New Jersey
9. Charles Deslondes Org (New Orleans) Louisiana
10. Greater Trenton, Mercer County, New Jersey Organizing New Jersey

Continuing Organizing Process (Will present at EC meeting closest to their package submission)

11. Rochester New York Organizing* New York
12. NC Triad (Greensboro) Organizing* North Carolina
13. Tulsa Historical Society Organizing* Oklahoma
14. Lynchburg Organizing* Virginia
15. Brooklyn Organizing* New York
16. Bowie State University Campus-Based Branch* Maryland 1
7. North Carolina Central University (NCCU)* North Carolina
18. Salina, KS Kansas
19. Paris France

Motion: Moved to accept nominations:

Corporate: Susan Sims Marsh (Natanya), Charles Ezra Ferrell (Anita)

Student: Moses Massenberg (Sheila), Kerri Lee Alexander (Gladys Mack)

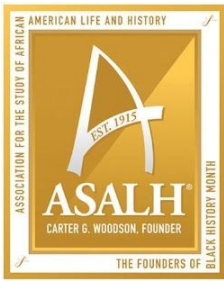
General: Gloria Browne Marshall (Sheila), Kristel Moore Clemmons (Lionel), Kathie House (Lionel), Jarvis Givens (Natanya), Lopez Matthews (Sheila), Gladys Gary Vaughn (Barbara), David Matthew Walton (Kaye), Tara White (Kaye), Augustus Wood (Sundiata).
Motions passed

Motion: Sheila Flemming Hunter moved that the EC holds the ASALH 2022 Conference from September 28-October 2, 2022. Motion passed

Motion: The Executive Council passed the motion presented by the Program Committee for the September Virtual Event as presented. 8 yes (Gloria Browne-Marshall cast her vote in the chat, and it is now being counted in the tally); 5 no votes; 3 abs. Motion Passed
The council agreed to support this effort by fast-tracking all efforts to build a greater consensus on the planning.

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Motion: The Executive Council voted by unanimous consent to accept the motion presented by the Program Committee to move forward with the ASALH TV initiative.

Motion: Natanya Duncan moved that the president will be permit the Executive Director to appoint a Rapid Response Committee to work in tandem with the other sub-committees to ensure that ASALH can respond in a real time timely manner to issues facing the African American and diasporic communities as they unfold. Motion passed

August 21:

Motion: Moved by Governance to amend the June 4 and 5 Minutes to add the information below

a. Constitution Amendment 2: Removal of Officers – Our document currently provides for the removal of officers only (President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary). The proposed change expands the process to include Executive Council Members.

b. Bylaw Amendment: Add a definition of Standing Committees and provides language for Ad Hoc committees.

c. Standing Rule: Supports the change to a current standing rule regarding noncompliance of Executive Council members to fulfill their financial obligation
Motion passed

September: No Meeting

October 15:

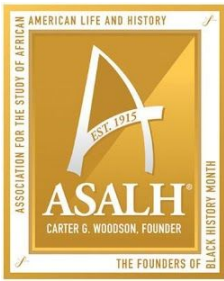
Motion: Moved by Annette Palmer to adopt the Agenda. Seconded by Natanya Duncan. Motion passed

Motion: Moved by the Luncheon Committee that the following elements be adopted in order to carry out the 2021 ASALH Black History Month Festival comprised of virtual events to be aired on ASALH TV. These events have a projected budget of \$130,000 with a proposed net income of \$40,000.

1. A marquee event featuring a conversation between Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham and Henry Louis Gates, Jr. will be held on Saturday, February 20 at a per-ticket cost of \$50.
2. A discussion and presentation on African American Foodways and Traditions will be free and open to the public to be held on Saturday, February 6.
3. An event for a youth audience will be free and open to the public and held on a weekday.
4. A Book Roundtable and the presentation of the inaugural ASALH Book Award Prize will be free and open to the public to be held on Sunday, February 28.
5. Selected ASALH Branch programs. Motion Passed Y-20; N-3

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Sundiata Cha-Jua called the question before the discussion was completed.

Motion: Moved by Karsonya Wise Whitehead to continue the discussion. Motion tied: Y-11; N-11. Tie broken by the president to continue the discussion.

Motion: Moved by Lionel Kimble to authorize the National president to enter into conversation with PBS Books, exclusive but not limited to the February 28th program. (Sundiata offered a friendly Amendment to include: “exclusive but not limited to the February 28th program”). Seconded by Susan Sims Marsh. Motion passed, one abstention

Motion: Moved by Natanya Duncan that the record show the following:

- a. The Social Activities held at the 2020 Virtual Conference were brought to fruition at the suggestion of Jacob Dorman. A committee was formed that included Aaisha Haykal, Markesha Davis, Kendra Boyd, Jasmine Young, and Kiasha Esty.
- b. Sis. Duncan asked the committee to design two tiers of social options for the conference that included live music and games. Sis Haykal volunteered with the support of Sis Davis to arrange for the games. She dubbed the social events "The ASALH Lounge"
- c. All DJs for the events were secured by Sis. Duncan and the costs covered by her and Sis. White. There was also a live band secured and a deposit paid for with the support of Bro. Jelks and Kimble. The band was canceled when the Open Mic was rescheduled at a time that would place it in competition with the Open Mic Night. Seconded by Tara White.

Susan Sims Marsh offered a few notes to clarify the Motion:

1. Since it is a Motion from the Business Meeting, it cannot be taken up until the 2021 Business Meeting.
2. We can simply add a Thank you to the website for everyone who was involved in the Virtual Conference.

Evelyn suggested the Natanya put together a list of who to thank for the Virtual Conference.

Zende suggested that the president charge the Programs Committee to put together a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP).

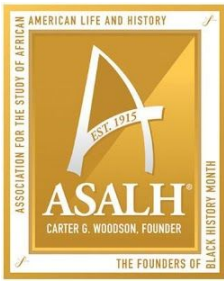
Natanya stated that the SOP should come from the main Office

Moved by Zende Clarke to accept submitted evaluation process for Executive Director. Sundiata Cha-Jua seconded the motion. Motion passed with one abstention

Motion: Moved by Gladys Mack to accept the comparability study for the staff of ASALH not to exceed \$1000. Motion passed with 2 No votes.

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