



## **2023 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2023  
VIA ZOOM**

The 2023 Annual Business Meeting was held, via Zoom, on Monday September 18, 2023, at 7:30 pm (EST). W. Marvin Dulaney, President of ASALH, called the meeting to order at 7:39 pm and presided, and Susan Simms Marsh, Secretary of ASALH, served as the Secretary.

President W. Marvin Dulaney welcomed the attendees.

Secretary Susan Simms Marsh announced that the Executive Council received, on September 18, 2023, Resolution of the ASALH Florida Coalition. The Secretary shared and read the September 18, 2023 Resolution of the ASALH Florida Coalition. The Resolution will be posted on the ASALH Members Private Page.

The following Executive Council members attended the meeting: W. Marvin Dulaney, Valerie Holt, Susan Simms Marsh, Ida Jones, Asisha Haykal, Anita Shepherd, David Walton, Sundiata Cha Jua, Gregory Mixon, Jarvis Givens, Lopez Matthews, Deidra Foreman, Gladys Gary Vaughn, and Jeff Banks.

The full attendance report was filed with the Secretary.

Secretary Susan Simms Marsh presented the meeting logistics.

President W. Marvin Dulaney welcomed attendees and presented the 2023 Annual Business Meeting agenda.

Secretary Susan Simms Marsh announced that the Executive Council received the September 18, 2023 Resolution of the ASALH Florida Coalition and after reading

the resolution requested the Resolution be placed on the 2023 Annual Business Meeting agenda after the approval of the minutes.

**Motion:** It was moved by Anita Shepherd and seconded to adopt the 2023 Annual Business Meeting agenda as revised to include the September 18, 2023 Resolution of the ASALH Florida Coalition. **The motion passed.**

Secretary Susan Simms Marsh presented the September 26, 2022, Virtual Annual Business Meeting Minutes, previously shared on the ASALH Private Members Page.

**Motion:** It was moved by Susan Simms Marsh and seconded to approve the September 26, 2022, Virtual Annual Business Meeting minutes. **The motion passed.**

### **SEPTEMBER 18, 2023 RESOLUTION OF THE ASALH COALITION**

Secretary Susan Simms Marsh presented the September 18, 2023 Resolution of the ASALH Coalition.

#### Resolution of the ASALH Florida Coalition

Whereas, controversy exist surrounding the recent election of members to the Executive Council of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, and

Whereas, this controversy arises on the threshold of the opening of the 108th Annual Meeting and Conference of the Association, and

Whereas, the existence of this controversy threatens to disrupt the Annual meeting and Conference, posing irreparable damage to its reputation and mission, and to the legacy and vision of our founder, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, and

Whereas, the likelihood of resolving this controversy, in the midst of the many meetings, Conference programs and celebrations, is highly unlikely,

THEREFORE, we, the members of the ASALH Florida Coalition, having met on September 17, 2023, and by unanimous vote of the members attending, respectfully request that the Executive Council, and any Committees of said Council, suspend and or table, as the Council's process may provide, any and all consideration of the recent election, and the controversy surrounding it, until the conclusion of the 108th Annual Meeting and Conference.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hazel Gillis, President of the James Weldon Johnson Branch and David Wilkins, President of the Manasota ASALH branch, on behalf of the ASALH Florida Coalition.

Dated: September 18, 2023

**Motion:** It was moved by David Walton and seconded to approve the September 18, 2023, Resolution of the Florida Coalition. **The motion passed.**

### **PRESIDENT REPORT**

President W. Marvin Dulaney presented a written report and there were no recommendations. The written report was filed with the Secretary.

### **SECRETARY REPORT**

Secretary Susan Simms Marsh presented a written report and there were no recommendations. The written report was filed with the Secretary.

### **TREASURER REPORT**

Treasurer Valerie Holt presented a written report and there were no recommendations. The written report was filed with the Secretary.

### **VICE PRESIDENT FOR MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Vice President for Membership Ida Jones presented a written report and there were no recommendations. The written report was filed with the Secretary.

## **VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROGRAMS REPORT**

Vice President for Programs Aaisha Haykal presented a written report and there were no recommendations. The written report was filed with the Secretary.

## **AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Audit and Finance Committee Chair Anita Shepherd presented a written report and there were no recommendations. The written report was filed with the Secretary.

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Nominating Committee Chair David Walton presented an oral report. There was a total of 538 electronic ballots submitted and seven paper ballots submitted for total of 545 ballots.

For the Executive Council, there were three candidates for corporate member and 14 candidates for general member.

Nominations for corporate members: Anthony Cade, II, Donna Gray-Banks and Erica McKnight.

Nominations for general member: Karen Cook Bell, Constance Diggs, Jacob Dorman, Natanya Duncan, Leslie K. Etienne, Aisha Johnson, Charles D. Johnson, Lionel Kimble, Moses Massenburg, Gregory Mixon, Daryl Michael Scott, Gladys Gary Vaughn, David Mathew Walton, and August Wood.

Two people were nominated by a third party. When the Nominating Committee Chair contacted the individuals, they declined the nomination.

During this meeting with the approval of the September 18, 2023 ASALH Florida Coalition Resolution, information regarding the election is not being presented.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Executive Director Sylvia Cyrus presented a written report and there were no recommendations. The written report was filed with the Secretary.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Motion:** It was moved by Sundiata Cha Jua and seconded that there be a 30-day period that the Executive Council consult with legal counsel and during that period, at least by the October 30, 2023, that a meeting of the membership be held to determine the President and to determine the results of the 2023 election as it is the right of the membership to make those decisions. **The motion passed.**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** It was moved by Anita Shepherd and seconded to adjourn the meeting. **The motion passed.**

The meeting adjourned.

Prepared by:

Susan Simms Marsh, Secretary