

ASALH Executive Council Meeting
Minutes
January 15, 2024, 4:00 pm

Attendees

Lyman Brodie, Anthony Cade, Fred Cooke, Esq., Aaisha Haykal, Zebulon Miletsky, Sundiata Cha-Jua, Sylvia Cyrus, Valerie Holt, Kenvi Phillips, Karen Cook- Bell, Marvin Dulaney, Ida Jones, Daryl Scott, Cornelius Bynum, Natanya Duncan, Lionel Kimble, Anita Shepherd, Fashika Willis, Parliamentarian, Gladys Gary Vaughn, Augustus Woods

Proxy

Jarvis Givens (Valerie Holt), Jeff Banks (Ida Jones), Denise Rolark- Barnes (S. Cha-Jua) Aisha Johnson (Natanya Duncan), Kenvi Phillips (Ida Jones)

Call to Order- Marvin Dulaney, President designated Anita Shepherd to take minutes until the report of the Nominating Committee was heard for a secretary.

Adoption of the December 21, 2023, Minutes – Motion to accept with one correction in the spelling of “Mellon”, was made by Natanya Duncan.

Motion Passed: 10

3 Opposed

Committee Assignments- Motion to accept the list of Committee Chairs appointed by the President was made by Lionel Kimble with a second by Sundiata Cha-Jua. Committees can resume regular meetings since the motion passed.

Motion passed: 13

0 Opposed

Nominating Committee – Natanya Duncan, Chair recommended Kaye Whitehead serve as an interim secretary to assist Anita Shepherd with taking the minutes. A reference was made to the Constitution, Article III Officers, Section 2 g).

If, however, a year or less remains in the term of the person vacating the office, the Executive Council may elect a person to fill the vacancy without submitting the action to the membership for approval. In either case, persons elected to the respective offices must possess the applicable prescribed qualifications. When a non-corporate position on the Executive Council becomes vacant, the Nominating Committee will solicit candidates and make recommendations to the Executive Council. The Executive

Council shall elect the replacement member who will serve out the remaining term if it is two years or less. If the remaining term is more than two years, the replacement member will also stand for election by the general membership for the final two years in the same manner as replacements for officers.

Motion moved by Lionel Kimble

Motion 1 Passed: 12
0 Opposed

A second motion was made by Natanya Duncan to invite Kaye Whitehead into the meeting to take minutes to help Anita since she was not a member of the council.

Motion 2 Passed: 15
0 Opposed

Natanya Duncan will notify the membership on Jan. 16th in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws.

2024 Budget- Sylvia Cyrus- It was important to pass the budget with the assurance that any donations from sponsors would not be used for the cost of litigation due to concerns by two sponsors. It was clarified that the budget that was submitted included thirty thousand to cover costs for legal counsel and a parliamentarian. The current litigation was not known at the time of the proposed budget; therefore, any expenditure would need to come from reserves. ASALH is still waiting for a decision from its insurance carrier.

Motion to adopt the budget was moved by Anita Shepherd.

Motion1 Passed: 9
2 Opposed

Anita Shepherd moved to have funds come from ASALH's reserve funds for its litigation. She withdrew the motion and asked that the motion be tabled to end the discussion.

Motion 2 Passed: 12
4 Opposed

Sundiata Cha-Jua moved with a second from Anita Shepherd.

“As a rule, any discussions that directly impinges on how ASALH and the President, Marvin Dulaney will pay for contesting the lawsuit as out of order because we have members who have a conflict of interest participating in the discussion and in the vote. So, I don’t think we should discuss anything that directly speaks to how we will pay for the lawsuit, strategies about the lawsuit, and anything adjacent to the discussion we should not be engaged in and should be off limits.”

Motion Passed 3: 13

3 Opposed

Announcements

- Sylvia Cyrus reminded EC members their \$300.00 donations for the Black History Month Festival (BHM) were due by Feb. 1, 2024. 211 gold tickets have been sold for the luncheon. Everyone is encouraged to sell tables/tickets.
- The updated Constitution and By-Laws will be posted to the website.
- Aaisha Haykal stated the call for proposals for the conference was now available. Names for awards should be submitted to the committee.
- Daryl Scott indicated his goals were to have the plenaries, key sessions and films done by February. People on the ground are needed for the Pittsburgh Conference since we will not have the support of the local branch.
- Gladys Gary Vaughn announced the BHM Festival will start Feb. 1st and the virtual marquee event will be on Feb. 17th. The speakers are the Jeffries brothers for the Feb. 24th luncheon, and Julian Breece for the paid virtual event.
- Fashika Willis recommended for best practices that the individual names of persons who participates in the vote by proxies should be known in advance and in writing.
- The next EC meeting: January 25th. There will not be a meeting on January 18th since Marvin will be out of the country.

The meeting adjourned at 5:18 PM EST.

Anita Shepherd