



COLUMBIA (MD) CHAPTER OF THE LINKS, INCORPORATED

MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING – MINUTES – January 13, 2024

**Howard Community College
Science Engineering and Technology Building Room 205
10901 Little Patuxent Parkway Columbia, MD**

Call to Order: The monthly meeting of the Columbia (MD) Chapter of the Links, Incorporated was held at Howard Community College on Saturday, January 13, 2024. The meeting convened at 9:08 a.m. by Link Lisa Cooper Lucas, President, presiding, and Sharon R. Pinder, Recording Secretary, was present. (Link Juliet Gilliam contributed to the minutes)

Link Regina Clay provided the Linkspiration

Members in attendance: 40 Members were in attendance. Attendance was recorded via sign-in roster and will be submitted to Madame Vice President Regina Clay.

Link Vivian Lawyer affirmed the quorum.

Adoption of the Agenda: The agenda was presented with one noted change. The reference to protocol was noted as “Points of Protocol.” Motion to approve and set agenda was made by Link Diane Martin and seconded by Link Allyson Owens.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of November 11, 2023, were presented without objection.

Points of Protocol:

Link Jo Emily presented information regarding the Proper Use of Titles. Some highlights included:

- It is important to remember how to properly address our sisters and use of professional titles in various settings.
- Refrain from using “Link” publicly, on social media, or in written form; therefore, never refer to or write “Link” on an envelope addressed to a Link sister that is displayed in public.
- It is okay to use during chapter meetings, area conferences, and assemblies.



- The titles of Link, Connecting Link, and Heir-o-Link are internal; double titles of Link (e.g., Dr. Link...) should not be used.
- If you have any questions, ask Link Jo Emily.

OFFICER REPORTS

President – The report of the President, Link Lisa Cooper Lucas, was received and placed on file. Highlights include;

Open positions: Audit Chair, Treasurer, 50th-Anniversary Chair, Communication Chair, International Trends & Services, Sargent of Arms, and Nominating Committee Chair

Point of President Privilege:

- Acknowledgement of Link Laura Crandon as the outgoing Chair of HHS
- Acknowledgment of Link Lisa Harbour Carter for taking over as Chair of K.A.R.E and managing the project.
- Acknowledgement of Link Rebecca Reed for the phenomenal job as Chair of Fundraising

Vice President -The report of the Vice President/Membership Chair, Regina Clay, was received and placed on file. Highlights include:

- Introduction of new members Link Shonalette Adams (Midwest) and Link Paula Shaw (Greater Miami Chapter)
- Track it Forward- please check hours and record them,
- 1:4- All compliant with 1:4 at this time
- Ethics Training: Link Regina will conduct a one-time session before the end of the month for those who have not completed ethics training.

Corresponding Secretary – Link Marquita Davis –shared 3 correspondences – thank you notes from Judge Leslie Turner; Tanya Sellers-Hannibal; and Heir-o-Link Evan Hannibal

Financial Secretary – Link Shaydra Robinson presented the report on behalf of Financial Secretary Melanie Brown. It was received and placed on file.



Treasurer – The report from Treasurer Shaydra Robinson included a review of the Final Budget. Link Shandra's report included a discussion regarding increasing the website allocation line item. After discussion, it was decided to increase website allocation.

Link Shaydra Robinson presented two motions –

1. **Title of Motion:** Approval of the FY2024/2025 Budget and FY2026 Assessment

Motion Description: Move to approve both the FY2024/25 budget as presented and the recommended Program Scholarship assessment for FY2026.

Motion Background: As required by our bylaws, our annual budget is presented to the full body for approval in January or February. The final approval of the budget is required by our February meeting.

Other Pertinent Motion Information: None

Link Myra Smith seconded the motion.

36 yes

1 opposition

Motion passes.

2. **Title of Motion:** Add funding to our current budget to support the FY2024 Peabody Concert. These funds are available from discretionary funds in the Program (Regular Restricted) account.

Motion Description: Move to use \$3,850 from available restricted funds to cover the FY2024 Peabody Concert expenses.

Motion Background: We inadvertently omitted funds to support the FY2024 Peabody concert in our current budget. There were discretionary funds available in the Regular Restricted Account to support this request.

Other Pertinent Motion Information: None

Link Regina Clay seconded the motion.

30 yes

Motion passes.



REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES, FACETS AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Program Chair – An oral report was given by Link Regina Little Hollis, Program Chair. Highlight discussion –Link Audra Nixon – on the Umbrella Program – Services to Youth.

- January 21st – Resume Review with HCC and our Scholars.
- February 28th – Movie Event- 5:00 p.m. Smith Theatre
- February 25th for Mental Health - Duncan Hall at 3:00 pm
- March 4th – Educational Foundation Fundraiser

Link Michelle Sterrett reported on the Red Dress Weekend on behalf of Link Melanie Brown. The report was received and placed on file.

Link Germaine Bolds-Leftridge was thanked for her contributions to designing and delivering the beautiful ad.

Link Lisa Harbour Carter provided information on Black K.A.R.E.
Some highlights included:

- Black K.A.R.E Facilitator's Training will take place after the Chapter meeting.
- Service Hours available for training.
- The deadline for the Chapter is January 31st. In order to comply with the grant's requirement, the entire chapter must be trained.

New Business

Link Judy Smith reiterated the Consent Agenda methodology.

Joys and Concerns

Birthday Celebrations for January were acknowledged.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.



Signed: Sharon R. Pinder, Recording Secretary

Secretary Date of Approval: _____
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The Links, Incorporated