**The Links, Incorporated**

**BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

**January 27, 2024**

**Call to order:** The meeting convened at 10:04 am Link Mentha Hynes-Wilson, President, presiding.

**The Pledge was recited by all chapter members**

**The Song was sung by all chapter members**

**The Linkspiration was provided by Link Joan Ray**

**Roll Call performed by Link Alicia Stephens. Attendance sheet is attached**.

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| Total Active Members Present | | 25 | |
| Total Absent |  | | 8 |
| Total Present Alumna | | 2 | |
| Members Excused | | 5 | |

**Guests in attendance:** 0

**Adoption of the Agenda:** Without objection the agenda was approved with the following corrections: Added Chapter photos to old business.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes incomplete and unavailable for approval.

**Officers' Reports:**

**President**–Link Mentha Hynes-Wilson. Report submitted and disbursed. Please see actions items in the report. Six meetings must be attended by members. Dues are due in February. Our chapter will achieve 100% Ethics compliance. Revised Handbook is now available on our website.

**Vice President** --Link Kay Wilson Kirby. Verbal report. The membership committee has 3 new additions: Link Mary Ingram, Link Fran Davis, and Link Tanya Smith Brice. Emphasis on engagement of our Platinum and Alumna members through the Platinum and Alumna Committee

**Recording Secretary –** Link Gina Hatcher – no report

**Corresponding Secretary**--- Link Christina Abby. Thank you card received from Link Lisa Shyne. Thank you letter received from our “I Can Fly” student, Elizabeth.

**Financial Secretary**: Link Barbara Lane. Will start using QuickBooks Feb 1st. Dues for regular active members are $515 and $190 for Platinum members. 100% food assessment paid. Please see report for details on our HBCU Giving Campaign.

**Treasurer**–Link Denita Harden-Patton. November and December report submitted, and verbal report given.

Standing Committee Reports:

# Hospitality Report – Link Alicia Stephens. Verbal report and report submitted.

# Ethics — Chapter will achieve 100% Compliance on Ethics requirement.

# Fundraising/Fund Development – Link Mentha Hynes-Wilson. Update on grants. $50,000 grant awarded to Arts Facet this year. Chapter just received a $15,000 grant for STEAM programming. A committee will be formed to determine disbursement of grant funds.

# Finance Committee – Link Denita Harden-Patton. First review of Proposed 2024-2025 Budget. Posted on website. Finance committee will take feedback and adjust for next review.

# Scholarship Committee Link Dorothy Williams. The application process is open, and applicants will be selected Feb 27th. Interviews are March 21st and reception is April 7th. Link Tanya Smith Brice reported our former Links Scholarship recipient, Imani Hawkins, is the BSU president at St Martin’s. She will be continuing her education at Grad school.

# Technology. Link Kirsten Watts. Committee supports all facets AV needs. Kudos to Link Kirsten Watts for creating a wonderful PowerPoint for our Health Fair. Please send photos to the tech committee for posting on the website. Please caption photos and try to send action pictures. Email photos to: [technologychair@tacomalinksinc.org](mailto:technologychair@tacomalinksinc.org)

# Photos to be posted on our social media sites should be emailed to Link Mary Ingram at: tacomalinkssocialmedia@gmail.com

# Program Report. Link Alyce McNeil.

# Arts – Link Christina Abby. Several Black History Month events are planned by the Governor’s office and at the Governor’s Mansion. Link Latonja Hunter will email chapter with information. TCC will host a Black Artist Exhibition in February. The facet sponsored 8 youths for the play “The Colored Museum” in collaboration with Kitsap County BSU. Several Link Sisters attended.

# HHS – Link Angela Walker. Continuing Lunch and Lecture collaboration with Bethlehem Family Shelter. Highlighted very successful Health and Wellness Fair. March is Black Wellness Month. Overview of possible upcoming programming,

# National Trends & Services --Link Pamela Jones Hadley. Overview of upcoming possible programming including Financial Literacy program, Sisters Talking program, and Jason Lee collaboration.

# International Trends & Services -- Link Barbara Lane. Continuing to support “I Can Fly, International” and a second student will be sponsored. Also sponsoring incoming freshmen with uniforms. International Women’s Day is in March and ITS would like to collaborate with all facets.

# Services to Youth-- Link Tracy Flood-Harris. Save the date for 2nd Youth and Law Forum, 1st Sat in October. Need support from our facets. Partnered with Seattle Links last year. Continuing support for Foss Clothing Closet/Food Pantry and Reading Program.

# Unfinished Business

# HBCU Campaign. Over $1400 Chapter Contributions. Still accepting donations.

# 1946 Campaign. Link Samantha Parker Black is collecting donations of $19.46 or more.

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# Fundraiser. Link Tracy Flood-Harris. Proposal for “Strawberries and Chocolate” Spring Fling to be held May 19th or May 26th at The Murano with potential sponsorships of $10,000. Link Mary Green moved The Tacoma Links proceed with having a fundraiser in May 2024 with co-sponsorship from the Puyallup Tribe and Inatai Foundation. Motion passed. A formal proposal will be submitted at the February meeting.

# New Business

# Chapter photo. Link Mary Ingram. Chapter photos will be determined by photographer availability for dates at April chapter meeting or in May.

# Nominating Committee. Nominating Committee Chair Link Denita Harden-Patton and members gave presentation of officer’s duties. Chapter elections will be held in March. Members will be contacted for interest in officer roles.

# Membership Committee. New candidate membership vote. Biographies of proposed candidates were read. Three candidates for membership: Cheryl L. Swalling, Sponsor Link Gina Hatcher; Kendra Ruth Mathias, Sponsor Link Kirsten Brunson; and Nichelle Alston Brown, Sponsor Link Mary Ingram.

# Voting was conducted for candidate membership. Teller’s report: All candidates received 2/3 or more votes and have been accepted for potential membership. Dates for candidate workshops proposed: March 9th, April 6th, April 20th, and May 4th Induction.

# Announcements

# Link Mary Ingram would like members to take pictures of themselves in red for Go Red Heart Health campaign. Please email to Link Mary by Tues, Jan 30th.

# Link Alyce announced the Black Collective is celebrating Black History Month and the meetings are the 1st Saturday of the Month online or in person.

# Link Tracy Flood-Harris announced the Admiral Theater will have $5 movies on Wednesday nights and will feature Black movies in February.

# Meeting adjourned at 12:58.

Submitted by Alicia D. Stephens

Date of approval