

**Blacks In Government**

**Region IV Spring Council Meeting**

**Saturday, May 20, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Honorable Alice Mercer, President, called the meeting to order at 9:00 am EST) 8:00 CST

**INVOCATION:** Mr. Arnold Taylor, Executive Vice President

**INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES:** Honorable Alice Mercer, Region IV Council President

**ROLL CALL OF CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES:** Ms. Claudine Ervine conducted a Roll Call at 9:18 am EST/8:18 am CST. Recorded forty-one seated, quorum met.

**TRAINING: Parliamentarian Overview**

Parliamentarian,Honorable Anthony Rhodes provided training. Mr. Rhodes noted that he was a chapter charter member and a founding member of Region IV. In addition, he served as a national parliamentarian. He stated there would be a simple presentation today, so he would give a brief oversight to help along the way to understand more how we fit and how we use Robert Rules of Order as the authorization authority for parliamentary procedures. All our national research says you have to know appointment authority and do some basic press procedure, which is with majority rule and minority rights. The majority can rule, but also the rights of the minority must be protected. Only members can vote. These rules allow you to protect your business in a liberal assembly, which we are in. All members of this assembly have agreed to adhere to Robert. In Region Four, we have the national cooperation known as the constitution and the regional Chapter by laws.

**ADOPTION OF STANDING RULES**

Honorable Peoples noted that the standing rules were not on the Region's website. President Mercer asked the telecommunication chair to display the standing rules on the screen since they were not on the Region's website. She gave people an opportunity to read them. Honorable Calvin Stevens asked to amend standing Rule seven by adding that members turn their cameras on when speaking. In turn, Honorable Peoples asked why. It was noted that the motion had not been made or received a second.

**Motion:** Honorable Jacquie B. Sammons (Suburban Atlanta) moved that the motion maker should place the motion in the chat, properly set and stated by the chair. Debate shall be restricted to voting members of the Council. However, non-voting members may address any subject if there is no objection from members of the Council.

**Second:** Honorable Calvin Stevens (Atlanta Metro Chapter) provided a second. EVP Arnold Taylor spoke against the motion because it took time. So, we can put that motion in the form of a chat, and then we can proceed with this business.

Ms. Veronica Goffrey-Robinson spoke for the motion because she felt that the person making the motion knew exactly what they wanted to say and how they wanted to say it. Also, to address your time issue, the person making the motion can start typing in a note section on their computer and Word document. This will give her time so that when it is time to make the motion, they need to copy and paste correctly in the chat area of Zoom.

Ms. Annettee Rice spoke against the motion because she thought it should go back to the proper place with the Secretary or assistant secretary. She suggested letting the maker of the motion work it out with the Assistant Secretary or Secretary. The Honorable Mary Peoples spoke for the motion, stating that she agreed with Ms. Goffrey-Robinson. EVP spoke against again, Honorable Stevens spoke for again, and Honorable Beatty called for the question. Madam President called for the vote. The motion passed with twenty-seven "yea" votes.

Mr. Arnold Taylor mentioned that all primary delegates should have "primary" after their name to make sure only they were voting on motions. He moved that all primary representatives must have the word primary by their name to be counted within the vote. Hon. Beverly Johnson provided a second; the motion carried.

**APPOINTMENT OF SERGEANTS-AT-ARM AND TIMEKEEPER:** Honorable Mercer appointed Ms. Kimberly Peterson as Sergeant-at-Arms and timekeeper.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

President Mercer stated that the Council would take a 10-minute break before moving to adopt the minutes because two hours had passed. The body agreed without objection. Upon their return, she asked Ms. Claudine Ervin to do a second roll call. According to the second roll call, thirty-nine represented were seated. Madam President asked that attention be moved to approving the agenda. Ms. Darlene W. Green (Kings Bay Area) moved the DSHOF award up after the Region IV Director's report. Ms. Lavern Feaster made a second. In turn, Honorable Mary Peoples, Huntsville-Madison County Chapter, made a substitute motion that the DSHOF nominee item remain on the agenda under new business as shown. ( By that time, the nominee write-up should be available). Honorable Sammons seconded the motion. After some discussion, Honorable Stevens moved to cut off the debate. The motion was carried, and the discussion returned to the Honorable Peoples substitute motion.

 **Motion:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ moved to accept the agenda with noted changes.

**Second:** Honorable Stevens provided a second

**Approval of 2022 Spring and Fall Council Minutes:** Review conducted by Dr. Vera McKethan (General Chappie James) (Region IV Secretary). The minutes were approved, with a few noted changes to be made.

**REGION IV COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT** Honorable Alice Mercer, Region IV. President turned the gavel over to the First Vice President. The President's report was sent in advance and posted to the Region IV website for review. She had no action items, but she did provide dates to remember:

* June 3, 2023, Region IV Virtual Training Conference
* June 10, 2023, Region IV Youth Competition
* August 28-31, 2023, National Training Institute

**REGIONAL DIRECTORS REPORT:**

Director Wilson reported that she serves on the national bylaw committee, the FLC, and the national constitution. The bylaw committee meeting was approved and recommended to the board of directors to approve the Institute of South Florida metropolitan chapter bylaws. Also, she sent an email asking for all the chapters and the regional bylaws to be submitted to her to review and ensure they complied with the national model bylaw.

**ELECTION OF NOMINATION COMMITTEE:**

**Primary Nomination Committee Members**

1. Terrence Jones
2. Plezia Scipio Wilson
3. Ruth Benson
4. Dr. Tony Lowe Fisher
5. Taneisha Williams
6. Katie Course
7. Darlene Green

**EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** The report was for information.

**FIRST VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** No action items.

**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**: The report was for information.

**THIRD VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Submitted for information only.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

***Statement of Revenue & Expenditures***

Regional Training Conference-$389.29

Revenue $7,670 (Regional dues & assess)

Refund slash credit - $12.00

Total Revenue $8,071.29

***Balance Sheet:***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Checking Account  | $34,120.63 |
| Money Market | 3935.76 |
| Savings/CD Account  | $3935.39 |
| Total  | $58,056.57 |

**Motion**: Honorable people moved that the Finance Committee invest some of the funds in the checking account (no more than $10,000) and a money market or CD to give the Region a better return on the money. Mr. Abe Joseph seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The treasurer's report was approved subject to audit.

**ASSISTANT TREASURER'S REPORT:** Submitted for information only**.**

**HISTORIAN/LIBRARIAN REPORT:** Report was for information.

**PARLIAMENTARIAN**

Committee reports can be found under the 2023 Spring Council Meeting on Region IV's website: www.regionivbig.com,)

Awards Committee

Finance Committee

 Program And Planning

Communications & Public Relations

Legislative And Legal Review

Conference Planning

Membership Committee

Bylaws Committee

Evaluation Committee

Affirmative Employment/EEO

Corporate Sponsorship

Health And Wellness Coordinator

Strategic Planning

Parliamentarian:

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Executive Committee Action Item Report:** Mr. Arnold provided an update on the status of the action items. Honorable Peoples moved that the Council accept and approve the executive committee's actions as stated in their report. Dr. Vera McKethan seconded the motion. The motion was carried without objection.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The Council voted for a Face-to-Face Fall Council Meeting (November 11).

**Good of the Order.** Some members provided comments for the good of the order. Director Clausell thanked the Region for allowing him to serve for the last four years as the Region Director,

**The meeting adjourned at** 7:29 pm EST/6:29 pm.