

African American Advisory Council Minutes

Tracy Marshall, Chairperson
Keith Smith, Vice-Chairperson
May 16, 2019

ATTENDEES:

Robin Albritton
Shirley Barsh
Tanya Carriere
Fayette Coleman-Gill
Angela Hassell
Renee Heard
Jacque Johnson
Tracy Marshall
Lori Welcher-Evans

Phone Participants

James Bracey
Carole Freeman
Veronica Mattison
Kilonzo Musau
Jere Murry
Reginald Riddle-Young
Relunda Washington

The meeting was officially called to order by Chairperson, Tracy Marshall at 10:10am.

ORDER OF MEETING:

REVIEW OF MINUTES:

The minutes for April were reviewed. It was moved by Robin and second by Shirley that the minutes be accepted pending corrections made. There was one abstention.

CHAIRPERSON REPORT:

Tracy Marshall gave the Chairperson's report and stated the following:

- The council continues to prepare for the conference; roles and responsibilities of council members will be revisited
- There be no meeting in June due to the conference
- Council members will travel to Bloomington, IL in the Central Region June 14th to participate in the Youth Summit
- The meeting for July will take place in the Southern Region

NEWSLETTER:

Tracy emphasized the importance of the committee working to get the upcoming newsletter completed and that anyone on the council can submit articles to the committee.

AFRICAN AMERICAN SERVICES:

This agenda item was tabled.

TRAINING COMMITTEE:

No report.

STATUS REPORT-HOST FAMILIES/CARE PACKAGES:

The council's student that is supported by the council attended today's meeting. At the time of this report, the student was enroute to the meeting. The student is in town for the summer. The student provided an update regarding her status in school. Introductions took place. The student shared that she is officially a senior at Tennessee State University and plans to enlist in the United States Coast Guard. She is expected to receive formal training in Maryland and eventually she would like to own her own business and open a wellness firm/gym. The student is currently working toward obtaining an internship thru Americor in Geneva, IL. The student reported that she is expected to graduate Spring 2020.

Monthly donations for the student were collected for both April and May.

MEMBERSHIP:

Robin reported that the committee continue to work on updating the by-laws. No new inquiries have been received.

LEGISLATIVE:

No report.

REAL TALK:

Carole reported the Youth Summit in Central Region will take place June 14th. Carole will follow-up with the guest speaker. The hospitality committee will be collecting donations from council members to present to the guest speaker.

JOINT COUNCIL REPORT:

No updated information. No report. James will follow-up and get back with council members regarding the final document.

CONFERENCE:

- The conference program was passed around for council members to review
- Tracy reported that much appreciation goes out to Summer, the fiancé of Chris Hamb who passed away shortly after last year's conference; who also completed the cover of the program as well as managed the council's site in the past
- Robin/Fayette gave an overview of the day of the conference: There will be a Continental Breakfast; Opening Plenary session will take place from 9:55am until 11:40am; Lunch will be from 11:45am until 12:45pm, and will be catered by Panera Bread; Concurrent Breakout sessions will run from 1:00pm until 2:00pm; the Mega Roundtable Discussion will be facilitated by Lurie Children's Hospital; and Closing Remarks will be done by both Tracy Marshall and Angela Baron-Jeffrey
- Council members please mark your calendars to be at South Suburban College on 5-29-19 at 3:00pm the day prior to the conference
- Giveaways were shown to council members and ribbons will be ordered by Brooke
- Council members can wear African attire if you like and registration begins at 9:00am; council members must arrive by 8:30am, and vendors will be in the open area from 9:00am until 6:00pm
- The hospitality committee/vendor committee will decorate the day prior to the conference
- There are 18 vendors confirmed and 1 exhibitor confirmed; reminders will be sent
- Vendors can park in the west parking lot and come through the main entrance
- Tracy gave kudos to both Carole and Relunda for soliciting nominations for awards
- Tracy gave kudos to Lori for stepping up and attempting to work on writing some articles for the upcoming newsletter
- Tracy gave some suggestions about other articles such as "the softball team"

BUSINESS UPDATES:

NEW BUSINESS:

- If council members are not on a committee, members are encouraged to sign up for a committee; the council needs all hands-on deck and members are encouraged to re-think their commitment with the council

- Angela suggested the council to brainstorm new and fresh innovative ideas as a council that will take us into the future
- Lori reminded council members who volunteered for the Disrupted Placements/Youth in Office committee (that will write the preposition paper) about tomorrow's teleconference at 10:00am; an invite for the teleconference was previously sent
- Tracy wished a Happy Birthday to all council members who celebrated or will be celebrating a birthday in April and May
- Angela Hassell was welcomed back to the council

The meeting was officially adjourned at 12:31pm.

The next meeting is scheduled to take place July 19, 2019 in Southern region.

Submitted by:

Lori Welcher-Evans, Secretary