

# *NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK SOCIAL WORKERS*

## *ANNUAL MEETING*



## **MEETING MINUTES**

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**Meeting Dates:** April 4, 2016

**Meeting Location:** Hyatt Regency New Orleans  
601 Loyola Avenue  
New Orleans. LA 70113

**Approved:** **DRAFT**

**Recorded By:** Traci Lewis, LMSW  
National Recording Secretary

# NABSW Annual Meeting

Hyatt Regency New Orleans

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New Orleans. LA 70113

April 4, 2015

- Called to order 9:20am
- Spiritual awakening- Yvonne Powell...Who am I?
- Approval of the minutes- No minutes were available
- Thanks to the New Orleans chapter for providing the CEU's. President Oliver complemented on the smooth process.
- Awards (Pat Jenkins Lewis- Co-Chair)
  - Awardees must be a member in good standing
  - Chapter Individual Service Awards- Andrea Dudley (CIC); Terry Travis-Davis (Chicago); Janay Roberson (Philadelphia Alliance); Kalila Long (Greater Los Angeles)
  - Distinguished Individual Service Award- Adrena Spence (Chicago)
  - Presidential Award- Central Indiana Chapter
  - Ujima Award- Dr. Conrad Worrell
- Treasurer's Report- A written report was provided
  - Income \$271,600.66 expenses 325,438.84 net is negative-\$53,8323
    - Reasons
      - Anticipated conference revenue from Indiana not realized.
      - IEC Postponed so i=no income received
      - July-October, no income but still had expenses
      - Organization spent more than was brought in.
      - \$70, 000 borrowed from existing accounts
      - 185,557.58 in operating account
    - Must have additional consistent revenue streams
      - Three recommendations proposed and approved by the finance committee
        - Donate button on the website
        - Revive the online boutique
        - Investigate an online purchasing process.
          - People purchase items online they would purchase anyway. When you buy through the portal, the organization gets a percentage (no cost associated)
          - 
          - Any further ideas are welcomed. Please contact the finance committee

- Connie moved to accept the treasure's report with the recommendations from the finance committee/Addie Hudson (Chicago) Moved and 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - There was discussion as to if the report should be approved at the annual meeting or the SCM; as well as changing the word "donate" to "invest"
    - Connie will take the suggestion of the word change back to the finance committee
    - Motion carried
- Discussions while getting the equipment working for the President's Annual Report
  - Appreciation to the Chicago Chapter for all the work they did for this conference.
  - NABSW website
    - Annual and Presidents reports are digital this year and all electronically submitted committee reports will be posted on the website within two weeks of the conclusion of the SCM's .
    - Ask that members take responsibility to help those who are not tech savvy
    - There will be a link to a webinar one month before the next Chapter Presidents call to explain how to use the website.
    - Sharon Ballard (Huron Valley) asked about sight impaired members being able to access the site.
      - Taken under advisement
  - National office coverage
    - Suggestions were made to investigate having interns fill in on days the office is closed as well as look at AARP who has people who work in offices at no charge and Black churches for volunteers.
      - Taken under advisement
      - President Oliver stated there is currently no personnel committee. However, there is a proposed constitutional amendment to reestablish the personnel committee.
    - New office hours (M/W/F 9-3) should be provided on the recording.
      - Change will be made
  - Much concern regarding people not of African descent being at the conference.
    - President Oliver stated those who appeared to not be of African descent were vetted and found to identify at some point with their African Ancestry.
    - Discussion regarding how to appropriately vet when ancestry is in question.
    - Suggestion made to add ancestry question to the registration form
    - President Oliver noted all concerns and stated the communication and information committee will look at areas where we need to decrease the likelihood that non potential members attend conference. She noted there is a vetting process in place but there was a breakdown at registration. The process will be reviewed.

➤ Presidents Report

- Presented electronically and will be in the member's only section of the website.
- Work of the organizations is through committees who have been working extremely hard and meeting at least once per month.
  - Every committee has an executive officer as a liaison that reports to the executive committee the good works of the committees.
- Request for NABSW representation at events.
  - There is no budget to do so as all committees have had their travel lines cut, including the President's.
- Nova Scotia supported the travel of the President and the National Office Director who did a presentation on the needs of Black males in Foster care.
  - There will be a book published on the proceedings by Dr. Wanda Bernard of the Nova Scotia Chapter.
- Refinancing of the National Office
  - November began researching refinancing
  - January refinanced the national office with 6 years left to pay (did not extend)
  - Reduced payment by \$200 per month and at time of payoff, we will have realized a \$15,000 savings on the mortgage.
- Signed on as partner to the Father's Incorporated Initiative
  - Ken Green and the National Relations committee will work on this initiative
  - NABSW represented as a partner and by specific chapter activities on the Save Our Sons night.
- CRISP (DC Research institute) asked if we would be involved in the social work day on the hill in March.
  - Created a legislative task force
  - Call to membership to help develop a legislative agenda with issues of concern.
  - Asked to show support on the Dorothy I. Height Social Work Re-Investment act
    - Thoroughly reviewed
      - Key component is to support licensing which the organization is against.
      - There is a commission that is seated to make decisions about all the other components of the legislations that would come from a national social work organization (appears to be NASW).
      - The "ask" would be that NABSW be recognized as a national social work organization and become part of the commission alongside NASW.

- President Oliver explained NABSW had a many members who were experts in competence, cultural competence, education and social work practice who should be at the table to determine if our positions and concerns can be incorporated into the licensing structure.
    - Other concern is that NABSW be in the body that creates and assess licensing questions to make sure they are culturally competent.
    - NABSW will not be at discussions and tables where their agenda is listed and our name is there and suggests that we are supportive when we aren't.
    - When asked to partner/support/become involved with something, it will be thoroughly reviewed and determined how NABSW can be in an authoritative and decision making capacity and can contribute our expertise and perspectives to the field.
  - Where we are going
    - The vision of leadership
      - Recognized there is a “sandwich” group (those who are not students or seasoned members) whose needs are not being met. President Oliver asked the young professionals what they saw as their next step.
        - They came back to her with many ideas that will be reviewed
      - Met with the founders who gave ideas and charges
      - Looking at the efficiency and effectiveness of leadership, the condition of the house and IT
      - There are many needs that are presenting opportunities for us over the years and there has to be a plan for the many changes needed.
      - The membership must understand the organization lives by its Code of Ethics and takes responsibility that everyone who is a part of the organization understands what NABSW is about.
  - Goals
    - Committees will continue to function and be/do dynamic work.
  - The Annual Report will be on the NABSW website. Please share with chapter members who don't make it as all members need to know what is happening in the organization.

Meeting adjourned at 11:43pm

Respectfully submitted by: Traci Lewis, National Recording Secretary