



***Booker Washington Institute National Alumni Association of
North America (BWINAANA)***

Crowne Plaza

Minneapolis, MN

June 29 – July 1, 2007

“Building the Next Generation”

Host: Minnesota Chapter

Convention Business Summary

June 30, 2007

A 501 c not for profit organization

www.bwitiger.org

This summary is dedicated to the officers and members of the Minnesota Chapter who worked very hard to welcome us in 2007. What a wonderful time we had! Thank you.

Invocation

Ms. Romel L Whyte, National Chaplain

Meeting call to order

Mr. Ralph Henri, National President called the Convention to order.

Welcome

Mrs. Margaret Toweh, MN Chapter President

Mrs. Toweh presented the National Secretary with a bouquet of flowers.

Roll Call: Mr. Amos K. Gray, National Financial Secretary

Paid Chapters

California

Carolinas

Connecticut

Great Lakes

Massachusetts

Maryland

Minnesota-Host Chapter

New Jersey

Southwest

Washington, D.C.

New York

Rhode Island

Unpaid Chapters

Georgia

Delaware Valley

National Officers

Mr. Ralph Henri, National President

Mr. Zig Collins, National Vice President

Ms. Sando Yancy, National Treasury

Mr. Amos K. Gray, National Financial Secretary

Capt. Simeon Smith, National Social Secretary

Mrs. Foudiya Henri, National Secretary

Dr. Joe T. Isaac, National Historian

Ms. Romel L. Whyte, National Chaplain

Mrs. Alice Martin, National Queen (SW Chapter)

Former National Presidents

Mr. Emmet Fiawoo

Mr. Joe Matthew

Mr. Zach White

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Adoption of Agenda

The Southwest chapter moved that the 2007 agenda be adopted with minor changes (addition of location of November 07 EC meeting location and Convention 08 update)

2006 National Convention minutes

The National Secretary read the minutes of the 2006 National Convention held in Methuen, MA. The MN Chapter motioned for the minutes to be open for discussion it was seconded by the SW Chapter.

Corrections-

Page # 4 – add Romel Whyte’s aunty under Annul Chaplain’s report for bereaved members; correct the spelling for Josephine Davies.

Page # 5 – SW Chapter confirmed submission of their annual Chapter Report 2006 minutes were adopted with corrections.

National Committee Reports

National Financial Report (2006-2007)

Mr. Amos K. Gray provided copies of the National Financial Report to all Chapter Presidents for review with their members. The Financial Report was also distributed, review and adopted in the previous day EC meeting, June 29, 2007. The Association has its 501 C status. The status must be maintained in accordance with U.S. IRS Code and Regulations. The accounting period for the Association is June 1 through May 31. The Association’s Post Office Box is 51573, Denton, TX 76206.

College of BWI Committee

BWI Transition Committee- Booker Washington Institute, Kakata-Liberia Report was delivered and presented by Dr. Joe T. Isaac, National Historian and Chair of the College of BWI Committee. The report was previously email to all Local Chapter Presidents for a 30-day review. Comments from Local Chapters were due back to Dr. Isaac for forwarding to the BWI Transition Committee, Liberia.

National Committee Reports

Election Committee

Mr. Charles Youn and his team provided recommendations previously presented to the June 29, 2007 EC.

Members of the Election Committee:

Charles Youn, Chair (R.I. Chapter)
Mrs. Danlette F.J. Norris, Secretary
Wellington Hall, RI Chapter
William Johnson, RI Chapter
Konah Yancy, Great Lakes Chapter
Henry Harmon, SW Chapter

Constitution Committee

Mr. David Deranemie, Chair of the Constitution Committee and MA Chapter President provided a report to the body stating why the Constitution Committee had not completed its work on the amended National Constitution for the 2007 National Convention. Mr. Deranemie cited lack of Chapter participation, extension of the comment period to February 2007 and schedule failure and total collapse within the committee.

Members of the Constitution Committee:

David Deranemie, Chair (MA Chapter)
David Ballah, RI Chapter President
Asu Pelima, Great Lakes Chapter
Henry Charyoe, NY Chapter President
Margaret Toweh, MN Chapter President

National Chaplain's Report

Mrs. Romel Whyte shared the good news with the body of her recent marriage which took place in Africa while visiting Liberia. The National Chaplain reported on the BWI Campus and the ongoing developments. She shared with the body the recent bereavements across the chapters. She was hopeful that her husband would soon join her in the U.S.A.

Local Chapter Reports submitted

Please see copy of cover page from each Local Chapter Report submitted. The reports will become a part of the archives of BWINAANA.

Workshop Session

Trade shop break-out sessions for various trade shops on BWI.

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BWINAANA Update / State of Association

The National President elaborated on the achievement of the National Financial Team to secure the 501 c status of the association. The association filed its IRS income tax returns and provides high- quality financial reporting to the Local Chapters. He encouraged the body on the importance of using the association's tax exempt status for the purpose intended under U.S. non profit Code and Regulations. He stated no one should use the association's tax exempt status for private benefit of for shipment of personal goods to Liberia. He reminded the members that they are ultimately responsible to remain vigilant to ensure that proper financial practices are adhered to within the association.

BWI Update

Postponed for EC meeting

Old Business

New Business –

The National Historian election was postponed to 2008 in NYC by the convention.

Closing Remarks

The National President thanked the MN Chapter for a job well done. The MN Chapter provided further instructions for the afternoon and evening activities. A motion was made for adjournment of the 2007 National Convention Business Session.

Benediction

National Chaplain

The closing prayer was provided by Ms. Romel L. Whyte, National Chaplain.

BWI School Ode

Liberian National Anthem

Off to the National Soccer Game!

Submitted

Mrs. Foudiya Henri
National Secretary 2004-2008