

**The Detroit (MI) Chapter of The Links, Inc.**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**April 12, 2023**

**Call to Order:** 6:37 pm by President Patricia White

**Linkspiration: Spring into fitness with 7 easy steps**

**Hymn followed by Pledge**

**Attendance / Roll Call:** Taken by Link Yolanda Bates. A quorum was not established. All active members were present except: Robbie Archer, Doris Anderson, Angel Austin, Sandra Bulger, Tamira Chapman, Christina Clark, Carol Jupiter Garibaldi, Kimberly Gill, Anika Goss, Joanna Wells Masten, Shirley Mobley-Woods, Linda Parker, Sherri Pierce, Khalilah Spencer, Judy Summers, Iris Taylor, Katrina Turnbow, and Jeanne Wardford.

**President's Report** - Link Patricia White

- Correction to the March Minutes. The meeting was held on March 8th not March 1st.
- Members are asked to invite and host an Alumna member at our May meeting when we conduct our Alumna ceremony for Link Cynthia Taueg.
- The Links Day at the Capitol has been changed to a virtual event. It will be April 26th from 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm.
- The last day for Members to make a contribution to HBC4U is April 30th. The Chapter has already made its contribution.
- The Links street sign event will be held April 20th. An evite has gone out.
- Registration for The Central Area Conference will come out this month.
  - Link Allison Martin: Link Rhonda Walker will be interviewing her and George Cohen on April 18th. The interview will air the morning of April 20th. A news crew will cover the street sign unveiling and that will air the morning of April 21st.

**Vice President's Report** - Link Kimberly Keaton-Williams

- We will have a total of 5 Link Members on leave next program year.
- April 23rd is our next Linked in Friendship Event at Urban Wick Candle Bar.
- Our June Linked in Friendship Event, Summer Solstice, will be held Friday, June 23rd at the home of Link Kristi Stepp. You can invite a guest.
- If you have not been to a conference since 2017, you need to attend the conference in Chicago from July 5th - 9th. You can check your conference

attendance status on the portal or contact Link Kim so she can show you how to check your status on the portal.

- Link Patricia White: Link Kristi Stepp has agreed to be our new Program Director. Link Alecia Ashford-Taylor has agreed to take on Link Doris Anderson's role as Hospitality Chair.
- Link Alecia asked that if Members have a florist that they highly recommend that they let her know.

#### **Treasurer's Report** - Link Tyra Evans

- The Treasurer's Report was received and placed on file.
- If you need to be reimbursed for any expense, please let Link Tyra know so she can get that taken care of before the end of the program year.
- Members will get the approved budget and the year end report at the May meeting.
- Link Tyra doesn't think we will be fined by National because of Covid. Our auditor did submit the IRS information. He is sending Links Tyra and Angel a copy of it. She anticipates not being fined by the IRS.
- We have \$28,500 in Foundation money. We can request the funds for a foundation or programming. The best time to request the money is the beginning of the year.

A quorum was established: Link Marcia Holland Turner motioned that we accept the March Minutes with the correction of the date of March 8th and that we also accept the Treasurer's Report. It was seconded by Link Corri Lynn Wofford. The motion carried.

#### **International Trends' Report** - Link Shauna Ryder Diggs

- You can follow the women we support on Instagram at Jamaican Women in Coffee.
- The Chapter has supported the women with funds to complete a coffee certification program. Sixty women have completed the program.
- One of the goals was to have at least one woman complete the coffee sommelier program, and two have completed it.
- The Committee is having a Business and Personal Development Webinar on May 6th. The presenter is Link Gail Perry Mason.
- The Committee is planning to meet with the women in Jamaica in January 2024.
- The Committee is planning a summer coffee tasting event to support the women.
  - Link Kristi Stepp asked that the Retreat Committee consider wrapping a retreat around the Chapter's event in Jamaica that would allow us to see the Chapter's impact on the women.

### **Services to Youth - Alison Vaughn**

- Jackets for Jobs and Comerica Bank are looking to collect 1000 prom dresses for the young ladies. They have 500 dresses so far. Please remember to clean out your closets and donate dresses, accessories and shoes.
- The dresses are needed by April 21st.
- The event will be Friday, April 28th.
- Dresses can be dropped off at Jackets for Jobs, 5555 Conner St, or to one of the eleven participating Comerica Bank branches.

### **New Business**

- Link Roshunda Price attended Links at the US Capitol. There is a tool kit that will be sent out to give us guidance on the advocacy work we need to do between elections. She suggested that we send someone from the National Trends Committee next year.

### **Amenities and Good News - Link Patrica White**

- Link Lauren Sanders' non-profit was able to provide 8 young men from Pershing with tuxedos, ties and alterations for prom free of charge.
- Link Roshunda Price received a Women of Excellence Award this year.
- Link Gail Perry Mason's Money Matters for Youth program is taking thirty-two young investors to Johannesburg to ring the bell on the Stock Exchange from July 22nd to July 30th.
- Link Allison Martin received the Xernona Clayton Award for her work with High Heels and High Hopes.
- Link Katrina Turnbow Marion got married in Arizona yesterday.

**Meeting Adjourned:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.