



President – Deborah Smith-Gilbert  
First Vice President – Che Wright  
Second Vice President – Gerri Foxall-Kater  
Third Vice President- Charlie Harris  
Recording Secretary – Natasha Broome-Shaw  
Corresponding Secretary – Pamela D. Peete  
Treasurer – Gwendolyn Heard Nelson  
Parliamentarian – Noella Buchanan  
Chaplain –Linda Jackson  
Bethune Center Program Dir. – Barbara Williams

INLAND EMPIRE SECTION  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, INC  
General Member Meeting Minutes  
Monday, November 23, 2020

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Deborah Smith-Gilbert called the General Meeting of the Inland Empire Section, NCNW Inc. (IE NCNW) via Zoom to order at 6:01 PM. The Pledge and the Bethune Legacy were then read by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Gerri Foxall-Kater. Chaplain Linda Jackson delivered the opening prayer.

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS & GUESTS/BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS**

President Smith-Gilbert welcomed members and guests to the virtual meeting. November birthday's were recognized including 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Gerri Foxall-Kater and Natasha Broome-Shaw. President Smith Gilbert recognized guest Mrs. Pullino.

**MEMBERSHIP**

**2<sup>ND</sup> Vice President Gerri Foxall Kater**

She reported that at that point in the call there were 36 members present and that a quorum had been reached. Lisha Smith is now a Life member. New associate member Mr. Alton Garret. Any tother new/potential members present on the call were welcomed. We are taking checks as mailed in. Alternative/electronic means will soon be available and possibly revealed later during the meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Gerri Foxall-Kater kept a review of the membership present on the video meeting. Lois Carson noted in the chat board that our membership goal should be 50 to 100 members of regular, life, associates and legacy .

**FINANCIAL**

**Treasurer Gwendolyn Heard Nelson**

Both the September and October Treasurer's reports had been submitted to the membership by email prior to the meeting. She questioned that we had not reviewed or approved the minutes from the last meeting. President Smith-Gilbert temporarily moved from this agenda item to the minutes and then returned. The September 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020 report showed a balance on hand as of August 31, 2020 of \$5,985.02. Income during the month was \$105.00 and expenditures totaled \$807.50. Ending Balance as of September 30, 2020 was \$5, 282.52. The Balance Analysis showed the amount available to the section as \$4, 727.52 as the rest was earmarked as "\$300.00 for Teamster's Scholarship, \$250.00 is for Life Membership Installment Plan, \$5.00 is for Option House".

The October 1- October 31, 2020 report showed the initial balance on hand from September 30,th as \$5,282.52. Income during the month was \$1,750.00 and expenditures were \$780.00.

Income was from membership dues of one new member, eight renewals, ten life or legacy life and one legacy life installment. Also two donations for the Gobble Gobble drive. Expenditures included \$400 to National for the eight renewals and \$380.00 for accountant services. Balance Analysis showed that of the \$6, 353.52 balance the amount available to the section was \$5, 272.52. as the rest was earmarked as "\$300.00 for Teamster's Scholarship, \$250 is for Life Membership Installment Plan, \$250.00 is for Legacy Life Installment Plan, \$100.00 is for Option House, \$80.00 is for Gobble Bobble."

## **MINUTES**

### **Recording Secretary Natasha Broome-Shaw**

The minutes from the October 26, 2020 meeting were submitted to the membership via email shortly before the meeting. Member, Deborah Franklin moved and member, Beverly Powell seconded that the minutes be approved. The motion carried and the minutes were approved. At this point the agenda returned to the Financial report.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Charlie Harris**

A new Facebook account for the Section has been created. In the chat the name of the account was reported as "Ncnw IE Section" and the Instagram as "ncnw\_iesection".

## **UPCOMING PROGRAMS UPDATE**

### **1<sup>ST</sup> Vice president Che Wright**

She reported that is starting to look at scheduling a retreat for members and Executive Board primarily to explore historical background of the section and NCNW in general. She has been looking at dates, if plausible, prior to the end of the year. She noted names of founding members such as Lois Carson and long time members such as Wilmer Amina Carter and Helena Johnson. The implementation of member teas in conjunction with the Hospitality committee. She requested member input on ideas for clever names and activities for the teas. She reported on donation collection boxes warm items and boxes being set up for donations of warm items such as socks, beanies, blankets, gloves etc., for those in need especially the homeless. The boxes are being set up around the community and asked for any business willing to house a donations box.

## **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

### **President Deborah Smith-Gilbert**

Guest presentation was not immediately available so was determined by the president to return to later in the meeting. President Smith-Gilbert at this time recognized the presence of member and Fontana Mayor Aquanetta Warren and the presence of member and Former California State Assembly member Cheryl Brown.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

+Operation Goble Gobble. President Smith-Gilbert thanked all members who gave to the program. The section was able to provide for 25 students in Rialto School District. 8% of Rialto School district is African American and 50% of the 25 children and their families fed through the program were African American. Some of these children are homeless. Recognition of Pamela Peete (Correspondence Secretary), Joanne Gilbert, Che Wright ( 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President), Barbara Williams and Gerri Foxall- Kater all showed up to give the purple box to the Rialto

School Superintendent and picture in papers including the Sun and Black Voice News and will be posted on Section Facebook account. Per Gwendolyn Nelson besides the 25 are another 4 for Bethune Center clients and proposed that if accepted the excess to go to Option House to help feed those in shelter. Lois Carson moved to approve that extra Gobble Gobble funds be allocated to Option House and Danielle Hobbs seconded. The motion was voted on and carried. The plan is to actually drop off the cards by the next Monday. Pamela Peete thanked the section for the response to such a last minute plan Gobble Gobble was.

**+ Vote to change signatures for Section Banking Accounts.**

Gwendolyn Heard Nelson moved and Deborah Franklin seconded That in reference to the Bank Account for the Inland Empire Section that the names of Milele Robinson and Jernine McBride previous President and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President be removed as signers and that the names of Deborah Smith-Gilbert and Che Wright be added in their place and that the Treasurer who is currently a signer will remain a signer. President Smith-Gilbert called for a vote. The motion was carried unanimously with no objections. Gwendolyn Heard-Nelson then moved that the Bethune Center accounts at Chase Bank for both the general account and the payroll account that the names of Milele Robinson and Jernine Williams McBride and Marlene Davis be removed as signers and that the names of Deborah Smith-Gilbert and Che Wright be added as the new signers and that the name of Barbara Williams remain a signer. The motion was seconded by Lois Carson. The President Deborah Smith-Gilbert called for a vote and the motion was carried unanimously with no objections.

**+ Appointments of Financial Secretary, Historian and Hospitality**

President Smith -Gilbert announced that Ms. Barbara Govan is appointed as the Financial Secretary. Ms. Govan introduced herself and accepted the position. President Smith Gilbert also noted that the section will soon have Zelle, Cash App, and Venmo. Also that membership applications will soon be available electronically as well as an option. Hospitality appointment of Joyce Leeks. Ms. Leeks accepted the position and introduced herself. The person who is being considered for Historian was not named as the President is still working on discussion with them. It is also being discussed with them a plan to have them work with one of our youth leaders in part as many recent newer members have not been aware of the history of the national organization, our section and of the roles of the executive board members. The planning for a retreat is primarily being considered as a virtual with possible socially distanced in person participation available once actually planned.

**COMMITTEE CHAIR APPOINTMENTS.**

**Membership: Gerri Foxall-Gater. Financial: Gwendolyn Heard-Nelson**

**Legislative: Lisha Smith Education: Mary Saxon-Hobbs**

**Marketing/Fundraising: Amy Malone Cultural Arts: Daniel Hobbs  
Health and Safety : TBD**

Amy Malone introduced herself to the membership. She stated that she is publicist and has owned PR firm and has been in the public relations and marketing field for 25 years. DaniellHobbs also introduced herself to the membership as an educator and performing artist. She hopes to be able to work in linking arts and culture for Inland Empire NCNW. The President called for membership recommendations for Health and Safety Committee chair. She further discussed some of the nature of the position including education and partnering with other health, mental health and safety organizations and presentations.

Member Cheryl Brown brought up that the month of November is Caregiver Appreciation month. She is currently being a caregiver and there was some discussion of those being a caregiver. She added her contact information in the chat for those interested to be able to join the caregiver support group that meets during the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> weeks of each month. For information members may directly contact Cheryl Brown.

### **PROGRAM PRESENTATION-**

Our scheduled guest was not available. The President invited the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Che Wright to speak in regards to the “Magical Bridge Program” as she has also been working with it and has attended some of their ZOOM meetings. It is a park that will be built for disabled children and Rialto is listed as a potential site for one of its parks. The plan was for the representative to get some input and ideas from the local community as they prepare to make their selection.

President Smith-Gilbert recognized member Dina Walker who will be sponsoring young women who are wanting to explore our organization. President Smith-Gilbert referenced having submitted an email regarding news about the 2020 election and the historic significance and celebration of our Vice President elect. Governor Newsome has the responsibility of filling her vacant senate seat and to participate in encouraging the governor to fill the seat with an African American woman. Per Lois Carson cannot do so as a section but can as our individual selves. It was noted that there is an email link for change.org petition for signatures of individuals. Discussion included that we have not had for some time at least a senator from the Southern California region.

President Smith-Gilbert announced that Joanne Gilbert has represented IE NCNW at the Community Action Partnership and will be stepping down in January and our current president will be taking her place.

Correspondence Secretary Pamela Pete brought up due to the closeness to the Christmas Holiday and that the next general meeting would not be until the end of December, a request for participation from individual members for Project Cradle Care. The program of the Sigma Gamma Rho sorority focuses on the high mortality rate for black mothers and infants. The actual project presents during the second week of January car seats and other supplies and a full presentation for expectant and new mothers. An email will go out to the membership.

Some discussion about possibility of having a membership directory/contact list available for the membership. Discussion that Pamela Pete with the help of the updated excel sheet from Geri Foxal-Cater will email

Barbara Williams- added information about program help with the Probation department, Prop 47 program and requesting approval for \$5 gift cards as prizes for the 12/08/2020 event.

An email will be sent out to the membership as how to make Christmas donations.

#### Bethune Center Report

Barbara Williams- Bethune Center report

She had a report to have sent out but did not as was not clear as to whom to send it to. As of today pending grants from Costco, Sam's Club, Walmart and Work Force Investment. JP Morgan, Chase, Alturo and others are not active until their new funding cycles in 2021. A \$1,000 grant was received from State Fund and \$150.00 from Smart and Final. Others are currently being worked on. There are currently 4 students, 2 of whom were found recent employment.

Cheryl Brown noted that "Forward Air" has new job opportunities in South Fontana. She is also available to help anyone who needs to get in touch with the company. As well as the Work Force Development program

President Smith Gilbert noted an upcoming home buyers workshop for those looking to or considering homeownership. Pamela Pete will be the person to contact for participation in the program which also has payment assistance available up to \$17,000.00

Next meeting is on December 28<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Closing Comments.**

#### **President Deborah Smith-Gilbert**

President Smith-Gilbert encouraged members to encourage new members even if they are not currently able to be financial. That we may have private sponsorships. ent thanked all members present for their participation and presence on the call.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26PM. Next general meeting will be Monday, December 28, 2020, at 6:00PM via Zoom.

Minutes Prepared by Recording Secretary Natasha Broome-Shaw