



16, 2016

**Call in Number:** #: (712) 775-7200, **Access code** – 216547#

**Participants:** Soror Dr. Mynora Bryant President/CEO – Northeast Region  
Sandra Hunt, Southeast Region  
Jennifer Jones – Northeast Region  
Andrea D. Williams-Central Region  
Deborah Daniels-Southwestern Region  
Ollie Smith-Western Region  
Doris Holt, Legal Advisor - Excused  
Deborah Walsh, Sergeant-at-Arms – Northeast Region  
Adah Hull – Central Region - Excused  
Felicia Blakeney, Media Relations Coordinator - Excused  
Bonita M. Herring, International Grand Basileus - Absent  
Sheila Parson - Corporate Board Member

**Presiding Officer** – Dr. Mynora J. Bryant – Northeast Region Representative called to order 6:35 PM

**Meditation/Prayer** – Soror Deborah Daniels, Southwestern region representative read scripture from Romans 2:11 and Romans 15:17 as part of her meditation then prayer.

**Quorum/Roll Call** – Quorum established to conduct the meeting.

**Adoption of the Agenda** – Moved Soror Hunt Seconded by Dr. Bryant - Adoption by ‘Common consent’.

**Overview (Grand Basileus Designee):** International Grand Basileus Herring and/or designee not present. ✓

**Correspondence** – Dr. Bryant shared that the exact for workshops for the Black Women’s Agenda, September 16, 2016, 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium Workshop and Awards Luncheon Renaissance Washington, DC downtown hotel has been given. All other correspondence the board members have received regarding the Boulé by way of email.

**Minutes from May 2016 Meeting** – Minutes were received with no corrections. Moved by Soror Williams seconded by Soror Walsh minutes accepted by common consent.

#### **Reports**

**Financial/Treasurer Report** Jennifer Jones, Treasurer – Soror Jones emailed the board members the Treasurer’s Report, Financial reports for May monthly board meeting. Soror Jones reported that there were no extraordinary activities other than funding 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter to our property manager’s account - \$20,000. Most of the May income are for headquarter assessments. We end the month receiving the April rent check from Sigma Gamma Rho; a payment on our interest and principal to Bank of America was made. Soror Peggy London, Southwest Region, receipt was made for the Burn the Mortgage campaign. YTD Income overage \$15,000 related to the Building Fund. Also, we have not received an invoice for our accounting expenses; which is \$4,500. The bill has been received. Expenses 76450-SGR Boulé \$6,620.04 is due to unbilled invoices for meals.

**Treasurer’s Report (Bank of America- Primary) –**

- Primary MAY Balance \$96,277.99  
Building Fund Balance \$42,780.70
- Gala Account – Balance \$20,167.26

**Financial Report** – On the Profit and Loss Budget vs Actual YTD (January thru May 2016) We budgeted els asked .

Profit and Loss (May 2016)

May Income by Quarter and Expense by Quarter see page 4-6 of 25

Balance Sheet

Building Fund Donations for the month of May is broken down by regions. TOTAL Building Fund Donations - \$250.01 (May)

Leaf Donations report – \$0 (May)

Amazon Smile - \$21.40 (May)

Technology Contribution - \$0 (May)

OTHER DONATIONS TOTAL YTD - \$2,815.96

**Seven Pearls Store** – No Store Purchases for May 2016 **Leaf Report** - Total available for purchase 699

#### **Unfinished Business:**

**Life Members Luncheon** – Soror Williams gave a shout out to Vice President Sandra D. Hunt for attending those Boulé planning meetings. Speaking with Dr. Bryant Soror Williams shared the Life Members luncheon room has changed to the Global Center Junior Ballroom at the convention center and the menu, also. The previous menu was two (2) years old. Adjustments have been made on the menu choices. Another shout out to Jennifer Arbogast for working with Rosemary at the convention center.

- Looking for materials for bag stuffing; Soror Williams has reached out to Soror Moore inquiring about the

package she would be sending for items in the gift bag for the luncheon; notifying when the packages will be arriving at the correct hotel since the membership will be using three hotels. And whose name will be on the package. Soror Williams is still awaiting to hear from Soror Moore.

- Be aware of fees associated with packages arriving at the hotel
- Soror Lyons has been working with Dr. Bryant, as well. Dr. Bryant and Soror Walsh will bring these items to the boulé by transporting them by driving to Cleveland.
- Soft Sheen is giving us some items
- Stuffing the bags will be done after the scheduled Seven Pearls Foundation board meeting on Wednesday, July 27<sup>th</sup>; time to be determined.
- Extra hands to help stuff bags will be offered to the local chapter for assistance – four (4) sorors
- An email to the International Grand Basileus Herring notifying her that she is on the program for remarks at the luncheon. She sent an email confirming her acceptance to provide remarks.
- Ticket Will Call for the luncheon like we did in DC; our admin (Jennifer Arbogast) will lead that charge. Three (3) volunteers will work with her at Will Call.
- There will be sorors at the door to the luncheon to collect tickets. Doors open at 11:30 A.M. starting promptly at 12Noon.
- Accommodation for the luncheon up to 150 sorors – Correction: The room will hold 300 people
- Moving forward on selection of gifts for the 'Life Members', as well as gifts for the Grand Basileus and past Grand Basilei that will be with us.
- The Life Members' luncheon ticket design was sent to the board by Dr. Bryant. Feedback was given on the ticket design and suggestions were made; Dr. Bryant will take the recommendations back to Rockie.
- Sorors who purchased table of ten (10) will be seated together.
- The goal is to have 200 sorors for the Life Members' luncheon.

Dr. Bryant stated we must thank DS Janitorial Services CEO is our Vice President she is purchasing gifts for our past Grand Basilei. Soror Williams is getting the gifts the Grand Basileus. There will be gifts for every Life Member. Soror Walsh is doing the decorations for the tables and the color of the tables will be white on white. Dr. Bryant stated Soror Cobbs is not coming because she could not get into the Hilton. She has asked all of her friends that are not coming and are Life Members to donate toward the efforts of what we are doing at the luncheon. Dr. Bryant has received the first check. Dr. Bryant stated we should applaud our corporate chair, Soror Dr. Parson. She has been working with AT&T and Direct TV for having items for the luncheon gift bag. Soror Dr. Parson stated that members of Sigma can get a 10 % discount from AT&T; she will ask AT&T to prepare flyers to be placed in bags. Plenti card applications will be available at the luncheon – point and awards given on purchases. Dr. Bryant stated this luncheon should be in honor of Soror Christine Triggs, first President of Seven Pearls Foundation, Inc. Moved by Soror Jennifer Jones to have the Life Members' luncheon in honor of Soror Christine Triggs first President of Seven Pearls Foundation, Inc., seconded Soror Walsh. By common consent the motion passed.

*Boulé Planning Meeting* – Soror Hunt, in Washington DC for a conference with the Tennessee State University Alumni Association, reported DJ Janitorial is honored to provide gifts for the past grands at the Life Members' luncheon.

- As of June 7<sup>th</sup> **Total Registration** 1,143 for the Boulé: Weekend only Registrants - 376 Graduate and 23 Undergraduates
- Table cloth colors are all white and black; other colors would incur an additional cost
- **Souvenir Ads** as of June 7<sup>th</sup> total 2 – ¼ page; 2 Life members had purchased a page; one gold page was purchased
- There are twenty-two (22) **vendors**
- **Hotels:** Hilton – (Contracted rooms have been sold out); Marriott – (18 contracted rooms have been sold out); Westin – (50 contracted rooms Queen Size have been sold out); there is another hotel nearby for \$190/night
- **Workshops** – All have not been finalized
- **Soror Robin Kelly, Illinois House Representative** – Will be in attendance
- **Centennial Observance** – Past Grand Basileus Lovelace reported plans are not going as swiftly as she had hoped
- **Transporting of items to the convention center** has not been discussed
- **Next Boulé Committee Meeting** – last Tuesday in the month of June

There are other events that have been discussed, but has not been resolved; i.e. boat ride at an additional cost (\$50/each) for the Rubies/Cultured Pearl event; NEF is still planning their activity, either a luncheon or a Gala. *Question:* Any discussion on the transportation to and from the hotel? *Response:* None at this time. We should have received the 100 recommendations that have been proposed. Soror Hunt pleaded with the board to read the recommendations. The slated time for the recommendations is Monday, August 1<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>. We need to be sure we have a quorum to take care of business. Dr. Bryant state 'agendas can be changed, giving a starting day and an ending day.'

*Rhythm & Blues Luncheon Committee* – Soror Williams shared would is on the committee: Philo Arlecia Stamps, International Philo President, Sorors Lily Reed, Josephine Cobb, Winnetta Ellis, Ollie Smith, Virginia Price-Booker, Joann Aldridge, Dr. Stephanie Carpenter, L Caroselli, Gwen Myers, Deborah Daniels, V Brown and Dr. Rhonda Norman. Local chapter: Soror Twyla Turner.

#### **New Business**

- **Seven Pearls Pre Boulé Meeting** – Dr. Bryant stated the pre-board will be on Wednesday, July 27<sup>th</sup>. Also, contact was made by the host chapter, the entire board is invited to the board dinner, Thursday evening, July 28<sup>th</sup>, at Pier W in Lakeshore. Buses will be available to transport us to the restaurant. Dr. Bryant is unaware of the attire; previously it has been casual. The pre-board meeting room is available all day; stuffing of bags can be done between 3-5 PM
- **Board Breakfast** – Dr. Bryant shared that the board will have breakfast together at the restaurant at 9 AM then from there go into the Foundation board meeting.
- **New Officers/ Installation of Officers** – Election of officers will be handled by Soror Walsh; information soon to follow.
- **RFP – Cranial Technology** – Dr. Bryant reported that she, Sorors Hunt, Jones and the administrative assistant met with our property manager regarding a prospective tenant, Cranial Technology, they make helmets for children. They wanted an extra bathroom with the discussion of who's paying for the bathroom. They will pay for the bathroom to be

installed; Dr. Bryant's concern would this renovation impact the elevator shaft. The construction people looked at it and it won't. We are waiting to hear back from the RFP that was sent back. They would be a good match for us in the discussion it appeared that they did not want too many changes to the space. We are waiting to hear from them we submitted another floor plan with what they wanted. Each time we get a prospective tenant we have to redo the space according to their needs and they do not pay for that. That money is put out by the Foundation; that is why we look at leases for five (5) years or more. Most of the commercial properties that get free rent, two months of, and no check would be given until January 2017. Soror Jones stated it was a productive meeting and they would be a good tenant based on what their needs are and the time they would be in the building. Also, looking at the security of the building they would give us an opportunity to look at some of the other plans we would like to have happen. Soror Hunt concurred what Soror Jones reported on. Once we get a lease on the first (1<sup>st</sup>) floor, Sigma Gamma Rho would be mandated to go back to a lease; everyone will be under a lease at the same time. Question: Soror Williams ask, Is this the corporate office? Response: Dr. Bryant: Yes, it is part of the corporate office they bring in the babies who have soft spots in their head. They fit helmets for them; there will not be a lot of medical equipment. The property manager does research on how many years a company has been in existence; what has been their track record.

- **2017 Gala in Memphis** – Dr. Bryant stated it is her understanding that they are going to push for a 2017 Special Boulé. We have spoken to the people at Graceland and they are willing to hold those two dates just in case the membership votes down the 2017 Boulé. We can decide which weekend we would use. A suggestion to the Grand Basileus on whether she would like to have the interim board meeting there in Memphis. There are four (4) hundred plus rooms and we should be able to accommodate registrants. They are not going to change the \$149/night (regular room charge around \$299/night) and there is transportation from the airport at no extra cost.
- **Boulé Arrival** – Dr. Bryant asked that board members get your arrival time in to Jennifer Arbogast, Seven Pearls admin. She will be getting an email out with an itinerary on what we will be doing. Also, share your cell phone number to her, we will be able to let you know of changes immediately.

**Issues/Concerns** – Soror Jones shared that she is waiting to hear from her doctor to see if they are going to release her to come to the boulé. If she is not she is asking Soror Daniels to give the financial report again. Dr. Bryant stated to Soror Jones to highlight essential info for the financial report. Dr. Bryant stated we should have the audit report by then. Dr. Bryant stated the Grand Basileus stated she wanted a comprehensive report for the board but not to the membership. We will give them the written report which is already done and it will go to Soror Maddox. Dr. Bryant stated she has asked three (3) times how many delegates and life members and she has not received a response. Dr. Bryant will have five (5) hundred and twenty-five (25) run off for the membership; we don't need a lot left over. Dr. Bryant has spoken with Elena and she stated five (5) hundred was enough. The board will receive their report and have five (5) hundred left. Soror Walsh responded by saying anyone who did not get one can contact the office and it will be emailed to them. Soror Hunt stated *Registrants breakdown* as of June 7<sup>th</sup> – Central Region 470 (248 graduates – 189 weekend); Northeast Region 237 (146 graduates – 74 weekend); Southeast Region 207 (120 graduates – 60 weekend); Southwest Region – 145 (84 graduates – 35 weekend) Western Region – 72 (48 graduates – 18 weekend).

**Announcement** – Soror Hunt announced that Soror Parson has been elected Basileus of the undeniable Upsilon Sigma. Soror Walsh shared Soror Inez Vandible lost her sister. Also, Dr. Bryant shared that Soror Linette Caroselli's daughter was recently rushed to the hospital suffering seizures with a temperature of 100 plus. Dr. Bryant's sister-in-law's nephew wife and mother was in a head-on collision; let us hold down each other in prayer. Soror Walsh shared for those that take People magazine, they have five (5) hundred and thirty-five (35) names of congress and senators phone numbers. Individuals have been urged to call their congress person what are they doing about the gun violence.

**Closing Prayer** –

*Soror Ollie Smith, Western Region*

**Adjournment**

**Recorder**

*Soror Ollie Smith,*

**Secretary**