



## **Chapter President Report June 13, 2020**

### *LOCAL:*

Congratulations to the following Links for their new chapter appointments:

Link Jocelynn McAdory, Parliamentarian

Link Terry McCray Hill, Chaplain

Link Lakecia Gunter, Black Women Empowering Black Women Representative

Link Stephanie Montgomery, Strategic Planning Chair

Additional appointments are in the process of being confirmed. Specifically our chapter needs a Organizational Effectiveness Chair, Black Lives Matter Chair, Fund Development Chair, Services to Youth Chair, International Trends and Services Chair, and Arts Chair.

The Audit Committee is complete with Link Rochelle Hunter-James as Chair, Link Adriel Person, and Link Estella Brame.

Discussion with Fran Dyke of League of Women Voters of Portland concerning reinstating our civic engagement partnership. We partnered with them in the past concerning police reform. She stated they are planning to reignite the initiative and engage in a conversation to reformat the charge of police accountability. I expressed breaking the systemic processes which hold back voices of those from whom the government does not want to hear. The League desires to engage in a conversation to reformat charge of police accountability. Fran appreciated the conversation and ability to receive information which results in a revised perspective of what issues are most important to effect real change.

Also, Fran has participated in weekly Zoom education calls with Westminster Presbyterian Church. Former Jefferson High School teacher James Ofsink leads the discussion with book readings and movie excerpts as a way to culturally enlightenment. The other coordinator of the program is Barbara Ross. The group tutors through the Zoom calls so are seeking educators who may be interested in sharing through this forum. More information will be sent to me to share with Links members.

### *AREA:*

The Western Area Leadership Summit was originally scheduled Friday, October 23-Sunday, October 25, 2020. The new tentative date is Saturday, October 22, 2020 in a



virtual environment to include 3-4 workshop sessions. There will not be any registration fee and open to all members. Registration will open in August 2020.

#### *NATIONAL:*

48 hour service requirements will not be relaxed for the 2020-2021 program year because both in person and virtual program options are being provided. Many members already have many hours based on pivoting programming through this pandemic as well as our civil engagement and social justice work.

There were 800 history books sent to members of which 700 books have been returned due to insufficient addresses. The history books will soon be announced to be on sale.

Our new member induction will begin September 1, 2020. To ensure all our members and candidates are safe, a new ritual will be provided which will guide how we move forward. The hope is we will be able to move to an in person induction which includes a guideline of the number of people who can attend, if temperature checks, as well as ritualistic details. The trajectory of the virus will be monitored. If there is a spike in infections then the September 1, 2020 target date will be revised. We will continue to engage our candidates by inviting them to participate in the workshops presented during the 42nd National Assembly. The post assembly workshops will be available after June. Some of the workshops will be mandatory as part of their orientation process. After the workshops, debriefs should be done to ensure the candidates knowledge of the organization and programming is well digested. Money is still due 35 days before our scheduled induction.

Our 42nd National Assembly, we will have a community service project. It is the Mass Poor People's Assembly & Moral March on Washington, June 20, 2020 at 10:00 am EST. Our own Link Myrna Yvonne Williams will be honored during the Platinum member awards. Our Memorial service presentation will be June 19th at 7:00 am. The 2022 National Assembly will be announced during our 2020 Assembly. The deadline to register for the 42nd National Assembly is Monday, June 15, 2020. Please make the time to join in the virtual service project, plenary sessions, presentations and workshops. As of June 9, 2020, 4,006 members are registered.

At the National level, Executive Director, there are discussions to review and develop a plan on how the organization can protest the injustices according to the rules of the organization. There will be some direction disseminated soon. The Links have sent



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statements to N.O.B.L.E which calls to an end to police brutality and changing laws. Discussions on whether police departments should be defunded, etc. The National executive team is working on addressing many questions concerning protesting to include whether or not Links members can wear their Links shirts during protests. President stated the former VP Joe Biden invited women leaders to a meeting to ask about healthcare. He committed to coming back for more input. He has not requested women leadership organizations for their input on who he should select as his running mate. However, the previous forum members have provided their input as to the need for VP Biden's running mate to be a woman of color but no particular person.

Mission Statement:

"Friends Transforming Communities Through Service"

Humbly Submitted by

*Link Serena Ashley*