

**AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
GENERAL BOARD**

June 21, 2017

Hilton Hotel, LAX Airport
Los Angeles, California

Minutes

**General Conference Commission
Executive Committee**
Bishop John F. White, Presiding

CALL TO ORDER

Bishop John F. White called the meeting to order at 3:10pm.

DEVOTION

Bishop Paul Kawimbe opened in prayer.

Bishop Clement Fugh moved for the adoption of the agenda. Bishop Paul Kawimbe second. The motion carried.

ROLL CALL

Dr. Jeffery B. Cooper, Chief Information Officer/General Secretary, called the roll. See the roll.

FELICITATIONS

Bishop White asked that Senior Bishop McKinley Young bring Felicitations.

MINUTES

COMPLETION OF ORGANIZATION

After Bishop Young brought greetings, Bishop John F. White asked that consideration be given to the committee listings on the back of the agenda.

Bishop Clement Fugh moved for the acceptance of the committees as listed. Seconded by Bishop Vashti McKenzie.

Unreadiness:

Bishop Reginald Jackson asked for clarification on the purpose of Ways and Means.

Bishop White explained corporate America aided in expenses of the General Conference and "Ways and Means" deals with acquiring sponsors.

Program—Bishop Vashti M. McKenzie

Election—Bishop Clement W. Fugh

Finance—Bishop James L. Davis

Prayer—Bishop Harry Seawright

Ways and Means—Bishop Reginald T. Jackson

Transportation—Local Commission (Bishop Adam J. Richardson)

Housing—Bishop Michael L. Mitchell
Public Relations and Media—Bishop Jeffrey N. Leath

It was explained that the Housing Committee responsibilities include supporting the Treasurer's Office with deadlines and other needs surrounding housing and accommodations.

Bishop Richardson stated that the Eleventh District has a history and relationship with hotels in Orlando, FL. He says the District may be of help with relationships, especially Rosen. Bishop Richardson further explained that there are nine committees within the Eleventh District, but Housing is not one of them. He also explained that Mr. Rosen should be contacted by "Ways and Means".

Bishop Jackson would work with Bishop Sam Green to make a connection with Mr. Rosen.

Bishop Richardson further acknowledged that Rosen Hotels specialize in Presidential Suites.

Dr. Richard Lewis stated that Travis Johnson, who represents Mr. Rosen, met with the Treasurer in Little Rock, Arkansas and brought \$50,000 to contribute towards the General Conference. They will have to look at the contract to see if there are other funds coming. Perhaps, the AME Church should recognize Mr. Rosen on a connectional level for his contributions to the Church.

Bishop White suggested to Bishop McKenzie that it be placed on the program during the General Conference.

Call for the question. **The motion carried.**

Bishop White will begin to work with the committee chairpersons to be prepared for the work that lies ahead.

2020 Update & Remarks

Dr. Lewis stated that 7 hotels have been contracted. Five of the properties are connected to the Convention by skywalk:

- Rosen Center
- Rosen Plaza
- Rosen Inn
- Hyatt Regency
- Hilton—Orlando
- Doubletree by Hilton Orlando at Sea World
- Shingle Creek by Rosen (further out)

Bishop Richardson stated the City of Orlando would probably help with transportation through a shuttle service. He asked how deep does the local church need to get involved in transportation.

Dr. Lewis stated that all transportation except for Bishops and General Officers are the responsibility of the Host District. Dr. Lewis stated that the Convention and Visitors Bureau handles transportation alongside some hotels. Dr. Lewis will check into transportation and get back to Bishop Richardson.

The Tax-Exemption certificate has been secured and is being confirmed with all of the hotels. Letters are being requested from all hotels for their take on tax-exempt status.

- Reservation and Observer Housing—will open in April 2019 General Board in Birmingham, AL
- VIP Delegate and Alternate Materials—General Board 2019
- Asking that the initial payment for the delegate housing block—February 1, 2020 (based on 7-night allocation)
- Deadline for delegate and alternate housing—April 1, 2020
- Secondary payment—April 15, 2020
- Final reconciled payment—due 30 days after the close of the General Conference if there are items that need to be paid after General Conference

Dr. Lewis stated that everyone should work together to keep deadlines.

2024 Update

Cincinnati is the planned location—received sponsorship monies
The proposed dates are July 3-10, 2024.

Next General Conference Commission Meeting

To Be Held in Atlanta, GA
June 2018 (after Father's Day)

Bishop Jackson is proposing June 25-27, 2018.

The next meeting will be with the full General Conference Commission.

Anita acknowledged the 2020 dates are July 8-15, 2020.

Announcements

Bishop Young stated it would be helpful for the Office of the Treasurer to provide the Post-Conference Debriefing to look forward to 2020 most prepared. The wrap-up meeting—rearview and forecast.

Bishop Fugh stated that it's in the report that was given in Statistics and Finance—send to entire General Conference Commission and Statistics and Finance.

Bishop White spoke concerning the budget and Dr. Lewis responded.

Dr. Lewis stated the General Conference allocation was increased to \$842,000 over a 4-year period. He does not see a need for anything other than registration fee/kit fee, observer kits, and pre-offerings. The pre-offerings should be in on-time. Bishops brought \$100 closing and opening offering to General Conference.

Bishop Fugh moved for adjournment, seconded by Bishop Jackson.
Bishop Ronnie E. Brailsford Sr. closed in prayer at 3:52pm.