

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
8TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT
LAY ORGANIZATION
MID-YEAR MEETING
4:15 P.M.
BONNER-CAMPBELL, EDWARDS, MS
March 12, 2015

President Melvin Davis (LA Conference) called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m., March 12, 2015, and asked Sis. Delphine Bridgewater (CNLA Conference) to lead the devotion.

Devotion

Song: “There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit”

Prayer: Sister Lydia Lacey

Scriptures: Sister Earline Blackmore - Psalm 133; Ephesians 4:13-16

Song: “My Hope Is Built”

After greeting the members, President Melvin Davis (LA Conference) presented the agenda for adoption: Second VP Darlene Gordon (LA Conference) moved to adopt the agenda. Sister Patricia Campbell (LA Conference) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL:

President Davis asked for the roll call of officers.

Dr. Melvin Evans, President Emeritus	A
President Melvin Davis, President	P
William M. Brown, First Vice President	P
Darlene Gordon, Second Vice President	P
Connie Brothers, Third Vice President	A
Shirley Hopkins Davis, Recording Secretary	P
Betty Holland Stephen, Asst. Rec. Secretary	A
Elna Huel, Corresponding Secretary	A
Maria Gauthier, Treasurer	P
JoEtta McClain, Financial Secretary	P
Delphine Bridgewater, Chaplain	P
Christine McGilberry, Historiographer	A
Stephanie Burks, Dir. Of Lay Activities	P
Eddie Pitts, Parliamentarian	P
Ruby W. Smith, Public Relations	A
Bobbie Hollins, Young Adult Rep. (excused)	A
<u>Lay Conference Presidents</u>	

Lydia Lacey, South MS Conference	P
Johnny M. Dumas, Jr., North MS Conference	P
Raymond Morrison, Central North LA Conference	P
Patricia W. Campbell, LA Conference	P

Recording Secretary Shirley Davis (South MS Conference) distributed copies of the minutes of the previous meeting. President Davis reminded the group that everyone had been instructed to get the minutes from the website. He called for a motion on the written minutes. Sister Earline Blackmore (LA Conference) moved that minutes printed/posted on website be adopted with necessary corrections. Sister Florine Herron (LA Conference) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Maria Gauthier (LA Conference) presented the report of the treasury: **Balance Brought Forward - \$19,843.95; Total Deposits - \$4,010; Amount Disbursed - \$3,109.68; Balance in Treasure - \$20,744.27.** President Davis explained that the \$26,045.38, which had been received from the Pan-Amoco Federal Credit Union, had been placed in an account. He was working with Bishop McAllister to determine the Conference portions of the money. Whether taxes are to be paid on the interest was still being determined. Financial Secretary JoEtta McClain reported that the Bonner-Campbell Demolition fund contained \$49,130.79. Second VP Darlene Gordon (LA Conference) moved to accept the treasury and financial reports. Parliamentarian Eddie Pitts seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Reports of the Conference Lay Presidents

Conference Presidents' Reports were made in the following order:

Lydia Lacey, South MS Conference Lay President

Johnny Dumas, North Mississippi Conference Lay President

Raymond Morrison (Central North LA Conference Lay President - called to Trustee meeting)

Patricia Campbell, Louisiana Conference Lay President

Sister Vivian Chambliss (LA Conference) moved to accept the reports of the Conference Lay Presidents. Sister Brenda Taylor (LA Conference) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

President Davis asked that whenever the Episcopal President is to speak in a Presiding Elder's District, Conference and District Presidents should be notified.

President Davis made his report: regional training is being planned...DOLA Stephanie Burks is working on that. Mr. William Brown reported on membership: total of 62 – at 10%. Membership card includes discount on Annual Convention with Membership dues and one discount at Picadilly's. Brown indicated that as membership grows, we can reduce the Conference assessments. He asked all present to remind others of what was said. President Davis reported that the leadership is not sleeping on the B-C demolition project. He explained the hold-up as related to EPA requirements and said the contractor, Mr. Delbert Goodloe, would be coming to Bonner-Campbell the following day so they could do a walk through.

New Business

The Lay Organization committed to support the Bishop's Investiture with the purchase of a \$500 platinum ad in the souvenir journal. DOLA Stephanie Burks moved that ad be taken. Brother Roy Johnson (North MS Conference) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2015 Lay Convention announced...\$55 registration, \$40 with membership card. Projected attendance of 125-150

Patricia Campbell was on Legislation Committee (distributed a handout on proposed legislation and discussion followed)

Committee assignments need to be made.

Members needed to discuss dressing alike during the convention: Long sleeve shirts, \$35 – above XL, \$35; short sleeve shirts, \$20, above XL, \$25

District Concerns

Concerned that when the meetings are scheduled at this level, some members have to be in other important meetings... Meeting times should be staggered to accommodate these members.

Nominees for Biennial Delegates

William Brown (South MS Conference)

Saralyn Joshua (LA Conference)

Elna Huel (CNLA Conference)

Patricia Campbell (LA Conference) moved that the three nominees be the delegates of the 8th District. Brenda Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Forty-three (43) members were present at the end of the meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned with the singing of the Lay Benediction.

Sister Shirley Hopkins Davis, Recording Secretary

Brother Melvin Davis, Episcopal President