



**REGION IV BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT**

***ALABAMA FLORIDA GEORGIA KENTUCKY MISSISSIPPI***

***NORTH CAROLINA SOUTH CAROLINA TENNESSEE***

**2019 Region IV Fall Council Meeting Minutes**

**Mr. Calvin Stevens, President,** Region IV Council Blacks In Government, Inc., called the 2019 Regional Fall Council Meeting to order at 10:10 am eastern standard time (EST) on October 19, 2019, at the Crowne Plaza Airport Hotel Atlanta, GA.

**President Calvin Stevens asked Mr. Anthony Rhodes** to do the invocation.

**President Calvin Stevens** welcomed everyone and made housekeeping comments designating the first three rows of each section for the primary representatives of the Regional Council and the last two rows for the alternate representatives.

**INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES:** **President Calvin Stevens** asked each attendee to introduce themselves, and the attendees complied.

**ROLL CALL/ESTABLISH QUORUM:** **Ms. Janice Boss, Assistant Treasurer**, conducted the roll call at ?????? EST (some yellow folders did not have the required forms). The results were ?? authorized, 51 registered, and 41 seated; quorum set at 29. Quorum is based on one-fourth registered. Ms. Janice Boss, Assistant Treasurer, was asked to update her lists to remove revoked chapters, etc.

**ADOPTION OF STANDING RULES:** President Calvin Stevens asked that we reviewed the yellow packet's standing rules and presented them for review and approval.

* **Mr. Arnold Taylor** moved to adopt the standing rules as presented; seconded by **Honorable Jacquie Beatty Sammons; motion carried to adopt the standing rules.**

**APPOINTMENT OF SERGEANTS-AT-ARM:** **President Calvin Stevens** asked **Mr. Marvin Jones** **(Tampa Chapter) and Ms. Annette Rice (Raleigh Durham Area Chapter)** to be sergeant-at-arms; both accepted and were appointed.

**AGENDA REVIEW AND APPROVAL:** **President Calvin Stevens** presented the meeting agenda for approval. The agenda was amended as follows:

* Moved the Unfinished Business/Report from the Nominating Committee and the New Business/Election of Officers after the Region IV Director's report.
* **Honorable Jacquie Beatty Sammons** **moved to approve the agenda as amended; seconded by** **Mr. James Clausell; motion carried.**

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF Spring 2019 COUNCIL MINUTES:** **Mrs. Gloria Jones, Region IV Secretary**, presented the 2019 Spring Region IV Council Meeting Minutes, dated May 18, 2019. The body provided corrections accordingly.

* **Honorable Jacquie Betty Sammons** made a motion to approve the 2019 Spring Region IV Council Meeting Minutes with the necessary corrections, **seconded by** **Mr. James Clausell; motion carried.**

**NOTE:** President Calvin **STEVENS** relinquished the chair to Executive Vice President, Mr. Willie H. Thomas.

**REGION IV COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** **President Calvin Stevens** presented the President's Report and the Annual Report with the said corrections:

* Page 2, the middle paragraph should read…Submit a request to Region IV Chapter Presidents…Please include the name Mr. Richard Jenkins, Guest Service Chair, Central Florida
* Bottom of Page 4 adds, "I attended the 2nd VP Conference Call."
* **Action item #1** - averted admitted at the 2019 Region IV Spring Council Meeting:
  + President Stevens motioned to approve the Standing Committee Chairs (elected not to read all their names). **Seconded by Mr. Al Taylor; Motion carried.**
* **Action item #2** – President Stevens made a motion to appoint Honorable Beverly Johnson as Ad Hoc Committee Chair to review and revise Region IV Policy and Procedures Manual. **Honorable Jacquie Beatty Sammons seconded it. Motion carried.**
* **Action item #3** – President Calvin Stevens moved to appoint Ms. Jacqueline Wilkins as Region IV Finance Chair. **Honorable Jacquie Beatty Sammons motioned to approve Ms. Jacqueline Wilkins as Region IV Finance Chair, seconded by Ms. Ruth Benson. Motion carried.**
* **President Calvin Stevens** highlighted some of his reports.
  + Sent out several condolences pertaining to members/chapter members' extended families, and National, etc.
  + Hosted the first quarterly Chapter President Conference call; Chapter presidents participated (19), discussed various issues affecting those local chapters, and scheduled the next call on January 9.
  + Chapter Presidents must send out information to their members (especially to your reps). He is receiving requests from Chapter members, which he believes would not happen if you forward all information to them. He will not give your members any information and referring them to contact their Chapter President.
  + Region IV 2020 NTI Planning Committee: One of his responsibility as Region IV President is to solicit NTI hosts region positions. **The four hosts being submitted are** Host Chair **(Honorable Jacquie Beatty Sammons**-Suburban Atlanta Chapter), Special Events **Chair (Ricky Hamlin-Central Florida Chapter**), Inventory Control Chair (**Dr. Terrence Ward-Tampa Chapter),** Guest Services Chair **(Mr. Richard Jenkins-Central Florida).** He received and reviewed their applications and will send them to the NTI Planning Chair for consideration, etc.
  + Had a Face-to-face Regional Presidents meeting during the NTI in Dallas.
  + Frustration about participation at the Regional Council meeting.
  + Frustration about submission of Chapter Reports. The purpose of the request is so that everyone can see what other chapters are doing.
  + Need for a Region IV webmaster. If you know of someone today, he will provide them with what is needed for access to posting Region IV information.
    - Is this a paid position – No? Comments were made that perhaps we need to consider putting this into the budget to get the right person going forward since it is vital. We already have money in the budget to pay for the website ($117/per year renewal). Does the webmaster have to be from Region IV; President Stevens prefers someone from Region IV. Would you consider a youth intern, etc.? Yes, President Stevens and the Executive Committee would consider it.
    - The website is not working at all; it should be working. President Steven said it might be a browser issue. The Region IV address is still the same, etc.
    - We just approved Dr. Keeton as the webmaster, so is this appointment a null issue, etc. President Stevens stated he still has the authority to approve a new one once he gets a volunteer.
    - The webmaster position was recommended to fall under the Communications and Public Relations Committee Chair and no longer be a Standing Committee position. It should not have been a standing committee but as an appointed position. President Stevens agreed.
    - Clarification on who should receive the Chapter Reports to be followed from this point on. President Stevens idea is that the Chapter Reports be submitted to the Region IV President and the webmaster. However, since we have had no active webmaster, President Stevens asked that the reports go to everyone.
  + List of invitations, page 3, at the bottom. They are waiting on an invitation from the Tampa Chapter to present their charter to them.
  + On Page 4, I attended a black/white ball hosted by the CDC/ATSDR Chapter.
  + President's Annual Report: On the accomplishments, change that to say, represented Region IV members at the funeral of Fred Wilson, September 26.
  + I participated in the 2nd Region VP conference call.

**NOTE:** Mr. Willie Thomas, Executive Vice President, returned the gavel to President Calvin Stevens.

**NOTE:** President Calvin Stevensturned the gavel over to Mr. Samuel Manning, 1st Vice President, Region IV.

**Presentations by President Calvin Stevens:**

* **To** **Mr. Willie Thomas, Mr. Alphonse Taylor, and Honorable Anthony Rhodes**. On behalf of the Executive Committee, we would like to recognize these individuals for their outstanding service and give them a certificate of appreciation which said, "for their dedication and service to Region IV, dated this day, signed by President Calvin Stevens."
* **Mrs. Ruby Dunson** was appointed to the position of Assistant Secretary, and she shared with us last evening that she will not continue. Her term ends 12/31/19. We want to thank her for what she has done for this region.
* **Mr. Bobby R. Hamilton, President of our newest Chapter (Tampa)** - **Life Membership Award** presented to Bobby R. Hamilton, now certified as a Life member of Blacks in Government with all rights, privileges, and honors and approved by National Board of Directors (Honorable Ms. Darlene H. Young and Honorable Dr. Doris P. Sartor).

**NOTE:** Mr. Sam Manning, 1st Vice President of Region IV, returned the gavel to President Calvin Stevens.

**REGION IV DIRECTORS' REPORT**: Honorable Anthony Rhodes and Mr. Famous Johnson presented their reports without any action items.

* **Honorable Anthony Rhodes** stated he has been appointed and elected in various positions. He is working with two Chapters in Orlando and Nashville to charter a chapter continuously until the first of the year. His board term ends December 31, 2019, but his obligations and responsibility do not end as this region's person. Thanks to everyone! His foundation has been with the Muscle Shoals Chapter and Region IV.

There appears to be a typo on the National Website regarding the latest version of the National Constitution. The date says January 1, 2019, when it should say January 1, 2018. The date is the last date we had an amendment. He will contact his chair and ask that it be corrected.

* **Mr. Famous Johnson** made a statement at the last council meeting about amending your bylaws. If it is compatible with the model National Constitutions Bylaws (it does not have to be word-for-word), you are good to go. You do not have to mandatory change your bylaws. If you check it on the National website and compare it with your bylaws, and are in line with it, you are good to go. If you want to change your bylaws, you need to revise them. If you're going to amend it, **send it to the Region Bylaws Chair, Mr. Alphonse Taylor, and the Regional Directors,** and we will go from there. We finished the revisions to CDC/ATSDR and sent it to National, and it will not be approved until January 2020, etc**. Clarification:** If your chapter bylaws and revisions do not conflict with the National Constitution, you are okay. Some people want to put "corporate" in there, but you cannot do that. There are a lot of things you cannot do.
  + **Motion made by Honorable Mary Peoples** that the National Board of Directors provides all chapters with written guidance on the chapter (1) amending bylaws, (2) revising bylaws, and (3) explanation of bylaws conflict with National Constitution and provide examples ASAP, etc. **Seconded by Wanda Bonham; Motion carried.**
  + **Question on whether two chapters can merge, etc.** The Directors said there is nothing in writing, but it is handled on a case-by-case basis.
  + **The office of President and Secretary shall be elected for terms beginning in the even years, and the office of Vice Presidents and Treasurer shall be in the odd years.** RegionalDirectors said that was an error, and it should be up to the Chapters to make that determination. This is an example of when a new President is elected, and they want to make such changes. If it is not right, leave it alone.
  + **Question about the National organization budget and expenditures.** How are we doing at the BIG level, etc.? Directors responded that it was included in the NTI budget report, etc. We do not have that information with us, but National is observing the budget; the audit came back and gave us a good record, the funding was up, and they received good revenues from the NTI conference.
  + **Did they ever approve a line item for the Directors to have more money** to come to the regional meetings, etc.? It is mandated that the Regional Directors participate in specific meetings, and they should pay them. Currently, that has not changed. The Directors will bring it up on their next call.

**Honorable Rhodes** commented that he received a letter from the National Constitution Chairperson asking that the National Constitution be revised. Honorable Rhodes believes three positions should be eliminated from the board: National President, National Treasurer, and National Secretary.

**Recognizing our newly elected National Officers:**

* Dr. Candace SP Williams/Chair Military Veterans Emphasis Program,
* Dr. Deborah A. McClanahan as National Third Vice President
* President Calvin Stevens, Chair of the National Photograph team.

**NOTE: The meeting recessed at 11:51 am EST.**

**Reconvened at 12:25 pm EST.**

**Roll Call by Ms. Janice Boss, Assistant Treasurer, as follows: Registered and Seated only.**

**Registered: Seated: Quorum met.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Nominations Committee Report**

**Mr. James Clausell (serving as the Nominations Chair in the absence of Ms. Sandra Glenn)** stated that by the submission deadline of October 04, 2019, the Nominations Committee received two nominations for the following positions:

* **Mr. Arnold Taylor for the vacant Executive Vice President Position**
* **Honorable Beverly Johnson for the vacant 2nd Vice President Position**

**The following positions are open for election:**

* Executive Vice President, the incumbent, is not eligible for re-election
* 2nd Vice President, the incumbent is eligible for re-election
* Treasurer, the incumbent is eligible for re-election but elected not to rerun
* Assistant Secretary, the incumbent, decided her appointed term ends 12/31/19.

**Honorable Mary Peoples** stated there needs to be an explanation of what each position entails before we proceed. The Nominations Chair read the duties of all positions into our hearing. President Stevens asked that we see the bylaws, page 5, article 6 for exact wording for these positions: Executive Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Treasurer, Assistant Secretary.

**Mr. James Clausell opens with a request for names from the floor for Executive Vice President.**

* Mrs. Gloria Jones, RDA Chapter, nominated Ira Thompson, Jr. for Executive Vice President. He accepted via text on 10/19/2019.

**Motion made by Honorable Jacquie Beatty Sammons to close on the said two names (Mr. Arnold Taylor and Mr. Ira Thompson); seconded by Mr. Sam Manning. Motion carried.**

**Mr. James Clausell opens with a request for names from the floor for the 2nd Vice President.**

* Mr. Johnnie C Duggans, Jr./Atlanta Metro Chapter, nominated Dr. Candace SP Williams from the floor for 2nd Vice President, and she accepted.

**Mr. Arnold Taylor motioned to close on said two names (Honorable Beverly Johnson and Dr. Candace SP Williams); seconded by Ms. Jacqueline Wilkins. Motion carried.**

**Mr. James Clausell opens with a request for names from the floor for Treasurer.**

* Ms. Jacqueline Wilkins was nominated from the floor for Treasurer and accepted.

**Motion made by Honorable Mary Peoples to close on the said name (Ms. Jacqueline Wilkins); seconded by Mr. Arnold Taylor. Motion carried.**

**Mr. James Clausell opens with a request for names from the floor for Assistant Secretary.**

* **The nomination was from whom (I did not recognize the voice)** for Honorable Mary Peoples.

**Motion made by Mr. Arnold Taylor to close on the said name (Honorable Mary Peoples); seconded by Honorable Jacquie Beatty Sammons. Motion carried.**

**President Calvin Stevens – Selection of an Election Committee - Nominations from the floor:**

* **Annette Rice**
* **Andrena Dessadsure**
* **Jacquie Beatty Sammons**
* **Abe Joseph**
* **Wanda Bonham**
* **Mr. Ronnie Bell**

**Motion made by Honorable Beverly Johnson to close on the said six names; seconded by Mrs. Ruby Dunson. Motion carried.**

**Mr. Ronnie Bell removed his name from the nominations of the Election Committee, etc.**

**Motion made by Mr. Anthony Taylor to accept the said five names; seconded by Mrs. Ruby Dunson. Motion carried.**

**The Election Committee** *moved outside the meeting room* **to perform their duties, and Director Famous Johnson accompanied them.**

The nominated persons (Mr. Arnold Taylor, Dr. Candace SP Williams, Honorable Mary Peoples, Honorable Beverly Johnson, Ms. Jacqueline Wilkins, and Gloria Jones/on behalf of Mr. Ira Thompson) gave a brief speech on their credentials. Ms. Janice Boss, Assistant Treasurer, confirmed they met the financial requirements as well.

**Continuation of Executive Committee Reports:**

**EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Mr. Willie Thomas submitted his report for information only. One action item (nomination of the Finance Chair) will be covered under the Executive Committee Report.

**FIRST VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Mr. Sam Manning submitted his report for information only.

* **Question** by Honorable Peoples – What have you done in giving Region IV information regarding the recent changes coming up with regulation MD17???? Sam acknowledged that he would provide that information on his next report, etc.
* **Question** – What are the chapters doing regarding the reports they must file each year, and does each chapter have a compliant program ?????

**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Honorable Beverly Johnson submitted her report for information only.

* **Question** by Honorable Peoples: What can Region IV offer State members as it pertains to training? Honorable Johnson said Chapter Presidents and State members on the call indicated they had "zero" problems. One of their concern was membership, though, etc.

**THIRD VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Ms. Ruth Benson submitted her report for information only.

* Honorable Peoples mentioned a job fair in the plan as a successful program, etc., and Ms. Ruth Benson agreed.
* Dr. Deborah A. McClanahan, as National 3rd Vice President, mentioned she conducts meetings once a month. Your Region representative must be present because they get a chance to hear issues from the other ten regions. That information can be helpful to Region IV to assist in our recruitments for local members, programs, and activities. She enjoys coming to our meetings and looking forward to some improvements for our programs and activities, especially regarding State and Federal members.

**Election Committee returned to the meeting:**

**Ms. Annette Rice,** Election Committee Chair, said that serving on the Elections Committee was an honor. She would like a roll call to be done, and once that is done, the non-representative will be asked to leave the room.

**Roll Call by Ms. Janice Boss at what time, Assistant Treasurer as follows: Registered ???; Seated 30.**

**Election Committee Chair, Ms. Annette Rice:**

We expect to receive only 30 ballots based on the roll call, and only primary representatives will be voting. If you will not vote, please complete the ballot and put "abstain" on it. One vote each should be cast for the Assistant Secretary and Treasurer as they are running unopposed.

**Region IV Secretary, Gloria Jones, was asked to cast the following votes:**

* + Casting a vote for Mary Peoples for Assistant Secretary
  + Casting a vote for Ms. Jacqueline Wilkins for Treasurer.

**The two offices that primary representatives will be voting on:**

* **Put one of these names on your ballot for Executive Vice President (Mr. Arnold Taylor or Mr. Ira Thompson).**
* **Please put one of these names on your ballot for 2nd Vice President (Honorable Beverly Johnson or Dr. Candace SP Williams).**

Once you have done the above, please fold it, hold it up, and one of the Election Committee members will pick it up from you.

**The Elections Committee collected the ballots and left the room.**

**Continuation of Executive Committee Reports:**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Mr. Alphonse Taylor submitted his report for information only and provided handouts at the meeting, etc. See his reports for specific information.

* He explained the balance sheet.
* The question was asked to explain what it meant by temporarily restricted funds donated by a corporate sponsor. Mr. Taylor explained that the donor specifically restricted this to the youth program only.
* He explained the comparison of revenue actuals vs. budgeted line items.

**Motion made by Mr. Alphonse Taylor to approve the submitted report subject to audit by the Financial Committee and seconded by Mr. Willie H. Thomas. Motion carried.**

Everyone then stood and gave Mr. Alphonse Taylor applause for service well done.

**Election Committee Returned.**

**Ms. Annette Rice, Chair, stated:**

* **Running for the office of Executive Vice President:**

**Mr. Taylor (26 votes).**

**Mr. Ira Thompson (4 votes).**

* **Running for the office of 2nd Vice President.**

**Honorable Beverly Johnson (12 votes).**

**Dr. Candace SP Williams (18 votes).**

**President Calvin Stevens announced our newly elected officers for the 2020 Executive Committee are:**

* Region IV Executive Vice President – Mr. Arnold Taylor
* Region IV 2nd Vice President – Dr. Candace SP Williams
* Region IV Treasurer – Ms. Jacqueline Wilkins
* Region IV Assistant Secretary – Honorable Mary Peoples

Additionally, **Mr. James Clausell was elected as one of the two Regional Directors** at the 2019 NTI in Dallas, TX.

President Calvin Stevens welcomed the newly elected EC members. We have scheduled a transition conference call on November 19 with all current and 2020 elected Executive Committee members.

**2 pm EST recess; break for lunch and return by 3 pm.**

**Reconvene at 3 pm EST.**

Roll call by Ms. Janice Boss; seated: 28 Quorum met.

**Continuation of Executive Committee Reports:**

**ASSISTANT TREASURER'S REPORT:** Ms. Janice Boss submitted her report for information only.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:** Mr. Willie Thomas passed out the Executive Committee Report for approval and read his entire report.

* Honorable Jacquie Beatty Sammons motioned to approve Ms. Jacqueline Wilkins as the Finance Chair, **seconded by Ms. Ruth Benson. Motion carried.**

**Question** asked if there is a conflict with Ms. Wilkins being appointed as Finance Chair and elected Treasurer. Mr. Thomas stated Ms. Wilkins' term as Finance Chair will end 12/31/2019, and her term as Treasurer will begin 01/01/2020.

Mr. Thomas stated the EC approval of the 2020 proposed budget would be presented during the Finance report. The Membership Chair will cover membership items. Corrections should read "notes" of October 28, 2018, Council meeting were sent to all Chapters.

Requests for the 2020/2021 bids were sent to the Chapter Presidents.

* The question was asked for clarity if it was sent out, and Mr. President said "yes" he sent it out and did not receive any response.

**Motion made by Mr. Abe Joseph** that another request for bids is sent to the Chapters for the 2021 RTC; **seconded by Mr. Arnold Taylor. Motion carried.**

**HISTORIAN/LIBRARIAN REPORT:** Honorable Jacquie Beatty Sammons submitted her report for information only.

**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT REPORT: None Submitted**

**STANDING COMMITTEES' REPORTS**

**Awards/Ms. Linda Leary:** Submitted her report for information only.

**Finance/Ms. Jacqueline Wilkins:** Submitted her report with one action item - the 2020 Budget for approval by the Council.

* **Motion made by Honorable Mary Peoples** to increase the budget line item for the Communications and Public Relations by $200; **Seconded by Honorable Beverly Johnson. Call for division of the house; Motion failed.**
* **Motion made by Mr. Calvin Stevens** to cut off further debate on this topic; **seconded by Honorable Jacquie Beatty Johnson; motion carried.**
* **Motion by Mr. Willie Thomas** to accept the 2020 Region IV budget submitted after discussion; **Seconded by Honorable Jacquie Beatty Sammons. Motion carried (with one abstention and one nay).**

**Recessed at 4:51 pm EST. START REVIEWING HERE**

**The meeting reconvened at 5:09 pm.**

**Roll Call, Ms. Janice Boss, Assistant Treasurer – seated 25 Quorum met.**

**Continuation of Standing Committee Reports:**

**Program and Planning/Ms. Sandra Glenn**: Absent and no report submitted.

**Communications and Public Relations/Mrs. Veronica Godfrey Robinson**: Absent; submitted report for information only.

**Legislative and Legal Review/Ms. Ruth Benson:** Submitted her report for information only.

**Conference Planning/Honorable Jacquie Beatty Sammons:** Submitted her report for information only. Two action items are not on the report.

* **Honorable Jacquie Beatty Sammons made a motion to approve Atlanta, GA, as the host city for the 2020 RTC. Honorable Beverly Johnson seconded it. Motion carried.**
* The question was asked why we did not select Tampa as the host city since that is where the 2020 NTI is. President Calvin Stevens sent out a letter and did not receive any responses. The Executive Committee automatically defaulted, a motion was made and carried by the EC to host the 2020 RTC. The Tampa Chapter President stated he did not think it was in the best interest for his chapter to host it for 2020. President Calvin Stevens and Mr. Willie Thomas said that we tried, but you cannot make a Chapter host the RTC.
* President Calvin Stevens stated a line item now "zero" for seed money to host an RTC; it used to be at least $500. Seed money should not be the obstacle to hosting a successful RTC. The EC still has oversight responsibility for the RTC, but the host chapter should establish a budget that cannot exceed the budget line item passed by the EC. Yes, the revenue share is still 60/40, but the host chapter should do all they can to bring in the revenue.
* **Honorable Jacquie Beatty Sammons motioned to approve the Holiday Inn Atlanta Airport as the host hotel for 2020 RTC; seconded by Ms. Ruth Benson; Motion carried.**

**The date is May 15-17, 2020. A "save the date" flyer will be sent out regularly to keep it on your mind. The Theme is: A pathway to excellence**

**Membership/Mr. Samuel Manning:** Submitted his report for information only. I will send the Chapters and Membership that we are working diligently to update our membership rosters. He received a membership roster and noted there was a lot of incorrect information. We will again request that the National Office fix the roster and resend it to them. He will send each chapter their roster and be advised that the gold plus members are not there/omitted, and he is waiting to hear from the National Membership Chair why that happened. He has not been able to get a list of the at-large members either. President Calvin Stevens said this would impact us when asked to pay regional assessments based on the National's membership roster. It was suggested that we keep good chapter records to document our membership in case we must prove such justification

**Bylaws/Mr. Al Taylor:** Submitted his report for information only.

**Evaluation/Honorable Beverly Johnson;** Submitted her report for information only.

**Affirmative Employment/EEO/Ms. Katie Course:** Submitted her report for information only.

**Corporate Sponsorship/Ms. Janice Boss:** Submitted her report for information only.

**Health and Wellness Coordinator/LaVerne Feaster-Johnson:** Absent and no report submitted.

**Strategic Planning/Dr. Cassandra Jackson:** Absent and no report submitted.

**Webmaster: Dr. Coleen Keeton:** Absent and no report submitted.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

President Calvin Stevens sent a card to Mr. Alphonse Taylor, and he responded with thanks, etc.

President Calvin Stevens received a card from the late Fred Wilson's sister, providing thanks.

Mr. James Clausell thanked Region IV for his election as Region IV Director and Honorable Rhodes for all he does.

**Honorable Mary Peoples** protested the eligibility of a candidate for the position of Regional 2nd Vice President and that an inappropriate switch out of regional representatives may have occurred. She stated the only time a switch out of representatives should be made is if there is an emergency, etc.

* Several Executive Committee members and other Regional representatives stated there is no such policy and/or constitution ruling that says a switch out of representatives can only be made if there is an emergency type-situation.
* During the discussions, it was asked if the Sergeant-At-Arms would remind persons of the Standing Rules regarding how many times a person can speak.
* Mr. Johnnie Dungan/Atlanta Metro Chapter President stated he made the nomination for Dr. Candace SP Williams and the elected was a primary representative.
* Ms. Annette Rice/Raleigh Durham Area Chapter stated as a primary or an alternate; you still have the right to be elected. You do not even have to be here.
* Gloria Jones asked that Honorable People provide her with a summary of her protest for the records to be correct in the minutes.

**Honorable Peoples** said that she would provide the secretary the information asked, including regional bylaws. She agrees with Mr. Thomas this issue needs some clarification, and I stand to correct what Ms. Annette Rice said. The Regional bylaws state those persons nominated and elected for officers; that is a vetting that the Nominating Committee should do. They will be represented on the Council, not alternates. So, we have some education to tell each person, etc. We need to put that into writing somewhere, etc. The Assistant Treasurer is the certifier and should have it in the record when there is a change in the primary, alternates, etc. If you have persons running for a position, send them as your primary.

**Mr. Alphonse Taylor** asked that we address this in our bylaws, read the bylaws, and notice when the bylaws must be amended and sent to the region so that we have something in the Spring to clarify this in our bylaws. **President Stevens** said that we often do not get any response from the chapters regarding the bylaws. I hope that this will not be an issue the next time we have the elections in the Fall 2020 Council meeting.

**Dr. Candace SP Williams** asked that Honorable Peoples do not judge her – just ask. She would never do anything to dishonor this region or herself, and I leave it at that.

**President Stevens** asked that she not take it personally. Honorable Peoples is a procedure person, and this is not against her.

**President Calvin Stevens** stated - This is a teaching/learning moment for everyone, including myself. We must read and be very familiar with our documents. I like the dialogue and discussion, but we must read and understand our governing documents. I think that it is paramount for us to be successful in Region IV. I want to thank Honorable Peoples for her concern; we addressed it, we discussed it, and I guess my next question is what we do with her concern. Nothing we can do because it has all been said and done. I thank her for bringing it to our attention. That is one of the reasons why I appointed Honorable Beverly Johnson to the ad hoc committee to relook at our policies and procedures. We will have a new bylaws chair to look at our bylaws to move forward in this region.

**Dr. Candace** **SP Williams** asked if we could have a person on the Standing Committee referencing veterans' preference. President Stevens said no, and that would require modification to the bylaws.

**President Stevens** emphasized that members should take advantage of the Darlene Young Program (Mr. Manning just graduated this year).

**Mr. Alphonse Taylor, Treasurer:** Thanked everyone for the calls, emails, cards, etc. If you go through a life-threatening situation, this is all the uplift you need, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

**Mr. Willie Thomas, Executive Vice President: T**hanked everyone who witnessed what we just went through. This is what I like about the Region. They deal with complex issues, and you do not grow if you don't do that. That is no animosity because Honorable Peoples want things done right. He thanked all of us for the opportunity to represent each one for the last four years as your Executive Vice President. He does not join things just to have a popularity contest – he joins because he believes. BIG will be called on more than you know within the next two years. If you are a Federal employee, you see what is happening right now. Policies and procedures are going on now to reduce the number of African Americans in high places. It is called a merit system - meaning they have established a system to keep certain employees."

**Honorable Anthony Rhodes**, **Regional Director:** Thanks to everyone for the support and opportunity extended to him, and he does not take that lightly. It starts with family, friends, and organization. I hope that all our members remember (even at the National level) you did not get there by yourself; you got there because of your Chapter and Region. We are all leaders, and we all have something to do. As Region IV, we know what and where we stand. He will continue to serve and help people along the way. We know our history, and it should not ever change – we are open and honest, be truthful to each other, kind and humble, and open-minded.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Closing prayer by Honorable Anthony Rhodes.**

Motion made by ???? to adjourn the Region IV Fall Council Meeting, and ?????? seconded; motion carried.

The Region IV Fall Council Meeting adjourned at ????

Respectfully,

**Mrs. Gloria Jones**

Region IV Council Secretary

Blacks In Government, Inc.

**Pending Action Items to be added to the Region IV action log:**

* **President Calvin  
  Attachments to the minutes and to be posted to the Region IV website (except for the "draft" minutes):**

1. Standing Rules
2. Meeting Agenda
3. Region IV Spring Council Meeting Minutes revised and approved 10 19 2019
4. Draft Region IV Fall Council Meeting Minutes **for your response by 12/31/19**
5. Region IV Council President's Report

**All reports to be posted on Region IV Website by webmaster:**

1. Region IV Directors' Report
2. Executive Vice President's Report
3. First Vice President's Report
4. Second Vice President' Report
5. Third Vice President's Report
6. Executive Committee Report
7. Treasurer's Report
8. Assistant Treasurer's Report
9. Program and Planning Committee Report – No report submitted
10. Communications and Public Relations Committee Report
11. Legislative and Legal Review Committee Report
12. Conferencing Planning Committee Report
13. Bylaws Committee Report
14. Finance Committee Report
15. AE/EEO Committee Report
16. Awards Committee Report
17. Corporate Sponsorship Committee Report
18. Health and Wellness Coordinator Report
19. Strategic Planning Committee Report