



**Executive Committee Meeting
Southern Regional Honors Council
Virtual via Microsoft Teams
Monday, September 12, 2022
1:00PM-2:00PM (EDT)**

Call to Order

SRHC President Aaron Hanlin called the meeting to order at 1:01pm (EDT). Present were the following Executive Committee members: Aaron Hanlin (President, Florida State College at Jacksonville), Maria Vandergriff Avery (Vice President, Catawba College), David Coleman (Treasurer, Eastern Kentucky University), Jon Blandford (Secretary, Bellarmine University), Karen Keaton Jackson, (Faculty At-Large, North Carolina Central University), Juan Antonio Alonso (Faculty At-Large, Chattanooga State), Heather Waldrop (Faculty At-Large, Appalachian State University), Tom Jones (Parliamentarian), Emma Nantz (Student At-Large), and Jared Reeder (Student At-Large).

Appointment of Parliamentarian

Aaron appointed Tom as parliamentarian. No objections.

Approval of Agenda

Aaron called for the approval of the meeting agenda. *David so moved. Maria seconded. Motion unanimously approved.*

Approval of Minutes

Aaron called for approval of the minutes from the previous meeting. *David so moved. Maria seconded. Motion unanimously approved.*

New Business

➤ **Treasurer's Report**

David explained that so far in this cycle we have 77 institutional members. Our account balance is \$99,582, just shy of six-figure mark, which we have not seen for six years since taking significant losses from the D.C. and Memphis conferences.

Karen moved to approve treasurer's report. Jon seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

➤ **2023 Conference Planning Update**

Maria gave update. Denise upped reservation to 200 rooms at \$199.99 per room. Denise, Maria, and a group of students (including Emma Nantz, Jared Reeder and Taylor Webb from the exec committee) met in Charlotte and toured Westin. Rooms look great, and hotel is right next to light rail station, so

very convenient. Conference planners are meeting soon as a group to discuss theme, and students are working on programming.

Aaron mentioned that the card Denise gave out indicated call would go out on November 4. Aaron reminded us of discussion of whether we might use Ex Ordo for proposals.

David pointed out that the November 4 date coincides with the beginning of NCHC in Dallas, which should help with promotion.

Aaron asked if we have reservation link yet? Not yet, Maria thinks, but will confirm with Denise. Aaron will post that to website once it is ready.

David reported we will have to pay full state tax like we did in Alabama. The problem is that David is the signatory, and SRHC is incorporated in Florida. David suggested that the home institution should sign the hotel contract in the future. That would resolve tax exempt issue. Will want to bear this additional cost in mind as we do things like choose the menu.

➤ **Discussion of Sanctuary**

Rusty will be reaching out to David for \$2,000 subsidy. Reminder to everyone to encourage students to submit. Jon suggested prodding Rusty to create a digital version. 2023 deadline will be shared at NCHC.

➤ **Review of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Initiatives**

Karen provided a review of last year's DEI efforts, which were specifically focused on HBCU involvement and engagement. Karen sent emails to HBCU Honors directors. 4 or 5 HBCUs last spring, but others responded with interest. Had a pizza and game night for the HBCUs at SRHC, which was a success and allowed the students to connect with each other.

HBCUs that are dues paying members include Miles, NC Central, NC A&T, Fayetteville State, Arkansas Pine Bluff, Alcorn State, Florida A&M, and Spellman. Other possibilities for outreach include Edward Waters, Bethune Cookman, Kentucky State University

Discussion of Social Media Outreach

David put a couple of things on all but defunct SRHC Facebook. What social media should we be on? Need the feedback of our students. As we lead up to Charlotte, need to build up buzz on social media like we did with Memphis.

Emma mentioned BReal is really popular. Leverage that at conference, and use Tik Tok to promote? Previous student reps had talked about LinkedIn as an appealing option.

QR codes on posters that connect to our social media accounts? How else might we get more engagement from conference participant's during conference? Maria suggested maybe we give a prize for best social media post

Who has the social media passwords? Jon and David, also Aaron.

Discussion of Dues Increase

Discussed last year increasing dues from \$75 to \$100. David indicated that this is even more urgent now due to inflation. Jon cautioned that while these are cheap dues, it is a 33.3% increase, and anything higher than that might lose institutions that are facing given enrollment declines and attendant budget pressures.

Need to give 60 days' notice to membership of proposed increase. Announce in early January, right before classes start? Tom recommended we put together request and distribute at SRHC meeting at NCHC.

Aaron will put together a proposal that emphasizes how long it has been since last dues increase, rising costs of conference, and depleted savings from the two consecutive years when there was a loss.

Other Business

Karen asked if there has been any conversation as NCHC occurring at same time as NAAAHP. Jon recalled that this happened in New Orleans and Atlanta. Has been some conversation about this in the NCHC diversity committee – Jon reads Freddy Davy and will reach out to them.

Adjournment

Heather moved to adjourn. Juan Antonio seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 1:46PM (EDT).