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Headline: Summer with LWAAAC



GM Bob Kimble and Juanita Sealy-Williams



Sealy-Williams & guest host Jessica Faith



LW Legendary Line Dancers

Juneteenth Collaboration

For the first time since it was introduced to the community three years ago by Bob Kimble, Leisure World general manager, LWAAAC collaborated with LW management to execute Juneteenth (June 19). The now-federal holiday commemorates the true end of enslavement of people in the United States. LWAAAC was led in this effort by Juanita Sealy-Williams, current vice chair of the LW Community Corporation and former LWAAAC president. On the day of the LW celebration (June 16), Sealy-Williams shared emcee duties with Jessica Faith, who joined NBC4 television as a meteorologist in 2023.

The program opened with a welcome by the Ogboni Harambee Drumming Circle and Percussion Ensemble. Other LWAAAC program participants included Teresa Blair, who poured ceremonial libations. Marsha Bera-Morris played piano and singer Maureen Harris led the audience in “Lift Ev’ry Voice and Sing,” long embraced as the Black National Anthem. Jamila Ellis and Gregory Henderson, respectively granddaughter and son of Valarie Ellis and Sandy Henderson, gave compelling poetry readings. Several LWAAAC members also belong to the LW Legendary Line Dancers, who gave a spirited performance. Finally, the entire event was photographed by long-time member Alfonso Holston. On the following Friday, Sealy-Williams held a debriefing for the planning group, the results of which should be instructive in preparing for next year’s program.

Summer Work

While many activities are on hiatus much of the summer, the nuts-and-bolts work continues, such as the annual meeting scheduled for June 26. During this official closing of the year, board members were scheduled to give final reports on their work for 2023-24. This year’s meeting agenda also included a ceremony to recognize and celebrate LWAAAC’s members who have reached the venerable age of ninety. In addition to beginning or renewing memberships, participants could sign up to join the LWAAAC contingent in the LW Independence Day parade. And the summer will find the leadership conducting a regular review of the association’s bylaws.

For more information about LWAAAC and its activities, go to the website lwaaac.com.

ALL PHOTOS BY ALFONSO HOLSTON