Leisure World Association for African American Culture
October 7, 2026 Membership Meeting Minutes

Here are the summarized meeting minutes based on the audio transcript:

Meeting Minutes: LWAAA Committee & Interest Group Showcase
Meeting Metadata

- **Organization:** LWAAAC
- **Objective:** Annual presentation of LWAAAC committees and interest groups, recruitment of new members, and solicitation of support/donations for key programs.

1. Welcome & President's Remarks by Sandy Henderson

- **Education Assistance Program (EAP):** Members were asked to consider donating to support youth, even if unable to attend the November 14th event.

- **Call to Action:** Members were encouraged to visit committee tables, ask questions, volunteer (set up/clean up, decorating, writing, tech support), and share ideas before leaving.

2. Committee Presentations:
Community Service Committee

Presenter: Maxine Hooker

- **Purpose:** Initiates and implements projects/activities supporting identified community needs in Leisure World and Montgomery County, Maryland (minimum 2 projects per year).
- **Key Projects:**
    1. Health and Wellness Partnership
    2. Education Assistance Program (EAP)
- **Goals:** Open to new community project suggestions; seeking at least 10 new volunteers, including a Chair and Co-Chair.

Finance Committee

- **Presenter:** Judy Robinson (Treasurer) & Marcia Bera-Morris (Financial Secretary)
- **Responsibilities:** Accounting for all funds received via memberships/events and producing necessary financial reports.
- **Notice:** The Treasurer's term expires on **June 30, 2017**. Interested members are asked to step forward early to shadow current leadership before taking over.

Liaison and Amenities Committee

- **Presenter:** Marilyn Washington
- **Announcements:**
  Memorial service for Dr. Lorenzo Morris on **Friday, October 23rd at 1:00 PM** at the Interfaith Chapel, followed by a repast at 3:00 PM in the Crystal Ballroom.
- **Purpose & Recruitment:** Formally updated name from "Amenities" to "Liaison and Amenities." Focuses on establishing neighborhood-level connections by recruiting **Building / Mutual Representatives** to foster smaller group discussions and support overall membership. In addition, gift bags are provided to new members from the committee.
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Programs Committee

- **Presenter:** Juanita Sealy-Williams (Chairperson)
- **Purpose:** Planning, organizing, collaborating, and executing cultural, educational, and social events.
- **Current Initiatives:**
  - **Survey:** Feedback forms available online and in person to gather ideas for future outings/plays.
  - **November 14 Event:** Tickets are $10 (advertised in the *Leisure World* newspaper, page 23).
  - **Merchandise:** Sign-up sheets available for ordering T-shirts, polo shirts, and caps.
- **Notice:** Seeking a new Program Committee Chair to take over by **June 2027**.

Public Relations Committee

- **Presenter:** Sam Legevine (Chairperson)
- **Purpose & Goals:** Expanding organizational membership, promoting events (e.g., Mr. Williams' book signing in the *Leisure World News*), and utilizing digital platforms like YouTube for outreach.
- **Call to Action:** Volunteers needed to assist with writing articles and member recruitment.

Technology Committee: Luis Alomar (Chairperson)

- **Purpose:** Strategic leadership and system administration for LWAAAC's technology architecture.
- **Key Responsibilities:**
    - Website development and maintenance (user subscription support).
    - Supporting membership database/management systems.
    - Maintaining and upgrading the custom event reservation system.
- **Recruitment:** Looking for members with technical skills to join the team.

3. Interest Groups & Clubs Presentations

African American Heritage Book Club

- **Presenter:** Jan Woodson (Leader: Juanita Celia Williams)
- **Details:** Meets via Zoom on the **3rd Wednesday of the month at 2:00 PM**. Focuses on works by African American male and female authors. Open to new members.

Leisure World Book Club

- **Presenter:** Marilyn Washington
- **Details:** Meets on the **2nd Wednesday of the month at 2:00 PM**. Covers diverse authors, genres, and non-reading social outings. Hosted a book giveaway during the event.

Men's Fellowship Group

- **Presenter:** Archie Colander, Jr. (Chair)
- **Details:** Meets on the **1st Tuesday of the month (Jan–Jun, Sept–Dec) at 12:00 PM** in the Chesapeake Room (Clubhouse 1).

- **Focus:** Nurturing community supporting mental, emotional, and physical health.
- **Recent Topics:** Emergency preparedness ("Preppers"), fall prevention, and memory care.

Ogboni Harambee Drumming & Percussion Ensemble

- **Instructors:** Jan Jones & Carl Major
- **Details:** Meets every **Sunday from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM** in the Edmonson Room (Clubhouse 2).
- **Focus:** Open to all skill levels. Uses various instruments (Djembes, maracas, tambourines).
- **Upcoming Events:** Welcoming Governor Wes Moore; performing for the annual Kwanzaa celebration on **December 26th**.

Janet Overton Sister Circle

- **Presenter:** Sherry Weaver (for Coordinator Deborah Rhodes)
- **Details:** Founded in honor of late president Janet Overton. Meets on the **2nd Saturday of every month** for brunch and social support among women. Open to new members.

LWAAAC Treppers (Walking Group)

- **Founders:** Sister Barbara Spears and Sandy Henderson
- **(Details:** Walks every **Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM** (meeting at Clubhouse 1). Includes under 2-mile walks, movie trips, and outings (e.g., Brookside Gardens). Open to both men and women.

African American Writers Collective (New Group)

- **Co-Founders:** Sherry Weaver (Presenter) & Mazel Pernell
- **Purpose:** Informal group focused on preserving personal histories and lived experiences through short essays, non-fiction, poetry, and recipes, with the goal of publishing a book. Open to writers of all experience levels.

4. Membership & Financial Report

- **Presenter:** Sharon Boone (Membership Chair)
- **Current Membership Status:**

- **Total on Rolls:** 379
- **Paid Members:** 243
- **Unpaid Members:** 136
- **New Members Joined Tonight:** 2 renewals/new members recognized (*Ms. Faria*, *Alicia Jones*), plus welcome extended to *Mr. & Mrs. Graham*.
- Gifts were available at the membership table

Fun & Fancy (Theater Group) Presenter, Bertrum Reed
This evening, Fun and Fancy is performing a comedy play on senior dating titled *"The Horrors of Senior Dating"* at **7:00 PM in Clubhouse 2**.

October Birthdays were recognized with a special recognition to Maggie Singleton, the mother of Cassandra Alomar, who was ninety-nine on October 1 !!!

Karen House announced that the Washingtonians and Friends Club is having its second annual Halloween Bash on Friday, October 30, in Clubhouse 2. Tickets are $15 and it is BYOB with setups available.

With the business part of the meeting concluded, members enjoyed music, food, and raffles for prizes.

Business meeting adjourned at approximately 5:10

Janice Wallace / Recording Secretary