



National Association of Postal Supervisors

PO Box 90008

Washington, DC 20009- 0008

Minutes

April 25, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 pm by President Wright. Roll Call of Offices call was taken. All officers were present. There was a quorum which included members attending virtually and those attending in person. The members recited the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. The meal was blessed, and members in the room were able to commence eating. Secretary Tonya Despertt read the minutes from the March meeting. The minutes were accepted as read.

Roll Call of Officers:

President Marcellus Wright	Present
1st Vice President- Reginald Hughes	Present
2nd Vice President – Darrell Young	Present
Secretary- Tonya Despertt	Present
Financial Secretary-Theresa Bailey	Present
Treasurer Donalda Moss	Present
Sergeant of Arms- Vincent Clark	Present
Tour 1 Representative Mary Milner	Present
Tour 2 Representative- Waverly Vaughn	Present
Tour 3 Representative – Raynard Nowden	Present
Station & Branches Mike Alston	Present
Immediate Past President Alvin Harper	Present
Legislative Representative	Present
Good and Welfare Yvonne Duncan	Present
Representative for Admin. Offices – Sekita Davis	Present

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Joslin Harris shared that on April 16, 2024, the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs conducted a Postal Oversight Hearing Focused on the Deteriorating Performance of USPS. Witness testimony and the statement presented by National President Butts can be found on the national website under "Breaking News."

GOOD & WELFARE REPORT

Yvonne Duncan did not have a report for March. She informed the membership that Robert Washington had passed and although he was not a branch member, she would ensure a sympathy card was sent to this family. It was noted that Robert Washington, although not a member, was very helpful in facilitating Branch 135's use of room 2800 for our meetings. There is a florist balance of \$318.12.

1st VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Reginald Hughes reported that all was quiet on the home front. He also stated that he had to go to Baltimore to represent a member who received proposed disciplinary action.

2ND VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Darrell Young stated that he would bring the shirts for the National Convention to the July meeting. Because of the quantity of shirts, he will be unable to travel to Connecticut with them. Members need to arrange pick-up of their shirts.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Alvin Harper stated the Branch had purchased 550 pins for delegates to the National Convention to give to first timers. They have cherry blossoms with the Lincoln Memorial in the background and are blinky. Shirts and pins will be distributed during the July meeting. Mr. Harper also advised that members attending the National Convention should start making travel arrangements as soon as possible. Flights go to Hartford and Providence airports. The current price range is between \$274- \$305.00. Dattco is a company that provides transportation from the airport to the resort. The cost is \$70 one way for a total of \$140.00. Members must make their own arrangements with the company, providing your flight number at the time of booking. Dattco transportation must be reserved by July 31st. Ray Nowden will ensure information regarding the National convention is posted under the Secretary's Desk or on the documents tab, on the branch's website.

President Wright inquired if everyone attending National Convention received their registration email. All receipts for transportation reimbursement should be sent to Treasurer Donald Moss at the branch email address, naps135.amc@gmail.com. The date for the national convention is Sunday August 11th- Saturday August 17th. The President advised that no transfer/ground transportation or mileage will be paid in advance but will be included in the per diem check.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer Donald Moss provided the March 2024 report. The report was accepted pending audit. President Wright noted the report included the per capita amount paid to Branch 923, the Dorothy A. "Dottie" Wileman Maryland State/DC state branch. The amount of 9,440.00, representing \$10.00 per regular member of A. Millie Callaway Branch 135. This item will be brought up again later in the meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Crab Feast

President Wright asked for updates on the crab feast. He reminded Theresa Bailey that she had been added to the committee. It was decided that Branch 135 will be going with the initial recommendations for the crab feast. The crab feast will be held on Saturday September 21, at the American Legion in Glenarden, members are free, and their guests will be \$50.00.

Benefits Meeting

A "Plan your Future" flyer was sent via email inviting members to attend a May 18th presentation. Karla Kirby, Executive Manager, Benefits and Gilbert Ford from Dillard Financial will provide the membership with information on the new Postal Service Health Benefits Plan (PSHB) and retirement benefits respectively. The event will be held via virtually and in person in Room 2800 at the Curseen/Morris Plant. Breakfast will be served, and members are encouraged to attend in person and to bring someone. The question was asked if a non-member could attend to hear information on the new health plans. It

was decided that non-members could attend. Members would have to submit names so that we can notify the Postal Police of the expected attendees. No children are allowed. Membership may bring their spouses. Members were also asked to go onto the website to sign up so that we can plan accordingly.

NEW BUSINESS

Benevolent Fund Distribution

Dave Chittams moved that the Branch send the family of deceased postal manager Robert Washington \$500.00 from the Benevolent Fund. Discussion for and against the motion was presented. The motion passed.

Recommendations From the Executive Board

President Wright informed the members that the Executive Board met virtually on April 18th. He presented the following recommendation from the Executive Board.

1. National Executive Board Reelection Campaign Donations

The Branch Executive Board recommends the following campaign contributions be given. Campaign donations be given to the following people in the amount indicated. National President Ivan Butts \$2000, Executive Vice President Chuck Mulidore \$1000, Secretary/Treasurer Jimmy Warden \$1000, Eastern Region Vice President Richard Greene \$1000, and Capitol -Atlantic Area Vice President Troy Griffin \$1000.

Individual motions were made for each person. Members were reminded that they could vote the motion up or down, or they could move to amend the amount. The motions were passed in favor of the amounts recommendation from the Branch Executive Board.

2. A Millie Callaway Branch 135 Withdrawal from the Dorothy A. "Dottie" Wileman Maryland State/DC Branch 923

Branch 135 pays per capita dues annually to State Branch 923 in the amount of \$10 per regular member on the DCO as of December 31 of the prior year. For FY 2023 this amounted to \$9440.00. The question is, what does Branch 135 receive through this payment. The answer is we do not have to pay seed monies to fund the Capitol Atlantic Area States Convention (CAASC).

The following rationale supports Branch 135 dissolving its membership in Branch 923.

- Branch 135 is one of the largest branches within the National Association of Postal Supervisors. It operates independent of State Branch 923.
- Branch 135 was established August 17, 1921. There is no information on when Branch 923 was established, or how Branch 135, located within the District of Columbia, became linked to the branches located within the state of Maryland.
- The per capita dues paid by Branch 135 is more than the combined per capita provided by the other local branches under Branch 923. During the COVID years when no state or national conventions were held the full per capita was collected, most of which was not used during the fiscal year that it was paid.
- Expenses for Branch 923 have exceeded revenues for the past three (3) years mostly due to the funds that were not used during the COVID years. If the current level of spending continues Branch 923 will soon have a financial dilemma. At a previous Branch 923 meeting, the audit committee recommended that a budget be prepared. To date a budget has not been prepared, and there is talk of raising the per capita dues.
- Although Branch 135 is the largest branch in Branch 923, we have not hosted any state meetings. The meetings are always held in Baltimore MD.
- Invitations have been extended to the President of Branch 923 to attend Branch 135 Branch meetings. The President has not attended meetings but has attended events.
- Branch 135 has not received any advocacy support from Branch 923, in reality Branch 135 has not required any advocacy support from the State.

After much discussion, a motion to dissolve Branch 135 from Branch 923 Dorothy “Dotty” Wileman Maryland DC State branch was made and passed by the body.

President Wright reminded the participating members that the State Convention was May 23-26 at the Doubletree Hilton Asheville Biltmore. Check-in is at 4 pm and checkout is 11:00 am on Sunday. He informed us that no guest will be allowed to join us for lunch unless it is paid for. Guests will not be allowed to take food from the designated eating area. There will be no breakfast served during the convention. All parking and any transfers will be paid on per diem checks, not in advance. We have until May 16th to send any resolutions to the State 923 Secretary/Treasurer, Arlene Streeter.

The meeting adjourned at 8:42pm.

Respectfully submitted.

Tonya Despertt, Secretary Branch 135