Minutes from the December 7, 2021 meeting of Branch 361 NALC

1. The December monthly meeting of Branch 361 was called to order by President Becraft at 7:11 pm, this meeting was held via zoom.
2. President Becraft led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Recording Secretary Smith read the monthly minutes from the November monthly meeting.

President Becraft asked if there were any corrections or additions.

Brother Wood made a motion to accept the minutes as read, with a second by Brother Whitcomb.

 The Motion carried.

The following carriers submitted applications for membership in the NALC and Branch 361: Mesha Daniel, David Johnson, Lavell Haymer, Amadeusz Pyrek, Jennifer Carroll, Matthew Jarrell, and Lori Haliburton.

1. Brother McNulty made a motion to accept the new members as read, with a second by Sister Lindsay.

The Motion carried.

1. Health Benefits Representative Whitcomb spoke on open season stating you only have six (6) more days to make changes to your health benefits plan. Some questions to ask yourself when deciding to keep your current plan or opting for a new one: what are my out-of-pocket expenses, am I satisfied with the care I am receiving, visit the OPM website to review the federal health plans and their premiums. The holidays are a special time to meet with family but can also be stressful due to preparations, during this time it is important to remember that there is no gift as important as your health. Those who have lost loved ones would love to spend the holidays with them so make sure you do all you can to stay happy and healthy this holiday season.
2. Trustee McNulty gave the following expenditure report for the month of November:

 Trustee Expense Report November 2021:

1. Utilities $ 495.91
2. Participation $ 50.00
3. Office Supplies $ 45.83
4. Presidents Fund $ 61.08
5. Total Expenses: $ 652.82

 Brother Wood made a motion to accept the expense report as read with a second by Brother Wiles

 The Motion carried.

1. Financial Secretary/Treasurer Lindsay gave the following financial report for the month of November:

 November 2021 Financial Report:

1. Deposits $ 13,041.71
2. Checks $ 652.82

The account balances are:

1. Checking $ 79,077.60
2. Savings $ 76,246.83
3. Building Fund $ 13,040.44
4. Retiree Fund $ 15,355.29
5. Hall Rental Fund $ 11, 982.35
6. Convention Fund $ 16,000.53

Sister Caywood made a motion to accept the financial report as read, with a second from Brother Wood

 The Motion carried.

1. Brother Smith made a motion to authorize the President and Treasurer with review by the Trustees to pay the recurring expenses from the approved 2022 budget.
2. Brother Holbrook made a motion to authorize the branch to pay for the required recovery of the branch documents as required by National in the estimated amount of $3,200.00 with a second by Sister Preston
	1. Brother Smith ask President Becraft if he received more than one estimate?
		1. President Becraft stated he did not, stating he went with the one person in town who was authorized for recovering government documents and unfortunately, they must take the hard drive apart so there is no way to have more than one estimate.
	2. Sister Preston ask President Becraft how long does the recovery process take?
		1. President Becraft stated it would take seven (7) to twelve (12) days.
		2. Brother Clark said he supports the motion but stated we should print out and retain hard copies of all documents at the Union Hall.
		3. President Becraft stated that we do have some hard copies of the locals, the main issue is with the seven (7) years of grievance settlements.
3. President Becraft conducted the $50 door prize drawing with Brother Craig winning. Brother Craig donated his winnings to MDA, thanks Bill!
4. President Becraft presented Brother Holbrook with the President’s Award stating he appreciates everything Mike has done over the past seven (7) years, and he greatly appreciates the work Mike has done on the hall.
	1. Brother Holbrook stated he appreciates the award and as much the Union has done for him over the years, he does not hesitate to pay it back he just wishes more people would support the Union.

The following items were brought up under the good of the Association:

1. Brother McNulty stated he and Brother Smith went through all the property of the branch as requested by President Becraft which is good to do when transitioning power. Brother McNulty stated we do have a list of property, the only thing we do not have is the list Vice President Preston was compiling of all the laptops being used by the stewards and officers. Brother McNulty requested a copy of the list once Vice President Preston finalizes it. Brother McNulty stated he and the Trustees did an audit of the branch and found everything to be in order. Brother McNulty stated he appreciates everybody helping and is hopeful we can get to a floor vote, as a reminder please keep lobbying the two senators and your representative for the Postal Reform bill. Happy Holidays to everyone.
2. President Becraft ask if Brother McNulty added the TV behind the podium and the amplifiers to the inventory?
3. Brother McNulty stated he did not have the items listed and would go to the Union Hall to record them.
4. Brother Wood stated he wanted to recognize Leah Wood and Lisa Manning for their hard work and dedication on conducting the third annual toys for tots with the Fire Department. Brother Wood stated the goal was to collect $1,500.00 and we surpassed that collecting $1,7050.00
5. Brother Smith stated if anyone collected soaps or shampoos while traveling, he asks that you drop the items off to the Hall to be donated to homeless Veterans.
	1. President Becraft stated for Sister Lindsay to donate $200 from the Presidents Fund to Brother Smith to purchase items.
	2. Brother McNulty stated for economical and cost-efficient reasons a lot of hotels do not use the small bottles instead they have placed units in the walls to hold the shampoos and body wash.
	3. Sister Anna Mudd stated that she has a lot of the items from hotels and will get them in the mail tomorrow. Sister Mudd stated as Bob said we do need all of you guys to send emails from your app if you do not have time to make phone calls to your senators and representative and please spread the word. Stating time is of the essence with this. Sister Mudd stated we are optimistic about this and thank you all for your support this year. Happy holidays to everyone.
6. President Becraft addressed the association stating he has a few items to clean up and his resignation will still be in December, but his focus is the hard drive and a mess in Richmond. President Becraft stated once those are cleaned up, he will clean out his office and submit his resignation to the Eboard.
	1. Brother wood stated he wanted to thank President Becraft for his hard work and for helping to make him better.
	2. Brother Kirkland thanked President Becraft along with Bother Holbrook for their hard work over the years, stating he appreciated President Becraft’s dedication. Brother Kirkland stated that we need the leadership to get the future involved.
7. Brother McNulty stated on Sunday December 12th at 1:30 pm we need volunteers at the Hall to help move the food drive bags from the audio closet so we can lay the tile inside the closet.
8. A motion to adjourn was made by Brother Collins with a second by Brother Wood. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.