Minutes from the February 1, 2022 meeting of Branch 361 NALC

1. The February monthly meeting of Branch 361 was called to order by President Preston at 7:09 pm, this meeting was held via zoom.
2. Brother Yost led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Recording Secretary Smith read the monthly minutes from the January monthly meeting.

President Preston asked if there were any corrections or additions.

Brother Collins made a motion to accept the minutes as read, with a second by Brother Holbrook.

 The Motion carried.

The following carriers submitted applications for membership in the NALC and Branch 361: Derek Lawson, Tekaraj Bhattarai, Denny Thach, Caleb Hart, Chris Cannon, Camron Ray, Lyndsay Price, Manard Slone, Matthew Feimer, Kyle Baker, Victor Brent, James Johnson, Ashton Sinnett, Elizabeth Askuig, Anthony Pate, Tonesia Patrick, and Jason Baker.

Brother Goodpaster made a motion to accept the new members as read, with a second by Brother Whitcomb.

The Motion carried.

1. Health Benefits Representative Whitcomb spoke on bullying and harassment in the workplace. Some examples of bullying include being treated unfairly, being excluded by coworkers or being attacked on social media. If you are being affected or if you see it happening to someone else you may be able to speak with or write the individual and ask them to stop. However, if you’re not comfortable doing this you should report the incident and provide as much information as you can. The information should include the date, time and place of the incident and make sure to include everything that was said including any offensive language used. You should also include anyone who was involved with the incident, how it made you feel and record if you report it. If you do report the incident keep notes of what the individual said once you reported it and the date of the report. Keep a log if the behavior is ongoing so you can recall details later. You could first report the incident to your floor supervisor unless the bullying or harassment is coming from them then you may want to reach out to a union steward for assistance. Another option is to contact the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) at 1800EAP4YOU they are available 24/7. Remember bullying and harassment can cause stress, anxiety, low self esteem and resignation so reach out if you need help.
2. Trustee McNulty gave the following expenditure report for the month of January:

 Trustee Expense Report January 2022:

1. Utilities $ 605.48
2. Participation $ 50.00
3. Office Supplies $ 3,316.59
4. Equipment Purchase $ 750.46
5. Convention $ 400.00
6. Newsletter $ 565.24
7. Building Supply $ 52.99
8. Payroll/School Taxes $ 7,508.90
9. Total Expenses: $ 13,249.66

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

 The Motion carried.

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

 January 2022 Financial Report:

1. Deposits $ 13,449.10
2. Checks $ 13,249.66

The account balances are:

1. Checking $ 73,419.96
2. Savings $ 76,256.44
3. Building Fund $ 13,042.08
4. Retiree Fund $ 15,357.22
5. Hall Rental Fund $ 11, 983.86
6. Convention Fund $ 16,002.54

Brother Collins made a motion to accept the financial report as read, with a second from Brother McNulty.

 The Motion carried.

1. President Preston conducted the $50 door prize drawing with Sister Armstrong winning. Sister Armstrong donated her winnings to MDA, thanks Caitlin!
2. Brother Holbrook stated that the month of February is typically where we transfer any unspent balances from the budget to the savings account.
	1. Financial Secretary/Treasurer Lindsay read the 2021 Expense/Budget report.

Sister Armstrong made a motion to accept the 2021 Expense/Budget report as read, with a second from Brother McNulty.

1. Brother Clark addressed the membership and stated that a discussion over what had been read should occur prior to making a motion.
	1. Brother Kirkland addressed the membership in regard to the balance in the retiree fund, asking have we had expenditures or is that a normal amount?
		1. Brother Holbrook stated that is about normal but we may need to borrow from that for the retiree luncheon.
		2. Brother Kirkland stated the money coming in was to offset the retiree fund. Brother Kirkland ask what is the difference in the cost for the rings being made?
			1. Brother Holbrook stated the difference in the cost is over $1,200 per ring.
		3. Brother Kirkland ask how many carriers retiree a year?
			1. Brother Holbrook stated approximately twenty-two (22).
		4. Brother Kirkland stated that he would like to see the percentage of membership in the monthly publication? Stating it should never fall below 93%.
		5. Brother Kirkland stated in regard to President Rolando attending the Retiree Luncheon if we could have a membership meeting the Saturday prior? Stating this would be a good use of the NALC President. It would allow members to meet with him in an informal session. Brother Kirkland addressed President Preston stating congratulations on being the first lady President of Branch 361.
			1. Brother Clark stated in regard to the reception he believed we should make a motion. Brother Clark made a motion to hold a meet and greet the day prior to the Retiree luncheon.
				1. Brother Waltz asked how does this work? Would we have a meeting?

Brother Clark stated you can call a special meeting but would suggest doing a meet and greet and have the President address the membership. Brother Clark stated we can provide for social distancing and put out the invite for those who want to attend virtually to hear President Rolando speak.

Brother Kirkland stated that we could provide mask and check temperatures at the door, stating this is how name recognition gets out there. Brother Kirkland stated he did not know if President Rolando has ever been to the Union Hall. Brother Kirkland stated to allow President Rolando to speak with the members and enjoy the people. Brother Kirkland suggested we find out where he will be staying and then have someone, preferably an Officer of the branch, pick him up from the airport and take him to his hotel. Brother Kirkland stated to have Ken ask President Rolando if he was available for a meet and greet the night before or after the luncheon.

Brother Clark accepted to amend the motion to include having the meet in greet after the luncheon. Brother Clark ask if we need to set a budget on the meet and greet?

Brother Holbrook stated we have a $15,000 surplus we can take from.

Brother Kirkland stated that we have $1,200 from meeting expenses available from the 2021 budget.

Brother Holbrook stated that the Eboard had a discussion to have an open house so he believes we can combine that with the meet and greet.

Brother Clark ask should we put a cap on this motion?

Brother Holbrook stated as long as the amount is under $1,000, we can do it with one vote.

Brother Clark accepted to amend the motion to $999.00 cap.

Brother Holbrook stated he would like to volunteer Brother McNulty to handle transportation for President Rolando.

1. The following items were brought up under the good of the Association:
2. Brother Waltz ask when do you think we will return to the hall?
	1. Brother Holbrook stated during the month of February the numbers should decline and our criteria for in person meetings is if it is orange or yellow, we can meet at the hall.
	2. Brother Waltz ask if that is with limited numbers?
		1. Brother Holbrook stated there would be some limitations in place such as mask being required.
			1. President Preston stated that we have the mask and thermometers as well as hand sanitizer available.
		2. Brother Clark ask if we were to go back for the March meeting in person will the virtual option be available to coincide with the in-person meeting?
			* 1. President Preston stated that Brother Holbrook is running the wires to set that up.
				2. Brother McNulty stated that due to Spectrum cutting our internet line we were without internet at the hall but that has been resolved. Brother Holbrook stated that we need to make sure we didn’t pay the last few months because we were not receiving the service.

Sister Lindsay stated we did not alert them of the issue so we have to eat that cost and stated that we are going to try to keep the meetings both in person and virtual.

1. Brother McNulty addressed the membership asking if we have received the hard drive information back from Becraft?
	1. President Preston stated she spoke with him today and he is planning to return the hard drive shortly.
2. Brother McNulty addressed the membership reminding members of the KY State Convention scheduled for February 26, 2022 and hopes to see everyone there. Brother McNulty stated that it is good to see Brother Kirkland and Brother Clark on the meetings, reminding everyone that the more wisdom we have available the better it is for all of us. Brother McNulty stated that Sister Anna Mudd is our special assistant to President Fredrick Rolando stating the Postal Reform Act bill (H.R. 3076) is expected to come to the floor in the coming weeks. Congress typically refrains from scheduling floor votes unless it can determine if it will save or cost and this bill will save us Billions of dollars so take action daily to move H.R. 3076 to the floor.
3. Brother Clark stated that our new NBA David Mudd will have his first WebEx tomorrow Wednesday at 7:00pm and everyone is invited. Brother Clark will send the invite to President Preston and she can send it out.
4. Sister Lindsay ask that the delegates who plan to attend the KY state convention stay on for a couple minutes after the meeting.
5. A motion to adjourn was made by Brother Wiles with a second by Brother McNulty. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.