Minutes from the June 7, 2022 meeting of Branch 361 NALC

1. The June monthly meeting of Branch 361 was called to order by President Preston at 7:14 pm, this meeting was held in person as well as via zoom.
2. President Preston asked those in attendance to observe a moment of silence for those serving and those who have passed.
3. Brother Hudson led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Recording Secretary Smith read the monthly minutes from the May monthly meeting.

President Preston asked if there were any corrections or additions.

Brother Clark made a motion to accept the minutes as read, with a second by Brother Harris.

 The Motion carried.

1. The following carriers submitted applications for membership in the NALC and Branch 361:

Nicolas Howell, Montana Yaden, Alyssa Cooley, Nancy Taylor, Terry Adams, Jessica Birch, Desmond Reed, Brannon Caldwell, William Crumly, Mark Landis, Thomas Haught and Antonella Lanza.

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

The Motion carried.

1. Health Benefits Representative Whitcomb stated that the food was provided by zone 17, thank you zone 17. Brother Whitcomb stated that June is National Migraine and Headache Awareness Month. Migraines impact 40 million Americans and out of that 28 million are women. Migraine is a disease where one or more parts of the communication system does not function correctly. People with migraines may also have anxiety, depression, fibromyalgia, etc. Migraine attacks are often brought on by specific stimuli or triggers such as increased stress, weather changes, too much or too little sleep, or certain foods. While migraine is rarely deadly, it can steal many years of quality time. For more information about migraine, visit migrainedisorders.org.
2. Trustee McNulty gave the following expenditure report for the month of May:

 Trustee Expense Report May 2022:

1. Utilities $ 341.75
2. Participation $ 50.00
3. Office Supplies $ 16.95
4. Meeting Meal/Drinks $ 109.15
5. MDA $ 77.00
6. Newsletter $ 580.26
7. Building Supply $ 48.03
8. Equipment Purchase $ 169.36
9. Total Expenses: $ 1, 392.50

Brother Holbrook made a motion to accept the expense report as read with a second by Brother Hudson.

 The Motion carried.

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

 May 2022 Financial Report:

1. Deposits $ 13, 560.49
2. Checks $ 1,392.50

The account balances are:

1. Checking $ 92,008.58
2. Savings $ 76, 265. 84
3. Building Fund $ 13,043.69
4. Retiree Fund $ 15,359.11
5. Hall Rental Fund $ 11, 985.33
6. Convention Fund $ 18,004.60

Brother Clark made a motion to accept the financial report as read, with a second by Sister Caywood.

The Motion carried.

1. The following items were brought up under New Business:
	1. Brother Holbrook stated by way of the request for working on something for the Retirees based on the Covid rate taking off in Florida and starting to take off in Kentucky, there is a possibility the July meeting will be by Zoom only and it will be on the 12th instead of the 5th due to the holiday. Based on that trend Ernie and I decided it would be best to move the luncheon to the fall. I would like to make a motion that any funds unspent from the combined fall festival/picnic be held for the retiree luncheon in the fall. Second made by Sister Caywood.
		1. Brother Clark ask Brother Holbrook are you saying anything left over from the roughly $2,000 be moved to the retiree luncheon for the fall? Is that not what the retiree fund is for?
		2. Brother Holbrook stated that is the retiree’s savings and we use that for the annual luncheon, I was looking for a place to get the money from and since it was under $1,000 it would only require one vote.
		3. Brother Clark stated that if there are no funds left over, we would need to make another motion to fund the luncheon, correct?
			1. Brother Holbrook stated that’s correct, it would require a vote.
2. President Preston conducted the $50 door prize drawing with Sister Dunlap winning. Sister Dunlap donated her winnings to MDA, thanks Keisha!
3. Brother Smith conducted the 50/50 drawing for MDA with Sister Lindsay winning. Sister Lindsay donated her winnings to MDA, thanks Cindi.
4. The following items were brought up under the good of the Association:
	1. President Preston stated that she has the food drive totals:
		1. Beaumont and Brentwood collected 33,000 pounds
		2. Liberty Road and Gardenside collected 35,000 pounds
		3. Bluegrass collected 23,022 pounds
		4. Richmond collected 43,000 pounds
		5. Lancaster collected 2,100 pounds
		6. Berea collected 2,878 pounds
		7. Wilmore collected 447 pounds
		8. Frankfort collected 31, 269 pounds
		9. Winchester collected 1,000 pounds
		10. Georgetown collected 5,000 pounds
		11. Nicholasville collected 2,282 pounds
		12. Danville collected 3, 752 pounds
		13. Versailles collected 5, 000 pounds
		14. Paris collected 7,000 pounds
		15. Stanford collected 1,072 pounds
		16. Harrodsburg collected 1,608 pounds
		17. Total for Branch 361: 197,430 pounds
			1. Brother Smith stated next year we need to do a better job to get this advertised.
			2. Sister Caywood stated that Paris ran the Food Drive in color on the front page of the Newspaper for one week and then the next two weeks they posted it elsewhere in the paper. Sister Caywood stated that the food pantry must go through every item to check expiration dates and at least a third of the food was expired and I believe we need to remind people that the food pantries cannot accept expired food.
				1. Brother Holbrook stated he believes there are different rules for those agencies who prepare food and those who use packaged food.
			3. President Preston stated that Zed setup the News to come to the Union Hall and this is the first year the Postmaster has showed up and she and I went around and spoke to the Rural Carriers at different stations.
			4. Sister Caywood stated that the Postmaster and Supervisor both took off in Paris, moving forward the food drive coordinator and send it to every postmaster in our branch and let them know that we will have people monitor the bags and card because the managers don’t care they took off.
			5. Brother Barker stated he did not receive a card and he is in Garrett County.
			6. Brother Hudson stated that he found a tub of roughly 12,000 cards at Bluegrass, did Barbara give an answer as to why they were not delivered?
				1. President Preston stated no, Barbara stated she was told they were delivered.
		18. Brother Whitcomb stated that he would like a representative from the food bank come out and talk to us during the Plan 5 as he thinks it would help get people involved.
			1. President Preston stated that’s a good idea we will see if we can get that setup.
			2. Brother Blackburn stated to not have them come on the day of the food drive.
		19. Brother McNulty addressed the membership and stated this information can be found in the Postal Record to show the importance of what our Union is doing in Washington. First, the benefits and challenges of electrifying our Postal Service fleet. Next, the NALC has asked the President of the United States to make an executive order for the Civil Service Retirement System pensions. The final two items: the Federal Retirement Fairness Act H.R. 4268 make sure to call your U.S. Representatives and ask them to support and vote for H.R.4268, this bill is a priority for NALC as it allows certain Federal employees to make catch-up retirement contributions. This will make a huge difference in their retirement if they were to get credit for their time as non-career employees such as CCA’s or TE’s. Finally, the Social Security Fairness Act H.R. 82 or S. 1302 would repeal the Government Pension Offset provisions and the Windfall Elimination Provision. 2 million people have been affected by the Windfall Elimination and this would raise the Social Security benefits of millions of retired employees.
5. A motion to adjourn was made by Brother Harris with a second by Brother Blackburn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm.