

ORDER OF LaShe's
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

December 15, 2025

The Locale

Board Members Present:

Cindy Bishop, DD Payne, Mikie Ganus, Donna Diaz, Tracey Taylor, Kendra Isenhower, Gabby Smith, Kanja Weldy, Nicolle Rayborn, Christine Bramlett, Melissa Davis

Meeting Call to Order at 7:05

Cindy thanked the membership for the VOA Gifts

New Members: Introduction by Lynlee Evans

New members pledged:

Kaylee Wilkes Alexa Peacock

Pledge – Kendra Isenhower

Reading of the Minutes – November 18, General Meeting

- Tiffany Ridgeway made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes; Michelle Presley seconded the motion. The majority voted in favor, no one abstained, motion passed.

Officers' Reports:

- **Vice President – DD Payne**

1) We have 300 Active, 2 Founder Emeritus, 30 Honorary, 24 Costume Honorary, 8 ANR, 100 Associate members, and 12 ladies on the Waiting List! We have no one to vote on tonight. She is still collecting applications for next year, so please get those into her.

2) Rosters posted at the back of the room.

3) Don't forget that any pregnant ladies are not allowed to participate in the Grand March unless you have signed a pregnancy waiver. I have those tonight, please get one. You can also find those on the website. Also, if you know that you are not going to be able to ride this year, please let President Cindy know ASAP! We need to get your spot filled.

- **Treasurer – Donna Diaz**

I am not prepared to provide a Balance Sheet and a Profit & Loss statement as I had hoped.

Before I read the bank account balances, I would like to say that the Wells Fargo account beginning balance are a little different from the ending balances reported in October. There were some outstanding charges on the account-some from last year-that had to be researched and cleaned up. This account is now closed!

Wells Fargo Operating: Beginning balance \$2473.76 (previously \$104,583.52) Ending balance \$0.00 for November.

PNC Operating: Beginning balance \$140,806.43. Ending balance \$179,023.08

PNC Savings: Beginning balance \$155,811.86. Ending balance \$155,815.45.

Trustmark Building Fund: Beginning balance \$49949.89. Ending balance \$51,028.61.

Trustmark Building CD xxx9170: Beginning balance: \$115,383.68. Ending balance \$115,756.21

Trustmark Building CD xxxx9188: Beginning balance \$64864.97. Ending balance \$65,074.39

Trustmark MOOL Savings: Beginning balance \$6,928.67 Ending balance \$6,928.88
THERE IS A .21 MISTAKE ON THIS ACCOUNT

Trustmark Roof Loan: Beginning balance \$-115,000.00 Ending balance \$-113,353.43.

- **Recording Secretary – Mikie Ganus**

No Report

- **Corresponding Secretary – Tracey Taylor**

1. She has posted dates on Facebook for all of the Upcoming Events
2. She is working on a new Calendar which will be coming out soon

- **Parliamentarian – Kenda Isenhower**

No Report

- **Historian – Gabby Smith**

No Report

- **Board Seat 1 – Parade - Kanja Weldy**

Less than 2 months to parade

Parade Rules will be distributed soon - read in entirety.

Budget Constraint indicated issue – she gave a brief explanation – Expenses were in order, but Income was not. Explained where the income comes from and she provided those numbers and where the issue came from

Ways to address:

Cut costs.

Fundraise (Venture Bowl - please come out - Also raffle for game tickets)

Adjust Float Fees

Discuss float fees- she gave a history and past-decision – Saved \$4000 with the first 2 options.

Other options: Assessment/Amend Budget/Fees to riders – these costs are only for the riding members.

Cindy mentioned that any discussion on this will be done under New Business

- **Board Seat 2 – Ball - Nicolle Rayborn**

As a reminder rehearsal is Sunday, February 1, 2026, at the Convention Center in the main hall. The Board members, Queen, & Emblem are from 2-3:30pm, the membership is from 3:30-5pm, and the MOOLs are from 4:00-5:00pm. Escorts are welcome.

Remember to send in your excuse to President Cindy if you cannot attend and that no outside food or drink may be brought into the Convention Center.

I would like to announce our DJ for the ball: David Wilson. He will be located in the east side of the ballroom on the same floor as the individual rooms. It's what was used as the "Members Only" room from last year.

I continue to work with OVG regarding food & beverage. There was some follow up with OVG regarding food & beverage, so updated information for the rooms is forthcoming. That information along with the decoration rules will be distributed via room captains.

Don't forget to turn in your invitations form! Tonight is the deadline.

- **Board Seat 3 – Ways and Means - Christine Bramlett**

Just in time for Christmas, we've slashed prices 25-50% on select items, including steals like the \$20 Dave & Buster's play card for just \$15. We also have new Ball must-haves available tonight: white escort gloves (a requirement, not a suggestion), light-up shoelaces, fanny packs, and squeeze bottles.

The full price list is on everyone's table, so no fine print surprises.

- **Past President – Queen Melissa Davis**

She acknowledged those involved with putting together the Queen & Emblem luncheon.

Committee Reports

- **PR/Special Events – Lisa Bullock**

1. She thanked all of her committee for their assistance with the Q&E Luncheon and those that attended.

2. She thanked all the rooms for their VOA gifts; we filled up 2 buses.
- She thanked all of the members that have participated in all of her events from this past year.

- **New Members – Lynlee Evans**

She thanked all of the PP and PQs and her New members committee for fulfilling her Amazon wish list.

She reminded everyone about the New Member Orientation, and if anyone had any questions to let her know.

- **Float Review – Summer Frahm**

Food 45 min shifts//4 people each –

3 won't have to work –

Liquor donations determine the 3 rooms that don't work – as of the start of today's meeting only room 10 has donations.

We are also selling prepaid food cards.

Amazon wish list - y'all have done amazing! - I am continuing to add new items - as of now the 6 rooms excluded would be 1) room 9 (198 points) 2) room - 1 (95 points) 3) room 8 (71 points) 4) room 10 (37 points) 5) room 3 (16 points) 6) room 5 (15 points)

They are taken liquor donations tonight and will be at the January general meeting.

We will draw both food/games workstations at the Jan general meeting.

New Fun event at float review!

Bring your teams, have fun creating team names and uniforms.

Field day planned from 12-1 4 person teams \$20 entry per team Winning team takes home ½ the pot that is raised. The games that they are planning on having are as follows:

Egg toss, 3-legged race, sack race

- **Invitations – Robin Brown**

Good evening, ladies. This is a reminder that tonight is the deadline to turn in your invitation request forms for the 2026 LaShe Ball.

Anyone who has not submitted a complete form by tonight will be issued invitations according to their membership status.

If you are turning in a form this evening, you may submit it at the Invitations table.

If you need additional tickets, please let me know. I will take care of you.

Invitations will be available for pick-up at Float Spot Pick, Layaway Pick-Up, Rehearsal, Float Review, and Float Load. Dates and times will be announced as we get closer.

- **Unfinished Business**

Cindy reminded rooms to turn in their Election Committee and EOC Reps. Also, this will be the month to turn in your Committee Chair Request

No other Unfinished Business as brought up.

- **New Business**

Kim Skipper from Room 9 made a motion to allow her room to have a DJ in their room the night of the Ball. Cindy mentioned that the Board had already addressed this and the decision was to not allow them to do this. Cindy called for a second and Layla Davis seconded her motion. Called for discussion. Marcia Herrin remarked that the proper way to do this is to submit a request to the Board. Cindy mentioned that it had already been submitted to the Board and it was had discussed and the vote was No on this. Kim stated she wanted to bring it to the organization because it had been done in the past and they couldn't understand why the Board voted No. Cindy told her that we were not allowing any rooms to have a DJ in their room. Cindy asked for more discussion. There was further discussion by several members. Cindy explained the reason that the Board made this decision was that now that we are in our separate rooms based on what the rooms wanted, they wanted to make sure that those rooms would not be disturbed by another room having a DJ in their room. Waneva Ivey came up and voiced her concerns about the area and how this would affect the pass-through areas since these rooms are so close together. At the Civic Center, the walls were made up of Cinder Blocks, and the rooms at the Convention Center are separated by a partition. Nicole Rayborn further discussed the issues with this and explained that we already have music available in different areas of the Convention Center. There was further discussion on the Pros and Cons with having a DJ in the room. Kim called for a Question. Cindy called for a vote and there were 17 Yes, 28 No and 36 Abstained. Motion did not pass.

Ashley Adams came forward and questioned the increase in the Float Fees and was concerned that we are asking for members to pay for things that aren't normally paid for by the members. We never covered the trucks; we do not pay for fire extinguishers and other items that were listed in Kanja's response to her earlier email that the Board had discussed in their last Board meeting. The proper way to do this is according to our By-Laws to ask for an assessment and to bring it to the membership to vote on. Kanja again addressed this and mentioned that if there is a vote needed, then let's do so. She mentioned that the increase was \$7 to \$10 per parade riders, she was just looking at the best way to address this shortfall and if need a motion for an assessment, then let's do that. She also mentioned that we had decided before to go with the Hansen Trucks that have music on them to pull our floats, and that she thought we had included that in the float fees. Cindy was not sure, but she would go back and review the budget for this. Float fees have changed over the years. This is all about the best interest of the membership and if we need to vote on assessment then let's do so. Robin Ballard questioned whether or not that is just going to be for this year. She made a motion that the assessment of the \$25 float fee just be for this year this and Cindy added that it will

be due by Float Load, and Marcia Herrin seconded it. Jennifer ? questioned whether the issue with the cost of things or whether it was not having a vote on an assessment. Cindy questioned Ashley on this. Ashley responded stated that there has been so many things brought up this year especially those concerns that were brought to the Board by Laura Bethea on behalf of other members, that she felt like the Board was again trying to slide something else on to the membership without a vote. She understands that the budget was incorrect and mentioned that the best way to bring an assessment to the membership was to vote on. Marcia Herrin brought up Float Fees have been \$50 in the past. She mentioned how we used to rent our floats in the past because we didn't have our own floats. Now that we have our own floats, she still thinks we need to have that amount of fee just to cover things that might happen. Cindy called for any further discussion. Kanja stepped down and mentioned that Float fees are essentially an assessment. The security that we have been paying for is included in the Float fee. She mentioned that next year's Parade Chairman will have to discuss this and determine from the budget what the Float Fee should be and have a motion for this assessment because we are now setting a precedent by what is being done this year with this fee. Cindy again called for any further discussion. Prudence Meadors stepped up stating that she did not understand this. Cindy explained that this motion was just for this year only. Cindy again called for any further discussion. She then called for a vote. 67 Yes, 7 No and 1 Abstained. Motion passed.

- **Holiday Costume Contest**

All members that were dressed up in their best holiday attire was asked to come forward. They were presented to the membership who voted on the best ones and there ended up being 5 winners ??

- **Break**

Drawing for raffle prizes

- **Back to Order at 8:27**

- **Room Announcements/Drawings**

Room 5 Drawing for \$500 and Door Plaque – winners were Les Simison, Susan Hopkins and Lynn Lawhead

Room 10 – Mardi Gras Throws – ticket number 1239920 – they have a list for those who bought the ticket

Tiffany Ridgeway made a motion to adjourned and Michelle Presley seconded. All in Favor, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32

Respectfully submitted,

Mikie Ganus
OOL Recording Secretary