**Black Fellowship of Southern California**
Meeting Minutes–General Session

*September 12, 2020*
*Present:*
Derrick Rosenior, Melissia Coley, Joe Smotherman, Jamal Alexander, Walt Brown, Dion Smotherman, Isaac Thomas, Ed Robinson Jr., Jeff Taylor, Julius Agbor, James Markham, Woody Robinson, Earl Coley II

*Guest:*
Jeff Taylor's interpreter

*Next meeting:*
December 5, 2020

I. **Call to Order** by President Derrick Rosenior at 10:35 a.m.

   ❖ Scripture: Habakkuk 3:2
   ❖ Prayer: Dr. Walt Brown opened the meeting in prayer.

II. **Reading and approval of General Session minutes from January 25, 2020**

   Secretary-Treasurer

   ❖ The General Session meeting scheduled for May 27, 2020 was canceled because of the Pandemic (COVID-19). General Session minutes for January 25, 2020 read for approval.

   ❖ Motion made by Dr. Rosenior to accept the January 25, 2020 minutes, 2nd by Dr. Walt Brown, Pastor Earl Coley addressed the correction for numerical **IV. SoCal Network Conference, Ethnic Fellowships** to read: For the SoCal Network Conferences request a room for the Black Fellowship so that we can have more of a "presence" within the Network instead of within the Fellowship. After correction there was a motion made by Dr. Rosenior to accept the January 25, 2020 minutes.

   ❖ Motion made by Dr. Rosenior to accept the January 25, 2020 minutes; 2nd by Dr. Walt Brown.

   Announcements

   ❖ Dr. Rosenior scheduled for a presentation with Region 9 on September 24th. The presentation that Dr. Rosenior and Pastor Joe will present will be a discussion on the topic "Conversations on Racial Reconciliation"

   ❖ Next General Session meeting: Saturday, December 5th at 10am.

**III. Reports of Officers**

    A. President's Report

- ❖ Due to the Pandemic, terms of all Executive Leadership Team officers extended for one year.
- ❖ The Executive Leadership Team positions for the Vice President and the Communication Director is open as a volunteer position.
- ❖ Opportunity for discussion within the SoCal Network to discuss "Race and Reconciliation" & " Conversations on Racial Reconciliation"
  - o Questions from the constituency about the topic of Racial Tension at each Regional invitation
    - ▪ Who will set the narrative for the presentations?
    - ▪ Is there training for my current situation?
    - ▪ Will there be blending of both sides?
  - o Report of Executive Presbytery presentation on July 13, 2020
    - ▪ EP presentation opened the door for future conversation on Racial Reconciliation, at Regional meetings
  - o A scheduled Region 9 presentation by Derrick and Joe on September 24th via zoom
    - ▪ Each presentation will include a historical point of view, what is white privilege and systemic racism

    B. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

- ❖ Resolution 3: Melissia Coley read resolution 3 for electronic voting.
  - o Motion made by Dr. Rosenior to accept Resolution 3: Electronic voting; 2nd by Julius Agbor.
- ❖ 2020 Membership dues
  - o Membership dues for 2020 have been waived due to the Pandemic (COVID-19).
    - ▪ Individual membership dues: $50
    - ▪ Congregation membership dues: $150

    C. Intercultural Committee Report

- ❖ Dion Smotherman and Walt Brown
  - o We need to continue having a voice to represent the black community, resources that we are needing and to share our concerns or suggestions with SoCal Network

**IV. Under Construction**

- ❖ Website: Joe Smotherman, Walt Brown and an outside contractor is currently building the website for the Black Fellowship of SoCal Network. He is checking with venders on the cost to build the website, a domain name and other social media outlet sources.
- ❖ Invitation & Fellowship brochures: President Rosenior is currently working on the brochures to have for different events.
- ❖ Resource for Inner City Youth: Dr. Walt Brown discussed a brief overview of what is included in the resource for youth book "*I'm Somebody Worth Saving*" Teen Workbook.
- ❖ Bios/Portfolios status
  - o Distribution of ELT's Bios: pending

- o   Solicit submissions from all ministers: pending

## V.   Adjournment

- ❖ Meeting adjourned in prayer by Pastor Woody at 12:37pm.


Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Melissia Coley
Secretary-Treasurer