Opening - The meeting was called to order by Grand Basileus Dr. Andrew A. Ray on January 24 at 8:05 am and National Executive Director Kenneth Barnes delivered an opening prayer.

Roll Call – the following were present:

Roll Call
Grand Basileus Dr. Andrew A. Ray Present
First Vice Grand Basileus Antonio F. Knox Sr. Present
Second Vice Grand Basileus Tony Q. Cobb Present
Grand Keeper of Records and Seal Curtis A. Baylor Present
Grand Keeper of Finance W. Kelly Shannon Present
Grand Counselor Christopher M. Cooper Present
Undergraduate Representative Donnel Jones Present
Undergraduate Representative William Matthews Present
Undergraduate Representative Leon Spencer Present
Grand Chaplain Rev. Dr. Christopher T. Curry Present
Grand Marshal Vacant
Immediate Past Grand Basileus Warren G. Lee, Jr. Present
1st District Representative Edward T. Arrington Present
2nd District Representative James E. Hicks, Jr. Present
3rd District Representative Robert C. Warren, Jr.,Esq. Present
4th District Representative Stanford T. Williams, Jr. Present
(Imd.Past) 5th District Representative Edward C. Morant Present
6th District Representative Ulysses S. G. Sweeney, IV Present
7th District Representative Dr. David Marion Present
8th District Representative Rev. Dr. Robert C. Scott Present
9th District Representative Ernest E. Parquet Present
10th District Representative Arnold Simmons Present
12th District Representative Freddrick Alexander Present
13th District Representative Matthew Coleman Present

Former Grand Basilei
30th Grand Basileus Dr. Edward J. Braynon, Jr. Excused
31st Grand Basileus Burnel E. Coulon, Sr. Present
33rd Grand Basileus Dr. Moses C. Norman,Sr. Excused
34th Grand Basileus Dr. C. Tyrone Gilmore Excused
35th Grand Basileus Dr. Dorsey C. Miller, Jr. Excused
36th Grand Basileus Lloyd J. Jordan, Esq. Excused
37th Grand Basileus George H. Grace Excused
Also present were – Assistant Grand Keeper of Records and Seal E.D. Hall, First Vice District Representatives from Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, and 12; the National Executive Director, IHQ Finance Manager, the GB Chief of Staff and Special Assistant; as well as presenting international committee members, other presenters and a number of visiting Brothers.

Quorum & Agenda – A quorum was established and the agenda was adopted by the body.

Minutes – Minutes of the July 2012 meeting were previously submitted and were approved.

Committee Reports

Human Resources – Chairman William Madison rendered a briefing and report on the committee’s review of overall personnel compensation, evaluation and professional development. The review looked at what Omega is doing as compared to best practices, legal/regulatory compliance, similar organizations (by type, size, purpose, etc.) and Omega’s ability to compete for quality talent in the metro-Atlanta area as well as nationwide based upon job requirements. The presentation highlighted the tenets of the “Performance Management System (PMS)” and the recommended steps for its implementation. The report recommended the following: a) Omega Psi Phi Fraternity adopt and implement the PMS model (step 1 - All staff to be informed, briefed and trained, step 2 – GB to initiate the process by providing performance objectives to the NED, Step 3 – Full implementation by each employee having assigned performance objectives and plans for performance evaluation); b) the application of a 3% merit increase and a 1.7% pay adjustment increase (in compliance with Conclave approval of up to a 5% pay increase for employees); c) Omega entertain proposals for an employee retirement savings program and subsequently implement one starting in FY 2013 (this year). A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the report and all recommendations.

Rules Committee – Bro. Dylan Bess presented a plan for the use of handheld “Electronic Clickers” similar to the ones used during past Grand Conclaves for voting to include the election of Grand Officers and Undergraduate Representatives to the Supreme Council (added use for elections would be new). A motion was made, seconded and passed to implement the use of these devices at the 2014 Grand Conclave with training and an implementation plan to be provided during the 2013 Leadership Conference.

Site Selection Committee – The COS “Scrappy” Jordan reported the current sites selected (Undergraduate Summit 2014-2015 in Atlanta, GA; 2013 Leadership Conference in Kansas City, MO; 2014 Grand Conclave in Philadelphia, PA; 2015 Leadership Conference in the 7th District (current negotiations with Tampa, FL pending); and the 2016 Grand Conclave in Las Vegas, NV. He presented a proposed plan that would permit host districts and chapters to “revenue share”. The proposal will be sent to members of the Supreme Council for review and follow on discussion. Request for proposals to host International Events from 2017-2020 will be forthcoming and the intent is to give those districts which have not hosted in sometime (1, 4, 5, 9 and 13) priority but all districts may submit.

Omega Website Application – Bro. Milton Harrison reported that the committee had concluded that implementation of such an application is doable. However, there could definitely be a problem with the integration of a mobile application and My Page. He stressed the fact that it is not possible to determine the practicality or the cost effectiveness of such a proposal without being able to see, test and evaluate a working model and that to date, no such model has been made available.
Presentations

“Call Me Mister” – Bro. State Senator Tony Hill, Bro. Nathaniel Glover (Pres. Edward Waters College) and Dr. Roy Jones presented on this program whose purpose is to increase the number of black males teaching at the elementary school level in an effort to more positively impact the development of black youth (especially males) as a means of increasing the likelihood of high school graduation while decreasing the likelihood of entering the penal system. The Supreme Council viewed this as a laudatory initiative that bears greater investigation and consideration as to how the Fraternity might best support and or participate. *Note: Bro. Boulware (leads our overall security efforts) made a personal pledge to this cause of $10,000 and encouraged the Supreme Council to have the Fraternity support this effort.

Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCF) – Bro. Hardy Dorsey presented on this organization and pointed out that while the Fraternity supports UNCF and HBCUs generally; it does not currently support this fund. He went on to highlight the fact that UNCF supports the private HBCUs whereas the TMCF supports those HBCUs which are non-private in nature. There is a misconception that non-private HBCUs require less alumni/public support due to the state support they receive. The fact is state support alone is woefully inadequate in most instances and these schools are truly hurting and in danger of being non-accredited and/or closed. He strongly encouraged the members of the Supreme Council to individually support TMCF and asked them to spread the word throughout all of Omega and to elevate TMCF to the same level of consideration as UNCF in an effort to more effectively support all of the National Black Colleges and Universities.

“Synergy Proposal” – Bro. Charles Matthews reported out on an effort to better coordinate and integrate the Fraternity’s Fatherhood Initiative, Big Brothers Big Sisters Partnership (BBBS), Mentorship Program(s) and the Youth Leadership Program. He pointed out the opportunities to leverage funds and in kind services (e.g. back ground checks, statistical data collection and analysis, participant tracking, etc.) from partners such as BBBS and the need for the Fraternity to better coordinate, integrate, gather and report both programatically and statistically what the chapters are doing in order to more fully capture, identify and highlight Omega’s impact on society; thereby; increasing the effectiveness of our programs and our ability to obtain greater external support and funding. More is to follow on this effort under the direction of IVGB Knox.

Grand Officer Reports - GB Ray – reported out on payments made to GC Cooper in accordance with provisions in the Fraternity’s Constitution for “extraordinary” services rendered. To date he has billed for $61,674 and been paid $40,000 in four installments of $10,000 each which commenced in February of 2011 and ended in December 2012. GB Ray pointed out with concurrence from other Supreme Council members that he had previously brought this matter to the body and received approval for this action during a meeting prior to the tenure of current GKRS Baylor. Unfortunately, minutes of that meeting were not provided nor made a matter of record. After much discussion and deliberation a motion was made, seconded and approved to reinforce and reiterate the previous actions taken to approve and pay the invoices for legal services rendered submitted by the Grand Counselor; within the budget approved by the Grand Conclave. Note – Two more installment payments remain but, any such future invoice submissions will be subject to Supreme Council approval and must be within the approved budget. GB Ray provided an update on the Colonel Young property and stated final action is still pending. GB Ray requested that the DRs identify one program in each of their respective Districts that they would like to receive International recognition.
Grand Officer Reports (continued)

1VGB Knox – submitted a report which highlighted the work of the various committees and provided an update on planning for the 2013 Leadership Conference that is being spearheaded by 8DR Scott and Bro. Glenn Rice. He thanked the IVDRs for their support and hard work and commended all Omega Men in general for the Fraternity’s contributions and successful effort to get President Obama reelected. He also indicated that the next addition of the Oracle was soon forthcoming.

2VGB Cobb – thanked the Supreme Council; especially the DRs and their members for supporting the 2013 Undergraduate Summit. Registration is very strong and he and the Undergraduate Representatives are looking forward to a great event.

GKRS Baylor – stated that the electronic Form 36 for delegate registration and tracking would be available shortly and in time for the Districts to use in conjunction with their 2013 meetings. He also pointed out that the Supreme Council had not taken action to approve the Join OPFF – Join OPPFFCU program and made a motion to approve it. The motion failed for lack of a second.

GKF Shannon – updated the Supreme Council on the Fraternity’s financial position. The FY 2012 books have been closed out and the Fraternity experienced $.06 million in net income for the year. The audit contract was awarded to the Tim Brown agency and the audit has commenced with an anticipated completion by April of this year. He also reported that he conducted a very successful DKF training session at the corporate residence and thanked the DRs for their support of this effort. GKF Shannon advised the body that he is working to establish more strategic relationships with various financial institutions and asked the DRs to have their Districts and Chapters leverage our “buy” and relationships with the various hotel chains across the country (consult Bro. Noah Holt for more information).

GC Cooper – provided an update on pending legal matters and unveiled an electronic special event form submission system. After a demonstration was provided by his special committee for this he requested the DRs notify him which ones would like to pilot test the system pending fraternity wide implementation.

GCH Curry – reported that the Chaplain’s 2013 retreat would take place in Daytona Beach, FL in May; dates TBA; pending de-confliction with District meetings. He also distributed a manual for the conduct of memorial services and a Chaplain’s Manual entitled “Walk Your Faith” (WYF). He reminded the Brothers as he does everywhere he goes that it is ok to be Godly and an Omega and that as the result of his efforts and those of like mind Brothers 23 ministers in the greater area of Delaware where he lives were reclaimed.

NED Report – NED Barnes provided initial numbers for the UG Summit (424 registered and all hotel commitments met). He also stated that electronic versions of Form 36 and 37 would be available February 1st and planning was underway to commence webinars in March. He also indicated that IHQ was working with the IT contractor and in consultation with the GKRS on a record keeping management system; as well as improvements to better protect the Fraternity’s and the Brothers sensitive/personal information. NED Barnes directed the DRs’ attention to his letter on MSP Guidelines concerning certification, recertification and training. He asked the DRs to provide any feedback they may have but the minimum requirement is for all officers and those Brothers who will participate in MSP must get certified via the website test this year. He asked that requests for travel be submitted at least 21 days in advance; as this will afford the staff a better opportunity to be most cost effective in making arrangements. NED Barnes asked how the DRs are dealing with Brothers who are International Brothers but wish to pay District dues and not affiliate with a local chapter. This matter was referred to GC Cooper to develop a legal position and the DRs are requested to submit what they are currently doing and what they would like the Fraternity’s policy to be.
NED Report (continued) - The NED also announced that due to the help and relationships of Bro. Boulware he believes that the Fraternity will receive a $10,000 donation here at the Undergraduate Summit on behalf of Mr. Scott Hicks from Tallahassee, FL. These funds will go towards recognizing our undergraduate leaders and scholars. NED Barnes in response to an inquiry from 1VGB Knox pointed out that collaboration with National Education Association (NEA) is ongoing in order to maximize the support and funding we receive from them as a result of our partnership.

Chapter Charters
- A request was submitted by 12 DR Alexander to move the Rho Iota Iota Chapter charter (inactive Fairbanks, AK) to Long Beach, CA. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the request.
- Two requests were submitted by 2DR Hicks to grant a charter for Stroudsburg, PA and Montclair State University (Montclair, NJ). A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve both requests.

Old Business - New History Book – GB Ray reported that the book was in its final stages and would be made available for Supreme Council review prior to the 2013 Leadership Conference.

New Business
- 3DR Warren reported on the 3rd District’s efforts concerning the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) and the Carter G. Woodson Home and that a member had asked about conducting another “Salute to the Military”. A motion was made, seconded and passed to have the Fraternity lend international support to the 3rd District’s efforts to raise funds for the purpose of restoring the home of Bro. Carter G. Woodson and making it a historical landmark; much as was done by Alpha Phi Alpha for the MLK Memorial. The “Salute to the Military” was referred to the 2nd District in connection with planning for the 2014 Grand Conclave.
- 4DR Williams reported that Bro. Nellums of the 4th District had a substantial amount of historical information he was willing to give to the Fraternity. The ensuing discussion highlighted that there were a number of such Brothers and that the Fraternity needed to increase its efforts to capture and preserve its history as well as look at ways to get Fraternity History into the new Afro-American History Museum. This matter was referred to the History Committee (not the history book committee).

Announcements and Good of the Order
- DRs Williams and Scott rendered remarks alerting the members that this would most likely be their last meeting as DRs on the Supreme Council and that it had been a distinct pleasure and honor to serve.
- GB Ray let the Brothers know that we had through IHQ provided financial support to those Brothers who were the victims of recent storms. In response, 2DR Hicks and 9DR Parquet thanked GB Ray for the Fraternity’s assistance; as well as the DRs and their Districts who had provided support also.
- 6DR Sweeney announced the dates and location of the upcoming 6th District Meeting (April 25-28, Raleigh, NC).

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned by GB Ray at 7:35 pm with prayer rendered by GCH Curry.

Prepared and fraternally submitted by,

Curtis A. Baylor
Curtis A. Baylor
Grand Keeper of Records and Seal