

GIRL SCOUTS OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY COUNCIL, INC.
2024 ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

April 17th, 2024

Del-One Conference Center
Delaware Technical Community College

5:30 P.M. (approximately)

Temeka Easter Rice, Board Chair, welcomed attendees. Girl Scouts Kaitlyn Williams, Abigail Malinky, Kaitlyn Malinky, Markella Coates, and Madison Snow led a flag ceremony. Lauralee Rappleye, Chair of the Annual Meeting Committee, gave opening remarks and explained instructions for building centerpieces reflecting the theme of the evening. Tiffanie Chandler led Grace.

Break for Dinner

6:30 P.M. – 8:20 P.M. (approximately)

Claudia Pena Porretti, CEO, began the meeting by sharing news about easement at Camp Country Center, which will allow GSCB to make much needed repairs and renovations. It will also allow the camp to remain a “green space” and camp property in perpetuity. More news hopefully to be shared in May Communications with Claudia email.

In the interest of transparency, Claudia also shared news about Camp Grove Point and meeting with Eastern Shore Land Conservancy. Claudia assures membership this is the best outcome we could hope for because it will allow the property to remain a “green space” but will hopefully allow for limited usage for Girl Scout members. Claudia read from an email from the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy, which detailed that the purpose of proposed acquisition is to protect and enhance wildlife habitat and eventually provide public land access for recreation and water access. We are currently in the due diligence stage, which can take up to 8 months or more. Claudia has stated she will keep membership informed of any progress.

Claudia shared that the above property decisions will put us in the best financial position to serve our girls.

Claudia asked attendees to keep the camp property information as confidential as possible, and shares her sincere gratitude for volunteers.

Board Chair Temeka Easter Rice welcomed in-person and virtual attendees to the 62nd Annual Meeting of the Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay Council, and notified attendees that the meeting will be recorded and transcribed. Temeka recognized Archives Committee, Annual Meeting Committee, Board Development Committee, Recognitions Committee, Finance Committee, Property Committee, and Advancement Committee. Temeka recognized lifetime members, teen board members, and Girl Scouts who performed the flag ceremony. A moment of silence was held for members lost in the past year, as well as those who perished in the Francis Scott Key bridge collapse. Temeka stated quorum has been met with 41.4% of voting members present and called the meeting to order at 6:52 P.M. (approximately).

I. Agenda approval:

Temeka asked for a motion to accept the 2024 Annual Meeting Agenda. The motion was moved and seconded. Motion carried.

II. Introduction of the Board of Directors

Temeka recognized the following board members in attendance:

Stacy Conn

Sarah Long

Eleanor Benjamin Torres

Janet Chavous
Vanessa Fisher
Greg Fogarty
Keisha Morris
Tavanya Lockett
Autumn Tuxward
Ellen Whitman
Danielle Vozzo
Amber Young

III. Approval of 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes

Temeka asked for a motion to accept the 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes. The motion was moved and seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Treasurers Report

Interim Board Treasurer Janet Chavous presented the Treasurer's report capturing financial highlights of the year, including sources of revenue. Key points in the report included a report that Product Programs are the largest generator of revenue, Programming makes up the largest expense, and a total deficit of approximately \$656,000. Also reported was non-sustainable source of income such as employee retention grant resulting from the pandemic.

V. State of the Council Report

Claudia Pena Porretti presented the State of the Council report which included a second consecutive year of favorable year over year membership retention rate, successful girl programs, 155 highest awards earned, and favorable year over year rates for many of our Product Program benchmarks. Claudia gave additional thanks to all volunteers and their continued commitment and recognized GSCB staff members.

Claudia addresses the loss of Camp Grove Point, shares personal experience of loss.

VI. National Council Session Debrief

National Delegates Heather Burket and Ellie Davis report out on their experience at the Girl Scout National Convention held in Orlando, FL in July 2023. Highlights shared by Heather included election of new National Board, new National President, discussion and debate of proposals. Proposals included timing of delegate allotment (approved), amendment for allowing virtual attendance of national council sessions and regular sessions of the national council (divided approval), creation of donor-restricted fund in support of Gold Award scholarships (approved), representation of councils on the national board (defeated), creation of a formula for delegates (defeated), amendment to change DEIRJ Language in the constitution (approved), amendment of the language of the Girl Scout Promise and Law (defeated).

Ellie Davis gave her impressions of the experience – she left feeling determined. She also renewed as a Lifetime Member. Ellie encouraged all members to attend the next National Council Session and Convention in Washington D.C. in 2026.

Heather shared her impressions of the experience – she left feeling invigorated. She asked members to save the date for the 2026 Convention.

VII. Rules of Debate and Voting

Temeka asked for a motion to accept the rules of debate. The motion was moved and seconded. Motion carried.

VIII. Presentation of Slate and Voting

Board Development Committee Chair Vanessa Phillips asked members of the Board Development Committee in attendance to stand and be recognized:

Keisha Morris
Devon Manning
Nathalie Princilus
Bonnie Meszaros
Stacy Haddock Hassel

Vanessa presented the slate of officers for Class of 2027:

Board of Directors – Officers Class of 2026

Janet Chavous – Treasurer, 1st Term

Board of Directors – Members-at-Large Class of 2027

Greg Fogarty – Member-At-Large, 2nd Term

Autumn Tuxward – Member-At-Large, 1st Term

Patricia Nash Christel – Member-At-Large, 1st Term

Anuradha “Anu” Sivaraman – Member-At-Large, 1st Term

Kristina Schroeder, Member-At-Large, 1st Term

Sharmina Ellis, Member-At-Large, 1st Term

Temeka thanked Vanessa for presenting the slate and asked for a motion to accept the Slate of Nominees as presented. The motion was moved and seconded.

The motion was carried by majority vote.

Katya announced the appointment of Olivia Bruno and Juliana Morrisette as Teen Girl Representatives to the Board.

IX. Board of Directors Vacancies Notification

Following the approval of the slate of nominees, Temeka notified voting members that per Bylaws, Article VIII, Section 3 Vacancies, the Board of Directors approved the appointments of the following to complete unexpired at-large terms, effective upon the conclusion of the meeting:

Kimberlee Ziolkowski

X. Installation Ceremony

Temeka invited the newly appointed members and returning members of the Board of Directors to the stage for an installation ceremony.

XI. 2024 Adult Recognitions

At-Large members Tavanya Lockett and Greg Fogarty presented the following Adult Recognitions:

Appreciation Pin:

Ashley Arnold

Natalie Surles

GSCB Pin:

Lyn Gill

Thanks Badge:

Lesley Czocho

Cheri Stewart

Seagull Pin:

Tracie Bruno

Years of Service Awards:

Tavanya Lockett and Greg Fogarty presented the years of service awards to the following volunteers:

15

Donna Burroughs
Jacqueline Cannon
Lisa Ramos-Roth
Timah Ricketts
Kerry Stewart
Laurel Sweet
Meredith Weiss

20

Brenda Bilous
Rachel Delgado
Stacey Sizemore
Corrine Smith

25

Michelle Passwaters
Lauralee Rappleye

Temeka shared the importance of Volunteer Recognitions and shared information on how to nominate volunteers for future awards.

XII. Temeka recognized and thanked the following committees:

Recognition:

Elizabeth Esrey
Janet Maher
Lesley Czocho

Annual Meeting:

Riva Brown
Tiffanie Chandler
Gail Graham
Sheila Koiv
Denise Schrimsher
Tara Petka
Mary Tait
Pam Yarborough
Lauralee Rappleye
Christy Abrams
Dizza Whaley
Lauren Wells

XIII. Temeka recognized and thanked the following Board of Directors (BODs) members who completed their terms:

BODs

Keisha Morris
Ellie Torres
Ellen Whitman

Temeka recognized and thanked Teen Girl Representatives Ellie Davis and Allie Wheatley for their board service.

XIV. Meeting Adjournment

Temeka gave closing remarks and announced an online feedback form will be sent to all attendees at the close of the meeting.

Temeka asked for any additional announcements before adjournment. She shared that anyone with something under their chair gets to take the centerpiece home.

Temeka asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was moved and seconded. The motion carried.

Business meeting adjourned at 7:54 PM.

XV. Closing Ceremony

The Annual Meeting Committee led attendees in a song to close the meeting, followed by a flag ceremony.

Meeting ended at approximately 7:58 PM.