

Virginia Baptist State Convention  
Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
**Date:** August 17, 2021

**Call to order** at 10:04 am by President Brandon at First African Baptist Church, Richmond Virginia

Greeted by Host Pastor Rodney Waller  
Devotional from John 2:9-10 - moderator Bethany, Dr George Lyons  
Prayer - Deaconess Valerie Edwards

**The officers for 2021 - 2022 Convention year are as follows:**

Dr. D. Tyrone Brandon, President  
Dr. Waddell Jones, Vice President at Large  
Dr. Kevin White, 1st Vice President  
Rev. Matthew Brown, 2nd Vice President  
Dr. Leroy M. Mitchell III, 3rd Vice President  
Sis. Yvette Robinson, President, Women's Missionary and Educational Auxiliary (WMEA)  
Dr. Tonya L. Spruill, Executive Assistant to the President  
Rev. Nicole Guns, Recording Secretary  
Dr. Shelton Murphy, Assistant Recording Secretary  
Dr. Kevin Donaldson, 2nd Assistant Recording Secretary  
Min. Michelle Armstrong, Treasurer  
Sis. Golden Logan, Assistant Treasurer  
Sis. Marilyn Hill, Assistant Treasurer

Motion for acceptance of appointments

Dr. Shelton Murphy made the correction as he is the 2nd assistant recording secretary and Dr. Kevin Donaldson as first assistant

Yvette Robinson - made a motion to accept the appointments presented by President to include the necessary corrections of Dr. Murphy as 2nd assistant and Dr. Donaldson as first assistant.

Shelton Murphy - seconded

Unanimously agreed upon

**VP Reports**

Waddell Jones - support of president from the VP's

Dr James Coleman, greeted on behalf of VUL, excited to support convention and leadership of President Brandon. Eager to assist convention; excited to partner with STVU  
Graduation this Saturday; enrollment remains open

Auditor will be closing books for transition

## **Reports**

### **Children's Home** - Rodney Waller

Brandon working with new director, Erin Gilliam Robinson, voted as dean from interim dean. Interim dean has done wonderful job restoring children's home

Brandon is trustee

- VBSC only had two active trustees of children's home, BGC had ten trustees; did not allow us to have a voice in operations and administration of children's home

- Dean Robinson requested active support although members have been leary of support
- Pres Brandon stated VBSC would give support
- Over 200 acres that we desire to keep and not lose
- Children's Home is ahead on payments for first time in years

Pres Brandon has requested VBSC trustees: Dr Waddell Jones, Dr. Rodney Waller, Sis Yvette Robinson, Raymond Covington, Ken Daulton (Your Church Partners), Mrs. Connie Steele, Donald Barrells (Tabernacle), Cheatham (Laymen's President), Fitz (VP of Women's Auxiliary) Two honorary seats for Dr. Paul Johnson (Roanoke), Dr. Paul (?)

Major plans - upgrades, beautifying

**Children, Youth, Young Adults** - Jonathan Waldon (on behalf of Freeman and Walker) - training through associations for all churches to expand ministries; additional youth night (twice year); Young Adults - training on how to retain YA's

Director of VCU, Massey Cancer Center - Dr. Robert Wynn - COVID is not over  
70% of deaths/hospitalizations AA, least vaccinated in VA  
Yesterday in Florida (Jacksonville Memorial Hospital) - 20 patients died yesterday, no ICU beds in Arkansas - rationalizing ventilators, Mississippi lost 5 kids under 16 in 1 week

Vaccine will keep you from dying, keep you from hospitalization

Pfizer

Moderna

J&J .00001% of vaccinated end up in hospital

Giving vaccine to others:

Moderna and Pfizer (B)

J&J (C)

If congregations know that everyone is fully vaccinated, then we are safe. Otherwise, keep your mask on.

Keep your services short.

**STVU** - Dean John Guns - thanked President for leadership - importance to the school, and to the churches, been listening to leadership of BGC and VBSC about concerns with alumni; vision for VUU - has been and will continue to be about black church and community; responsibility of seminary to train women and men to effectively serve our churches; Ellison Jones (November 8 - 11)

1. Social justice dept in school of theology
2. Cohort in DMin with focus on social justice
3. Theological voice of justice in the country;
4. Statement about Critical Race Theory
5. Aggressive about voicing our concerns
6. Mental health of preachers and families coming out of pandemic
7. Intentional about grants for VBSC and BGC
8. Raise money, eradicate debt of students

Requesting members to re-engage; come to Ellison Jones

**Christian Education** - Dr. Luther Allen

Oct 22 session - Dr Dwight Steele

Jan - Eastern Shore

March - 757 Regional (Mt Gilead)

Oct 2022 - Reaves

Great partnership with BTU

Propose - SS BTU July 2022, partners with VBSC

**Deacons and Deaconesses** - Deaconess Valeria Edwards -

Since May, meeting monthly

Weekly prayer line call - every Thursday

**Clergy Division** - Dr Chandler - looking to engage clergy around the state

**Evangelism** - H Patrick Cason

1 Create liaison for each auxiliary

2 Provide local churches for training (cyber, outreach, marketing, branding, marketplace)

**Foreign Mission** - Howard Heard

Looking for someone to volunteer as leader

Haiti earthquake - gang violence, difficulty shipping materials

Look for opportunities to send resources to Haiti

Collection site at New Beech

CashApp or Givelify (TPBA) \$Intouch359

Assessment of needs

Possibility of a Sunday to raise money

**Historian** - Dr Silvia Tucker

- reminded us of what we did yesterday

**Home Mission** - Dr Willard Maxwell

partner with World Vision

Churches ability to assist with COVID 19

**Laymen** - Bro Davy Cheatham

meeting on June 17  
update training for NBC Laymen

**New Bodies** - 4 new churches

- Ebenezer, Exmore (Milton Bunning);
- First African, Richmond (Waller),
- First Baptist West Munden, Chesapeake
- Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Herndon, VA (Kevin Donaldson)

Dr. Brandon made an appeal to churches to become a Macedonian Church. He stated that we need the monthly support

**Prison Ministry** - Minister Sam Moore

Families of the incarcerated need pastors and people to minister to them  
Grace Inside (prison chaplains, 41 chaplains in VA)

**Social Justice** - Dr. Coleman

March on August 28

**SS & BTU** - Rev. Jocelyn Blount

- virtual session, 4 classes, 2 evening certified classes, lectures
- 58 registered delegates
- tentative dates July 18 - 22
- partnership with state school, working with associations
- appeal for certified teachers and CLS

**WMEA** - Yvette Robison

- conference call with VP's
- attended board meeting for Children's Board
- \$1000 donation
- partnership with VSU to give information about nutrition
- ambassadors across state: Health, Education, Nutrition, Young Missionaries,

**Young Pastors and Ministers** - Dr Tyrone Jackson

- retreats
- allow opportunities for young ministers to preach

**President Brandon**

- Dr Marcus Jones, called to Fountain BC, Baltimore, MD
- social media for every region
- importance of team concept
- enjoy fellowship together
- Dr Chandler - 32-mile hike camping in upper mountains
- new energy - do something different
- account set up by zoom through NBC, initially grant, at end of grant, slammed with bill for \$2379.15; ten zoom accounts that belong to VBSC; have auxiliaries assist with cost, BTU - 3 accounts; Evangelism; Clergy, WMEA, Ushers (2-year contract); set up through SSPB - grants given
- President of Ushers; virtual session Nov 5 - 6

- Process of election and nomination - vetting for election; Dr White and Dr Murphy to assemble committee for better process to vet officers and present nominees  
- VUL - certification through TRACS; VBSC can no longer have controlling arm of VUL; no longer more than two trustees - Pres of Conv and Pres of WMEA to be trustees from now on; total number of trustees is 9; trustees must raise \$10,000/year

- NBC, Inc - exec board meeting 2 weeks ago with Dr. Jerry Young; no convention in September under recommendation of convention attorney
- Sept 27 - 29 virtual session; each convention to give \$5000, district association \$1000, churches \$400
- New legal challenges regarding school in Nashville regarding trustees and who can appoint them, American Baptist College; \$800,000 in legal matters
- Credit Union
- Dr Young "must be careful in having gatherings in name of NBC

Mid-Year session - Nov 9 & 10

Moved - Dr Shelton Murphy - Midyear session is virtual

Yvette Robinson - seconded

No contract in place for Hotel Roanoke; have activities at Pilgrim, First Baptist Gainesville (Model NBC)

Nonprofit tax exempt - Dr Murphy - to be tabled for next meeting\

Donald Barrells - developing corporate entity to organization to generate funds

Dr Mitchell - \$500 gift from congregation

### **Website**

Pivoting through the Pandemic for Greater Kingdom Work

Blessing of food and benediction at 12:54pm