

UPDATE: The Re-Imagining of BCN: Local Boards of Trustees

August 26, 2024

*"Take a stand for what's right. Raise a ruckus and make a change. You may not always be popular, but you'll be part of something larger and bigger and greater than yourself. **Besides, making history is extremely cool.**" [Samuel L. Jackson](#)*

During Synod Sunday, June 23, 2024, we made history! The newly elected and appointed regional Boards of Trustees were installed and charged with the responsibility of providing leadership on temporal matters. The Board of Trustees is the highest governing body of the regions.

Here's our August Update:

ATLANTA: Atlanta held its inaugural board meeting and Board Orientation on **Sunday, August 4, 2024**. **All** board members, Board of Trustee Intern and Board Advisors were present. It was a very engaging and inspiring meeting.

During the meeting the Board elected officers:

Board of Trustee Officers

- Chair: Mw. Olatunji
- Vice Chair: Rev. Ayana
- Secretary: Rev. Datakari Ishara

The board also met on **Sunday, August 10, 2024**, during which three sub committees—Facilities Management (Building Restoration), Economic Development and Policy Review were established. On Saturday, August 24, 2024, the board/sub-committees held a working session to tackle the issues at hand facing the region!

DETROIT: The Central Region Local Board of Trustees held its Inaugural Board of Trustees Meeting/Orientation on **Thursday, July 17, 2024**. All members were present. The initial meeting went well; board members were engaged and sought and received answers to their questions. The board met again on **Thursday, August 22, 2024**. There was a robust discussion on finance policies and procedures, fundraising, and increasing membership.

Board of Trustees Officers:

- Chair: Bro. Lutalo
- Vice Chair: Elder Kojo
- Secretary: Fd. Andou

HOUSTON: Shrine 10 conducted its Board of Trustees Orientation Meeting via Zoom on **Saturday, July 27, 2024**. All went well. The election of Board of Trustees officers, and the transition of existing business/projects to the new Board of Trustees were completed during the **August 18, 2024, meeting**.

Board of Trustees Officers:

- Chair: Rev. Aminata
- Vice Chair: Sis. Nefertiti
- Secretary: Rev. Abaynesta

BOARD TRAINING: In July, representatives from all three regions attended/participated in the first **Think Again** Board of Trustees Training session facilitated by the Board of Pastors.

BOARD SUPPORT: The work of the Board of Trustees Focus Group for the next 6 month is to provide support and guidance to the local board of trustees.

At the request of the local board of trustees, Regional Focus Group members will attend board meetings, serving in an advisory capacity.

Regional Focus Group Advisory members:

- **Detroit:** Rev. Nilaja and Sis. Dara
- **Atlanta:** Rev. Maia and Rev. Ada
- **Houston:** Cpt. Xolani

Lastly, all regional congregations **embraced** and **supported** the Re-imagining of BCN Local Boards of Trustees. As reported last month, 73% of all eligible voters participated in the election process!

Contact Information: So, how can members communicate with their local board and the National Board of Governors?

- **Atlanta Board of Trustees: (Mw. Olatunji, Chair):** TBD
- **Detroit Board of Trustee: (Bro. Lutalo, Chair):** board@paocc.org
- **Houston Board of Trustees: (Rev. Aminata, Chair)** trusteeboard10@gmail.com
- **National Board of Governors (Rev. Ifetayo, Chair):** paocc.bog@gmail.com

Asante Sana!

Rev. Ifetayo Ifoma, Chair Board of Governors