THE AFRICAN HERITAGE CULTURAL CLUB
General Meeting
May 5, 2026

Meeting was called to order at 10:40 am by Ellie Graham, President.

WORDS OF INSPIRATION - Jose Andrades

PRESIDENT'S REFLECTIONS - Ellie Graham, President acknowledged birthdays for May. She thanked the membership committee for a successful orientation held on April 24, 2026. She welcomed Marcia and Chris Storey back after an extended absence.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Motion was made to approve the April 2026 minutes by Stanley Dillard and seconded by Chris Hatwood.

REPORTS -

- **Correspondence Secretary** - Margaret Graham read a thank you card from the Storeys. She thanked Jose for his words of inspiration and encouraged others to volunteer.

- **Treasurer** - Sheila Samuel presented a correction to last month's financial report. Closing balance for the month of April is $11,504.15.

  Opening balance - $7,237.72
  Total income - $5,561.25
  Total expenses - $1,294.82
  Closing balance - $11,504.15

- **Financial Secretary** - Kathy Griffin reported that approximate earnings from the White Dance is between $4,000-$5,000 which will be used to offset the June Membership Appreciation Day. An accurate report will be given at the June meeting.

- **Membership** - Sheila Haire thanked Pat Jamieson and Lucy Pagan for representing her at the orientation. To date there are 268 members which includes 21 new members.

- **Program -** Yvonne Loney announced that tickets are available today, for the Members Appreciation Picnic, to be held on June 2 immediately after the general meeting. A Smooth Jazz event is planned for August 7 and more details will be announced at the next meeting.

- **Outreach -** Denise Johnson thanked Men of AHCC and the Sistahs who Bake. The towel drive for the shelter in Winter Haven will end on May 20. Flyers with drop off locations are available. Cash donations are also welcome. The Renaissance Fair on April 10 was a success thanks to her committee. Boys and Girls Club is tabled until Fall.

- **Parliamentarian** - Joan Hogarth thanked the 17 plus members who have volunteered for the Nominating Committee which will be chaired by Keith Eaton and the Election

Committee to be chaired by Kathy Griffin. The positions to be filled include President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Secretary and Membership Coordinator. There are also positions appointed by the President with assistance from the elected board members. Job descriptions are in the bylaws which are on the website.

- **Historian** - Bobby Vance showed videos on how people of African heritage fought for voting rights. On April, 29, the Supreme Court ruled to weaken a section of the Voting Rights act threatening those rights and weakening Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act. He extended an invitation to the membership to attend the Democratic Club meeting on June 10 where he will be speaking on Voters' Rights.

- **Club Announcements -**

  Page Turners - Rosann Carter
  May's book is ***Not a Happy Family*** by Shari Lapena. The book club will meet on May 28 at 2:00 pm in the Rivera.
  SAHCC - Tony Loney acknowledged the SAHCC board and reminded the membership of the 20th Anniversary celebration on May 21, 2026. Contributions to SAHCC as well as new mentors are welcome.

- **Guest Speaker** - Stanley Dillard spoke about the importance of AED's and mentioned that there is the option to purchase one for home use. Learning CPR is also important.

MEETING ADJOURNED - Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Kathy Griffin and seconded by Chris Storey. Meeting adjourned at 12:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Marion Hogarth
Recording Secretary

NEXT MEETING JUNE 2, 2026 - 10:30 AM STARLITE BALLROOM

WEBSITE: ahcc-Solivita.org
Username: ahcc2014
Password: weareahcc
Facebook African Heritage Cultural Club - AHCC