**SOUTHEAST SCIRPT FOR FORUM 2022**

**SATURDAY, April 30, 2022**

**ORLANDO FLORIDA**

**8:30 a.m. Opening of Conference  
Director Ward called the conference to order at 8:39am.**

Director Ward introduced the chapter Presidents for the 2021-2022 year. Presidents rose as their names were called.

* Nashville #16 Ashley Spence **(Here)**
* Tampa #36 Gloria Silva **(Here)**
* Miami #41 Kimberly Paez **(Here)**
* Atlanta #49 Christian Fraley **(Sharon March Rep)**
* Greater Birmingham #53 Gloria Cook **(Abba Harris Rep.)**
* Knoxville #61 Leira Douthat **(Here)**
* Tallahassee #72 Kerwyn Jones-Wilson **(Here)**
* Greater Orlando #73 Kelly Phelan **(Here)**
* Greater Fort Lauderdale #78 Jennifer Galegos-Perez **(Here)**
* Greater Palm Beach #87 Amanda McGinley **(Here)**
* Montgomery #267 Becky Harris **(Here)**
* Southwest Florida #297 Bev Larson **(Kami DelBagno Rep)**
* Space Coast Florida #355 Terri Holmes **(Here)**
* Coastal George #380 Laura Skellie **(Jenna Watkins Rep)**

**Call to Order/Opening Ceremonies**

Director Ward requested all attendees to be respectful of the speakers and others attending today by turning off or silencing cell phones. Should phones ring during the session it will be considered to be a $25 minimum donation to NEF or NFSF.

As stated, names and credentials have been printed in the Forum Program. However, during introductions, those initials will be omitted.

**Opening Ceremonies:**

**Presentation of Colors, Pledge of Allegiance,**

An all-female guard from UCF AFROTC conducted the presentation of colors and National Anthem.

Cindy Spiropoulos led the Pledge of Allegiance

**Inspiration**

Amanda McGinley with Greater Palm Beach #87 gave the inspiration by reading “Starting from Scratch” by Ahmed Dismel.

**Welcome to Orlando**

Director Ward introduced Michele Daugherty, President and CEO of the Central Florida ABC Chapter to welcome all attendees to Orlando.

**Welcome to Forum**

Director Ward introduced Angela Highland, Forum Coordinator from the Greater Orlando #73 to welcome all attendees to the Southeast Region Forum 2022 – “Be the Driving Force”.

Director Ward excused the head table ahead of the keynote speaker.

**9:15a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Keynote Speaker**

Director Ward introduced keynote speaker, Jodie Womack, co-author of “Get Momentum” and co-founder of Get Momentum Leadership Academy.

**10:15 – 10:30 am Morning Break:**

Director Ward dismissed attendees for a short break beginning at 10:15 and asked for return at 10:30. She reminded everyone to visit chapter sales and sponsor tables in the adjoining room.

**10:30 a.m.**

**Introductions/Recognitions:**

Director Ward called the meeting back to order at 10:30am. Director Ward introduced those seated at the head table as follows:

* Becky Harris, CBT, Forum Secretary, Montgomery, AL #267
* Karen Hager, CBT, CIT, ESP, Forum Registration, Greater Orlando Chapter #73 and NAWIC National Vice-President
* Cindy Spiropoulos, CIT, LEED GA, Forum Parliamentarian, Greater Orlando, FL #73
* Angela Highland, CIT, CPC, Forum Coordinator, Greater Orlando, FL #73
* Jessica Huff, NAWIC National Treasurer and Forum Representative, Jackson, MS #28

Director Ward introduced herself as Andrea Ward, CBT, Southeast Region Director, and a member of Nashville, TN #16

Romina Byrd, Northeast Region Director, Gr Washington, DC #67 was also recognized as an out of region guest.

Director Ward then recognized all past Region Directors from the Southeast in attendance.

* Cindy Spiropoulos Southeast Region 2019-2021
* Karen Hager Southeast Region 2017-2019
* Jill Hanson Region 3 2013-2015
* Pat Walker Region 3 2001-2003
* Jackie Wilson Region 3 1984-1985

Director Ward asked all First Time forum attendees to please stand be recognized. It was recorded that there were **28** first timers in attendance this weekend.

Director Ward recognized the Southeast Region Committee Chairs and asked them to stand.

WIC Week - Jeanette Alston-Watkins, Greater Fort Lauderdale #78

PD&E - Lucia Soria, Miami #41

Emerging Professionals - Heather DeGrave, Tampa, FL #36

Block Kids - Lisa Seavey, Greater Palm Beach #87

Membership Chair - Lyric Welty, Birmingham, AL #53

Marketing Chair - Brett Henderson, Atlanta, GA #49

Diversity and Inclusion - Kerwyn Jones Wilson, Tallahassee #72

OSHA Alliance/Safety - Cindy Spiropoulos, Greater Orlando #73

Design/Drafting - Bridgette Earl, Greater Palm Beach, FL #87

NEF Liaison/Fundraising - Kizzy Ferrer, Greater Orlando #73

Standing Rules - Jackie Wilson, Tallahassee, FL #72

Region Fund Trustees Guardian - Jackie Wilson, Tallahassee, FL #72

Region Fund Trustees - Kami DelBagno, Southwest FL #297 and Tonya McLaughlin, Birmingham, AL #53

Director Ward then made the following appointments.

FORUM Parliamentarian – Cindy Spiropoulos, Greater Orlando Chapter #73

FORUM Secretary – Becky Harris, Montgomery, AL #267

FORUM Minutes Audit Committee – Ashley Spence, Nashville, TN, #16 and Abba Harris, Greater Birmingham, AL #53

TIMEKEEPER: Jeanette Alston-Watkins, Greater Fort Lauderdale, FL #78

**Forum Pages:**

Forum Pages were appointed as Emily Long, Orlando Chapter #73 and Margo Meta, Orlando Chapter #73, for assistance with delivering written questions or comments to the head table.

**Forum Sponsors:**

Director Ward recognized and thanked the sponsors for supporting NAWIC and the Southeast Region. She asked sponsors and their attendees/members to stand as their business were called.

**$2,500 Highflyer Level**

* Brookstone Construction, Mills & Nebraska (WBE), VA Paving

**$1,000 Dynamo Level**

* Advanced Systems Solutions, Inc, Apple One Staffing, Cemex, CLA, CNA, Crestwood Associates, Flip the Conversation, Fringe Benefit Plans, Greater Orlando #73, HJ High Construction, PPG, Preferred Materials, Welbro Building Corporation

**$500 Fireball Level**

* Argo USA, Charles Perry Partners, Inc., Costal One, Cross Country Mortgage, DACG Inc, Firmo Construction, Goodwyn Mills Cawood, GRN Bradenton, Merrill Lynch, Precision Balance, Turner Construction Company

**Adoption of Forum Rules:**

Forum Parliamentarian Cindy Spiropoulos requested that everyone review the Forum Rules as set by the National Board. She pointed out forum rules on page 7 of the program and highlighted rule 2 regarding cell phone usage and rule 5 on how attendees should present themselves when asking to speak.

Director Ward asked if there were any questions. There were none.

**Adoption of Forum Agenda:**

Director Ward asked if there were any corrections to the Forum Agenda. There was a correction to the location of the welcome party and a change in workshop name. Karen Hager made motion to accept the corrections as stated and this was seconded by Kami DelBagno.

**Summary of Actions from National Board Meetings**

Director Ward reminded everyone that the Summary of Actions from National Board meetings, Pre-Conference, Post-Conference, September 2021, October 2021, December 2021, mid-year, February 2022 and April 2022 are on the nawicsoutheastregion.org website under the Minutes & Videos National and Region Tab.

**NAWIC President’s Report:**

Director Ward introduced NAWIC National Treasurer, Jessica Huff from the Jackson MS Chapter 28, to give the NAWIC President’s report and a recap of the Mid-Year Board Meeting that was held on Feb 26, in Dallas, TX.She read as follows:

To All Members and Guests,   
If I am not with you in person, I continue to be with you in spirit.  My journey as your President is a little more than half done at the time of this writing, and I wanted to follow up with some quick updates on my year’s focus items.

**Infrastructure**

A focus on a more efficient and more transparent NAWIC operations with goals of increased membership and chapter support   
New Website; Mobile App on the way; Chapter support from National via our Membership coordinator; FB, LinkedIn and Construction Dive advertising; National President’s message direct to all members.

**Membership Development and Growth**

A focus that continues to build an inclusive organization of women supporting women.   
PDE, DEI and EP committee coordination and programs; affiliates summit at Mid-year with NEF, NFSF, and NAWIC.  As well as summit with our Global Partners Committee, both establishing continued collaborations for growth.

**Industry Recognition and Outreach**

NAWIC should no longer be the best kept secret in the industry.    
Project excellence awards announcements; multi member sponsorships package; WIC week and we took ownership was everywhere and new national sponsorships!

**Sustainability**

The outlook for the construction industry as a whole, through new legislation on infrastructure and other programs.  
DEI continues to produce programming for increase in diversity in our industry; Partnerships developing with firms like Tesla; Annual conference in August to have three educational tracks - NAWIC infrastructure and leadership; Equity as our Culture, and Construction Trends and sustainability.

**Equity as our Culture**

We are an organization of women helping women   
NAWIC, it’s who we are!

**Our Envisioned Future**

Often, we must look back in order to see forward.  Our envisioned future is to be treated with equity, just as our NAWIC founders intended some 68 years ago.  
NAWIC is leading the charge on increasing women working in construction   
NAWIC is the source of solutions for breaking down barriers that prevent equity and inclusion  
NAWIC continues to Build Leaders and Lead Builders  
NAWIC is where all women work together to build a better construction industry.

**We Envision Equity**

**Mid-Year Board Meeting**

We **Approved** the Consent Agenda as published  
We **Approved** all officer reports, executive director reports, and all region director reports.  
We **Approved** NEF Liaison report, all committee reports, and all taskforce reports.  
We **Appointed** Doreen Bartoldus, Lauline Mitchell, Karen Hager, Chris Wigginton, Jodi Wiemerslage and Crissy Ingram, with staff Makenzie Plusnick and Amber Kohut to the Business Model Map Taskforce  
We **Appointed** Doreen Bartoldus, Lauline Mitchell, Karen Hager, Chris Wigginton, Connie Leopard, Catherine Schoenenberger and Crissy Ingram to the Business Continuity and Succession Plan Taskforce  
We **Appointed** Chris Wigginton to the Global Partners Committee  
We **Approved** the Member Late Fees Elimination Proposal  
We **Recommended** sending to Bylaws committee for language and review implications to Bylaws/Policies  
We **Approved** new membership flat rate for students  
We **Approved** the Region Use of National Credit Card Proposal

**April Board Meeting**

We **Approved** the Membership Renewal Policy Proposal as published.  
We **Approved** for Circulation the Student Membership Rate Proposal as published.  
We **Approved** the Region Fund Policy Amendment – Region Use of the National Credit Card proposal as published.  
We **Approved** the Region Fund Policy Amendment – Host Chapter Profit Split Proposal as amended.

**NAWIC Director’s Report:**

Director Ward welcomed Southeast Region members and guests to Forum and thanked Greater Orlando chapter #73 for their hard work in planning the event. She stated our chapters are bouncing back as far as membership after the pandemic and are currently at 678 members as of this weekend. Nationally the Association is at over 5,000 members. Chapters are having great in person meetings and social gatherings, as witnessed by WIC week activities that were held in March.

Presidents and Vice-Presidents are having bi-monthly meetings to communicate what is happening nationally, keep up with committees and updates and to answer any questions. This has been helpful with making sure chapters are up to date with their 990s and Standing Rules.

The focus this year has been all about the committees and how we can utilize them in our chapters. A different committee is highlighted each month with either doing zoom calls or a social media campaign to highlight. The following schedule is for the rest of the year:

May – Emerging Professionals – we will be having a panel discussion via zoom

June – Safety/OSHA Alliance – we will be having safety discussion via zoom

July – Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – we will have panel discussion via zoom

August – Convention

Our region is also teaming up with NEF to hold a virtual CIT course this summer. We want it to be offered to our region and we have tentatively identified dates in July.

A social media committee has been added to the region. Gloria Cook with Greater Birmingham #53, Laura Skellie with Coastal Georgia #380 and Adriana Perez with Greater Palm Beach #87 are taking all the local ideas and compiling the national ideas to post at least once a week on Facebook and LinkedIn. Please make sure to follow us on these platforms.

**11:10 a.m. Committee Reports**

**Southeast Region Fund Report**

Karen Hager, Forum Treasurer, gave the report on our Southeast Region Fund. Report is attached.

**Southeast Region WIC Week Report**

Jeanette Alston – Watkins, Southeast WIC Week Chair gave report printed in forum program.

**Southeast Region Marketing Report**

Jeanette Alston – Watkins, filling in for Brett Henderson, Southeast Marketing Chair gave report printed in forum program.

**Southeast Region PD&E Report**

Jennifer Gallegos Perez, gave report for the Southeast Region PD&E Chair Lucia Soria printed in forum program.

**Southeast Region Emerging Professionals Report**

Heather DeGrave, Southeast Region Emerging Professionals Chair, gave report printed in forum program.

**Southeast Region Block Kids Report**

Lisa Seavy, Southeast Region Block Kids Chair gave report printed in forum program.

**Southeast Region Membership Report**

Lyric Welty, Southeast Membership Chair gave report printed in forum program.

**Southeast Region Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Report**

Kerwyn Jones Wilson, Southeast Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair gave report printed in forum program.

**Southeast** **Region OSHA Alliance/Safety Report**

Cindy Spiropoulos, Southeast OSHA Alliance/Safety Chair gave report printed in forum program. She also stated that she and Kathy Dobson will be conducting a 10-hr OSHA class at Annual Conference in August. More details will be sent out later.

**Southeast Region Standing Rules Report**

Jackie Wilson, Southeast Standing Rules Chair gave report that all chapters have submitted their standing rules to Nationals and only two chapter are waiting on review.

**Southeast Region Design Drafting Report**

Bridgett Earl, Design Drafting Chair gave report printed in forum program.

**Southeast Region NEF/NFSF Reports**

Kizzy Ferrer, NEF and NFSF liaison gave report printed in forum program. She stated that for 2022, NFSF received $7,749 from our region chapters and gave out $9,000 in scholarships. Kizzy noted that Southeast Region member Jill Hanson was recently elected to NEF President-Elect and Cindy Spiropoulos was recently elected at NEF Trustee. To date for this NAWIC year, $4,500 has been raised by Southeast Region members.

**NAWIC Officer Candidates**

Director Ward presented the following NAWIC Officer Candidates for the upcoming election in May and gave candidates in attendance the opportunity to address the attendees. Those not in attendance shared a video.

The candidates are as follows:

Our incoming NAWIC President is Lauline Mitchell, San Francisco Chapter #19,

**For the office of NAWIC President-Elect we have:**

-Karen Hager, National Vice-President, Greater Orlando, FL Chapter #73

**For the office of NAWIC Vice President we have two Candidates:**

-Kelly Aust, National Secretary, Portland, OR Chapter #54 (video played for attendees)  
 -Romina Byrd, Northeast Region Director, Gr Washington, DC Chapter #67

**For the office of NAWIC Secretary we have:**

-Raven Hoffman, Midwest Region Director, Greater Sioux Fall, SD Chapter #237 (video played for attendees

**For the office of NAWIC Treasurer we have:**

-Karen Ellis, Pacific Southwest Region Director, Greater Phoenix, AZ Chapter #98 (video played for attendees

Director Ward reminded everyone that the position of Southeast Region Director will be up for vote next year at Forum 2023. If someone is interested in the position, Director Ward offered the opportunity to start shadowing her this coming year.

Online voting for National Candidates will be held May 15 – 31, 2022. Members were encouraged to vote. Those members who are eligible to vote and have their email address listed on the National website will receive an electronic ballot. Make sure the NAWIC Office has your correct email address. If not, please go to the NAWIC website and update your information. Those without email will receive a paper ballot.

Even if the candidates are running unopposed, show your support and vote. As you know, Southeast Region always strives for 100% and it would be great to have that same level of participation in the NAWIC National election.

If you have question, you can email Doreen at [President@nawic.org](mailto:President@nawic.org).

**Lunch 12:00 – 1:00**

Angela Highland gave instructions on lunch.

Director Ward recessed Southeast Region Forum for lunch and stated we would reconvene 1:00.

**1:03 Reconvene**

Director Ward called the 2022 Southeast Region Forum back to order at 1:03pm and introduced the head table again as follows

* Becky Harris, CBT, Forum Secretary, Montgomery, AL #267
* Karen Hager, CBT, CIT, ESP, Forum Registration, Greater Orlando Chapter #73 and NAWIC National Vice-President
* Cindy Spiropoulos, CIT, LEED GA, Forum Parliamentarian, Gr Orlando, FL #73
* Angela Highland, CIT, CPC, Forum Coordinator, Gr Orlando, FL #73
* Jessica Huff, NAWIC National Treasurer and Forum Representative, Jackson, MS #28

Director Ward re-introduced herself as Andrea Ward, CBT, Southeast Region Director, and a member of Nashville, TN #16

**Registration Report:**

Registration report was presented by Karen Hager. Kami DelBagno had one correction to the report as one member was registered as a guest, not a voting member.

A motion was made on the amended registration report. There were no objections.

**Invitation for Fall Conference in Southeast Florida**

Kami DelBagno gave invitation to Fall Conference 2022 in Ft. Meyers, FL with corrected date of September 16th-17th.

**Invitation to Annual Conference 2022 in Minneapolis, MN August 17-20th**

Jessica Huff gave invitation to Annual Conference 2022 Aug. 17-20, 2022, in Minneapolis, MN.

<https://youtu.be/5qZPBjO_XDU>

**Invitation to Spring Forum 2023 in Montgomery, AL May 19-21st**

Becky Harris gave invitation to Spring Forum 2023 in Montgomery, AL and passed out Save the Date Cards for all in attendance.

**Bids for Fall Conference 2023**

Director Ward asked if there were any bids for Fall Conference 2023. Miami chapter put in bid. No other Bids were made.

**Bids for Forum 2024**

Director Ward asked for bids for Forum 2024. No bids were made. Bids will be taken again at Fall Conference 2022.

**Unfinished Business**

Director Ward stated that per the new guideline for the Southeast Region fund, located on page 40-48 of the forum program book, at each Forum members must vote on the next 3-year term trustee. Currently the trustees are as follows

### Tonya McLaughlin with Greater Birmingham # 53 is serving her 2nd year as trustee as of 10/1/2022. Jackie Wilson with Tallahassee, FL #72 as Past Director will now be serving her 2nd as of 10/1/2022.

### Kami DelBagno will complete her term as trustee as of 10/1/2022.

### The fund needs a volunteer to fill in the 3-year term as a trustee (replacing Kami DelBagno). Director Ward asked for volunteers. Ashley Spence with Nashville Chapter #16 volunteered.

Director Ward instructed Madam Secretary to cast the ballot as Ashley Spence with Nashville Chapter #16 as trustee. Note: The trustees will vote who will be the guardian

**New Business:**

Director Ward asked for any new business. There was none.

**Announcements:**

Director Ward made the following announcements

* DE&I Awards for Chapter and Corporate awards are due by May 31, 2022.
* The Early Bird registration for Annual Conference has already started and ends on May 14.
* Future Leader of the Year, Member of the Year, and Lifetime Achievements awards deadlines for National Awards are May 15th. Criteria and forms are on the NAWIC website as well as on the Regional Web site.

The 2022 Forum committee was asked to stand and be recognized for their hard work in planning forum.

Director Ward asked if there were any additional announcements. There were none.

**Dinner Instructions:**

Angela Highland gave dinner/banquet instructions for cocktails to begin at 6:30pm with cash bar and dinner to follow at 7pm.

**Recess:**

Director Ward called the Southeast Region Forum 2022 to recess.