

# ONYX SOUTHEAST

## General Body Meeting

May 6, 2023

Via Zoom

Meeting ID: 828 3252 2839

Passcode: 387093

### Minutes

#### I. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order by Vice President Uncle Jamal at 4:05pm.

#### II. Roll Call (21 Members)

Uncle Jamal (Vice President)	Sol-Jah ONYX	Jade ONYX
Alduin ONYX (Treasurer)	Eziah ONYX	Bobcat ONYX
Shenzi ONYX	Merlin ONYX	Deejay
Sphinx ONYX	Nightshade ONYX	Tithoes ONYX
Wolverine ONYX	Jupiter ONYX	Red Fox ONYX
Badger ONYX	Sir Guy	Jaguar ONYX
Banzai ONYX	Quiet Storm ONYX	Eziah ONYX

#### III. Approval of Minutes

- ❖ Motion: Approval of minutes from the April 8, 2023 meeting.
  - ✓ Resolved: Minutes from General Body Meeting on April 8, 2023 was approved without modifications.

#### IV. Executive Reports

##### A. Treasurer Report

- Starting balance prior to May's bar night: \$3326.10
- Total amount made during May's bar night: \$970 (\$562 in cash, \$355 from CashApp, \$53 from Venmo)
- Current balance: \$4296.10

##### B. Historian Report

- Nothing to Report

##### C. Secretary Report

- Nothing to Report

##### D. Pledge Master Report (Delivered by Wolverine ONYX)

- The applicants were contacted and told to come to last night's bar night.
- The interview process will begin the first week in June.
  - If you sponsored an applicant, please be present during the interview process.
  - We will vote on the new pledges on the day of the interview.
- Uncle Jamal announced that Wolverine ONYX is the new Pledge Master Assistant.

##### E. Vice President Report

- Uncle Jamal thanked everyone who has paid their dues.
- There was one member (J. Tebias Perry) who has resigned from the organization.
- The Bylaws committee met in April.

- Because of the cost of doing business (website, 501c3, events, etc.), the reinstated chapter assessment, and inflation, the Bylaws Committee is suggesting dues increase starting in 2024.
- The committee suggested full brother dues increase to \$100.
- The committee suggested associate dues increase to \$70.
- The committee suggested alumni dues increase to \$50.
- The committee suggested the founders not pay dues at all since they are founding members.
- The committee suggested implementing a non-refundable \$40 dollar application fee starting in 2024.
  - There's an application fee currently in the bylaws that has not been collected in several years.
- The Bylaws committee will meet soon to discuss any wording issues within the document.
- Uncle Jamal suggested everyone read the bylaws and tabled this discussion for the next general body meeting.
- Uncle Jamal will get back to the body regarding an annual budget for The Chapter.

#### F. President's Report (Delivered by Uncle Jamal)

- Nominations for 2024-2026 term are being accepted.
  - Please review the Bylaws for each officer; if you plan to nominate someone, make sure they are eligible for the position.
  - Uncle Jamal will contact the nominated members for an acceptance or denial of the nomination.
- If you need to pay your membership dues, please contact Alduin.
  - A late fee will apply.
- The 501c3 process is just about complete.
  - Peter Glazer, LLP is working on the corrections.
- The remaining themes for the 2023 bar nights are as follows:
  - June: "Melted" (Theme is Wax Play)
  - July: "Kinky Carnival" (Carnival-like theme with various kinky demos)
  - August: "Tied Up" (theme is rope play)
  - September (ATL Black pride/Labor Day weekend): "Kinky Masquerade" (Masquerade/Carnival theme with kinky demos)
  - October: "Electric Sensations" (Theme is electro play)
  - November: "Military Mayhem" (Military theme honoring veterans)
  - December: "12 Kinks of Christmas" (Christmas theme)
  - An email has been sent to the Education and Activities committees to plan accordingly.
- A photoshoot will happen on Saturday, May 20, 2023 at 2pm in Atlanta.
  - The photographer is Ramses.
  - The cost is \$300 for a 5-hour shoot.
  - At the photoshoot, we will be shooting photos for the upcoming themes along with basic leather shots (i.e., Pup Play, D/s type of shots, etc.) for future ads.
  - If you wish to participate, please contact Daddy Rod to coordinate details.
  - *A 20-minute discussion followed prompted by Alduin's asking for clarification on the purpose of the photoshoot. It was suggested that photos from*

*previous photoshoots be forwarded to Shenzi for possible use. If necessary, a photoshoot will be scheduled at a later date.*

- ❖ Motion: Shall ONYX-SE allocate \$300 to the Activities Committee for a photoshoot.
  - ✓ Resolved: \$300 will be allocated to the Activities Committee for a future a photoshoot. The motion passed with 10 in favor, 0 against and 2 abstentions.
    - A proposed budget of \$160 is needed each month for bar night.
      - This includes buying the liquor/Jell-O for the Jell-O shots, the poster board for the Education Committee and whatever incidentals are needed by the Activities Committee for each bar night.
      - The budget will increase for special event bar nights like Kinky Carnival and Black Pride Weekend as we will need more Jell-O shots and other items.
      - Also, a few new items have been purchased for our bar nights. They include: a 5-gallon jug so we can have our specialty drinks to sell at the portable bar and black chalkboard to highlight the drink we are selling.
    - *After Alduin requested backup supporting the proposed amount, Shenzi suggested tabling the discussion until after the Activities Committee meets. Uncle Jamal agreed with the idea and the Activities Committee and Daddy Rod will discuss the proposed budget at a later date.*
  - The event planner for Kink Down South (June 1-3, 2023) has contacted ONYX-SE regarding participating in the event (volunteering, staffing a vendor table or conducting a class/demo).
    - If you'd like to volunteer, contact Daddy Rod and he'll connect you to the event planner.
    - Uncle Jamal encouraged ONYX-SE to participate in this event.
  - The ONYX-SE cocktail party during SELF will be on Friday, June 9, 2023 at 10pm.
    - In order to attend the ONYX cocktail party, **you will need to purchase a pass to enter the ONYX cocktail party.** (Please go to the SELF website to get your daily or weekend pass.)
    - *In the President's Report, a proposed budget of \$180, which would cover the ingredients for the ONYX Punch along with bottled water and snacks, was listed. Although Uncle Jamal brought the budget up for discussion, this item was not voted on.*
      - *Alduin asked if SELF ever sponsored 2 or 3 passes for ONYX-SE members since ONYX-SE is hosting the cocktail party (or has ONYX-SE ever asked). This (valid) question prompted a 15-minute conversation touching on the importance of SELF, ONYX'S longstanding involvement with the convention, and SELF's budget woes.*
  - Daddy Rod has been working with ONYX Mid-Atlantic Road Captain (Loubeauton) for an ONYX meetup/invasion weekend in Charlotte, NC, June 30-July 2, 2023.
    - Weekend events include a bar crawl each night, Carowinds Amusement Park on Saturday, July 1, and brunch on Sunday, July 2.

- For all ONYX-SE brothers who are in the North and South Carolina, please attend as we will earmark time during the weekend to discuss a chapter in formation for the Carolinas.
- If you wish to go and are looking for accommodations, check out the Holiday Inn Express (its located down the street from The Woodshed)
- Uncle Jamal would like Daddy Rod to discuss this event further in the June 2023 general body meeting.
- *Later in the meeting, Uncle Jamal answered a question posed by Sphinx in the meeting's chat: Should some of the items in the President's Report be agenda items? Uncle Jamal agreed with the question. He explained that Daddy Rod was with his family and when he had the chance, Uncle Jamal would bring this issue to Daddy Rod's attention.*

## V. Committee Reports

### A. Outreach Committee Report (Chaired by Twilight; Report delivered by Red Fox)

- The Outreach Committee met and discussed doing outreach in Atlanta as well as the Carolinas.
  - These suggestions will be brought to the body soon (these suggestions include feeding the homeless, STD testing, school supply drives, among other activities.)

## VI. New Business

### A. ONYX National Council Update--Councilor Report (Delivered by Merlin)

- The Council met on April 20, 2023 and discussed any revisions that were suggested from the chapters
  - The document is nearly complete.
  - Once finalized, the ONC will distribute a press release to let the chapters know the next steps.
- Blackout 29 and 30
  - Two chapters have expressed interest in hosting either 29 or 30.
    - The council is discussing if it's worth doing Blackout 29 since once a decision is made on the location, the corresponding chapter would only have about a year to plan.
    - A decision about Blackout 29 and 30 should be made in July, at the next ONC meeting.
- The ONC is working in the standardization of the bylaws at the national level.
- The ONC is also getting information about the formalizing of membership language.
- The ONC is also working on a strategic vision.
- As the year progresses, Merlin will notify ONYX-SE of the progress in the general body meeting or through report via HP.

## VII. Old Business

### A. Late Fees for Membership Dues

- You are still able to pay your dues, but a late fee will be assessed.
  - \$20 for full members; \$10 for associate members

### B. Demo Assessment Form (Delivered by Sol-Jah and Jupiter)

- The link for the demo assessment form was sent out on April 18, 2023.

- The form will be used to gauge everyone's skill level for bar night demos.
- The form will also be used to build classes and offer instruction.
- When you complete the form, someone from the Education Committee will have a conversation with you, and if there's a need for equipment, tools, a demo partner, etc., they will be able to assist.
- The form will be used to create a repository.
- In order to gauge one's proficiency or skill level, that person will need to perform their demo in front of the Education Committee and experts in that particular skill.
- This form will also be used to help measure, and improve, if necessary, a demo leader's presentation style.

#### VIII. Announcements

- International Mr. Leather ([www.imrl.com](http://www.imrl.com))  
Chicago, IL (May 25-29, 2023)
- Southeast Leather Fest ([www.seleatherfest.org](http://www.seleatherfest.org))  
Atlanta, GA (June 8-11, 2023)
- New Orleans Pride (June 9-11, 2023)  
\*\*The siblings in the Gulf Coast region will be walking in the Pride parade with the Phoenix, who will have a block party that weekend. Quietstorm will post more information about the weekend's activities in the Facebook group.\*\*
- Folsom East (<https://www.folsomstreeteast.com>)  
New York, NY (June 18, 2023)
- Dore Alley / Up Your Alley ([www.folsomstreet.org](http://www.folsomstreet.org))  
San Francisco, CA (July 29-30, 2023)
- Master/slave Conference (<https://masterslaveconference.org/>)  
Washington, DC (August 31-September 4, 2023)  
\*\*Sir Guy is on the education committee for this event. Though classes are filling up, if you're an educator and would like to present, please contact Sir Guy ([sirguybdsm@gmail.com](mailto:sirguybdsm@gmail.com) or [sirguybdsm.com](http://sirguybdsm.com)).
- Folsom Europe ([www.folsomeurope.berlin](http://www.folsomeurope.berlin))  
Berlin, Germany (September 7-10, 2023)
- Blatino Oasis ([www.blatinoasis.com](http://www.blatinoasis.com))  
Palm Springs, CA (September 14-17, 2023)
- Folsom Street Fair ([www.folsomstreet.org](http://www.folsomstreet.org))  
San Francisco, (September 22-24, 2023)
- World Bear Weekend ([www.worldbearweekend.com](http://www.worldbearweekend.com))  
Orlando, FL (September 21-24, 2023)
- Atlanta Leather Pride ([www.atlantaleatherpride.com](http://www.atlantaleatherpride.com))  
Atlanta (September 29-October 1, 2023)
- Mr. International Rubber ([www.mirubber.com](http://www.mirubber.com))  
Chicago, IL (October 19-22, 2023)

#### IX. Adjourn

- Meeting adjourned by Vice-President Uncle Jamal at 5:29pm.