

ONYX SOUTHEAST

General Body Meeting

June 4, 2023

Via Zoom

Meeting ID: 856 3768 9241

Passcode: 811950

Minutes

I. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order by Vice President Uncle Jamal at 3:07pm.

II. Roll Call (25 Members)

Uncle Jamal (Vice President)	Jade ONYX	Taz ONYX
Alduin ONYX (Treasurer)	Bobcat ONYX	Quiet Storm ONYX
HP ONYX (Secretary)	Buddha ONYX	Hannibal ONYX
Twilight ONYX (Sargent Master)	Bahamut ONYX	Banzai ONYX
Ravenclaw ONYX (Historian)	Sir Yardie	Sir Guy
Shenzi ONYX	Merlin ONYX	Deejay
Sphinx ONYX	Nightshade ONYX	Tithoes ONYX
Wolverine ONYX	Jupiter ONYX	Red Fox ONYX
Badger ONYX		

III. Approval of Minutes

- ❖ Motion: Approval of minutes from the May 6, 2023 meeting.
 - ✓ Resolved: Minutes from General Body Meeting on May 6, 2023 was approved without modifications.

IV. Executive Reports

A. Treasurer Report

- Total amount made during June's bar night: \$1011
 - \$248 in cash (Jell-O shots, raffle)
 - \$242 in cash (mobile bar / specialty drink)
 - \$516 via CashApp (Jell-O shots, raffle, bar)
 - \$5 via Venmo
- There were a total of \$872 dollars in transactions for the month of May which included:
 - Constant Contact: \$20
 - Zoom: \$15.99 for April
 - Zoom: \$15.99 for May
 - Amazon: (approximately) \$32 (bar night supplies)
 - Publix: \$16.09 (Jell-O)
 - Lawyer fee (501c3): \$160
 - Application fee (501c3): \$275
 - Alcohol, supplies for bar night and SELF cocktail party: \$157.24
 - Amazon, raffle supplies: \$59.62
 - Etsy, raffle supplies: \$43.19
 - Misc. Bar night supplies: \$25.46
- Ending May balance: \$3741.61
- Beginning June balance: \$4471.79

B. Historian Report

- Nothing to Report

C. Secretary Report

- Nothing to Report

D. Pledge Master Report

- The applicant interviews will be June 17, 2023 from 12:00pm-4:00pm at Jaguar's home.
 - There are 6 full brother applicants and 8 associate applicants.

- There is a pledge team consisting of Twilight, Wolverine, Alduin, and Jaguar.
 - Alduin will be in charge of the dues, structure. He will also teach a class.
 - Jaguar will be in charge of demos and protocol. He will also host the meetings.
 - Wolverine will help with scheduling and homework.
- Twilight encouraged everyone to be involved with the pledge process and attend the meetings / classes.
- Wolverine suggested those who sponsored an applicant to participate in the process with said applicant.
- Voting will take place directly after the interviews.
- There will be a panel of members who will be interviewing the applicants.
 - An email will be sent to the body soliciting questions for the panel.
- Sir Guy volunteered to facilitate a presentation on BIPOC / BDSM history via ZOOM for the pledges.

E. Vice President Report

- Daddy Rod is taking a leave of absence until possibly October.
 - Uncle Jamal will take over the position in the interim.
 - Daddy Rod will be around from time to time.
 - Daddy Rod will also be keeping us abreast of the 501c3 process.
 - *There was a question in the chat: Since Daddy Rod is on LOA, will he be able to assume Presidency at any time.* Uncle Jamal answered: Since his LOA is until the end of October, [Uncle Jamal] will be taking over the helm and Daddy Rod will come back to finish out his term, which finishes in January.
 - Buddha expressed his displeasure with the timing of Daddy Rod's leave of absence and how he will be able to come back to his role once "the mess is cleaned up."
 - Buddha spoke to the state of the chapter, the Activities Committee in particular, and the "abuse of power" that has been occurring for the last few months.
 - Merlin was asked his opinion as Past President and spoke to the inconvenience of the President taking a leaving of absence during this busy time of year.
 - *Buddha and Uncle Jamal addressed the messages in the meeting's chat—which are included with the minutes—which sparked a 25-minute conversation about the state of the chapter. In this discussion, we discussed Jade being stripped of his duties as Road Captain by Daddy Rod, the involvement of the rest of the Executive Board in this decision (who explained their stance on the issue and actions) and the need for the body to be able to express its opinions to the Executive Board. In this discussion, Buddha presented a motion for the removal of Daddy Rod from the office of President of ONYX Southeast on the grounds of abuse of power. Merlin seconded the motion. Once the motion was seconded, a heated 20-minute debate continued involving the fairness of removing Daddy Rod as President without him being present and the need for this issue to be handled properly and quickly. As a result, Buddha withdrew his motion to have Daddy Rod removed from the office of President of ONYX Southeast. Uncle Jamal assured the body that a letter would be sent to Daddy Rod notifying him that there is a grievance. Uncle Jamal reiterated that Buddha removed his motion and asked that his motion be revisited. Uncle Jamal called for a motion to send a letter of grievance to Daddy Rod and that a date will be set to discuss the issues. Red Fox made the motion. Bahamut seconded. The motion passed.*

V. Committee Reports

A. Activities Committee

- Buddha thanked everyone for helping during the June bar night.
- Buddha suggested that we address the following situations that occurred during the June bar night.
 - The members were told at the door by The Atlanta Eagle's staff—as per Richard's instructions—that members need to pay the cover \$5 charge from now on.
 - Buddha spoke to Richard at bar night and the cover charge was refunded to the members who paid.
 - It was then told to Buddha that members were told that only members who set up and/or worked the bar night would get in for free.
 - Buddha told Richard that ONYX-SE would pay the cover, with advance notice.

- There were drinks being distributed, possibly in connection to Kink Down South, which Buddha feels interfered/competed with our usual bar night Jell-O shots and specialty drinks.
- Buddha suggested ONYX-SE email The Atlanta Eagle regarding our bar nights to ensure both parties are aware of ONYX-SE's expectations for bar night and the set up for the bar night.
- Alduin suggested the cover issue be addressed as well in the email to the Atlanta Eagle
- Alduin also suggested the placement of our bar be discussed in the email.
- Shenzi suggested ONYX-SE show up earlier—7, 8pm, maybe—to ensure everything is in place for bar night.
- Shenzi also suggested there be one or two designated ONYX-SE members who communicate with Richard to ensure effective communication.
- Twilight also suggested The Atlanta Eagle's decision to allow DJ Ron Pullman to sell merch next to / in front of the ONYX-SE information desk without prior notification be addressed.
- Bobcat discussed the lack of the leather / ONYX experience i.e., demos during bar nights which prompted a 15-minute conversation about the need for more members to participate in the demos during bar night.
 - Alduin wanted the chapter to be aware that the new Atlanta Eagle is a different space from the old Atlanta Eagle and that we will need to be more intentional in creating the leather experience in that space.
- Bahamut wanted the chapter to be considerate of the regional brothers when planning (and cancelling) events last minute.

B. Education Committee

- Sphinx reminded the body to complete the Google form (*the form is located in the "files" section of the Facebook group*)
- The Education Committee met to discuss education outside of bar night.
 - Initially the focus will be to educate the brothers, then educating the community.

C. Outreach Committee

- Twilight is planning a meeting in the coming week.
- There will be more to report in the next meeting.

VI. New Business

A. Gulf Coast Update

- Quietstorm reminded the body about Gulf Coast siblings walking in the Pride Parade and participating in the pride party at the Pheonix (June 9-11, 2023).
- Southern Decadence and Mr. Louisiana Leather are the next major events in the region.
- The next beer bust will be June 24, 2023.
- Alduin suggested to Quietstorm that he contact Uncle Jamal directly going forward if the siblings need anything in the Gulf Coast.

B. By-Laws Revisions

- In the interest of time, Uncle Jamal tabled this topic for a later date.

C. Nominations for 2024-2026

- *Before Uncle Jamal began this topic, Jade made a request for records in the chat. Alduin asked the nature of the request. Jade didn't want to disclose the nature of the request on the record. A brief conversation continued regarding the need for the financial records being made available to the body in a more up-to-date form. It was suggested that the financials be posted in the member's area of the website.*
- Nominations are coming out soon. If you have the wherewithal, the knowledge and fortitude, please nominate yourself or someone else.
- The nominations will come to Uncle Jamal, who will contact each nominee individually.

VII. Old Business

A. 501c3 Update

- The application has been filed; approval is pending.

D. SELF Cocktail Party – Friday June 9th 10pm-2am

- In order to attend the ONYX cocktail party, you will need to purchase a pass to enter the ONYX cocktail party

VIII. Announcements

- Southeast Leather Fest (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)

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 (sirguybds@gmail.com or sirguybds.com).

- Folsom Europe (www.folsomeurope.berlin)

Berlin, Germany (September 7-10, 2023)

- Blatino Oasis (www.blatinoasis.com)

Palm Springs, CA (September 14-17, 2023)

- Folsom Street Fair (www.folsomstreet.org)

San Francisco, (September 22-24, 2023)

- World Bear Weekend (www.worldbearweekend.com)

Orlando, FL (September 21-24, 2023)

- Atlanta Leather Pride (www.atlantaleatherpride.com)

Atlanta (September 29-October 1, 2023)

- Mr. International Rubber (www.mirubber.com)

Chicago, IL (October 19-22, 2023)

IX. Adjourn

- Meeting adjourned by Vice-President Uncle Jamal at 5:19pm.