

NAACP Howard County
Executive Committee Meeting
Minutes

Date: May 14, 2018

Time: 6:30pm

Location: Horizon Foundation, 10221 Wincopin Circle, Suite 200, Columbia, MD

Attendees:

Willie Flowers
Colleen Hughes
Becca Niburg
Laura Johnson
Lynda Earle
Stephanie Wall
Jennifer Jones
Alicia Jones-McLeod
Mark Brooks
Paul W. Wharton
Elexis Lawson
Annie Foster

Prayer

Approval of the Agenda

- Submission of letter approving the nomination of Paul W. Wharton as Youth Council Adviser.
- Agenda approved with the addition of the letter
- **Motion by Mark Brooks to accept the letter nominating Paul Wharton as Youth Council Advisor for 2018-2019. Motion seconded by Annie Foster.**
- Motion to accept was unanimous.

President's Report

- Thank you for Freedom Fund Breakfast support. Challenging ticket sales with other events occurring. Don't think we lost money.
- Feedback on the speakers. Discussion: could production have been satisfactory without speakers?

- We have been in an informal alliance with Universalist Congregation of Columbia; we celebrated them at the Freedom Fund last year.
- We partnered with them on the removal of the confederate monument and on the Richard Collins incident.
- They had a Rally that was held at the mall yesterday. Someone bullied Mark to remove his NAACP shirt.
- This happened because some people were upset that the NAACP stance on having SROs in schools was not the same as theirs; some are upset because SROs will be armed.
- NAACP position was to give police and schools the opportunity to implement new procedure in the schools.
- President spoke to the minister Paige Getty who asked NAACP to stay at the rally. Relationship with the pastor is fine.
- **What Mark experienced is unacceptable.**

- President is reporting this so things don't get twisted. Don't know if there will be an apology; but will wait for it.
- July 14-18th is Delegate Convention in San Antonio, Texas
- Encouraging people to step up and to attend.
- Need to discuss details of how much we cover for the trip.
- Mr. Wharton made a request for adult branches financial participation.
- Delegates will attend meetings and vote
- Next meeting we will vote for delegates.
- Lodging, air fare, parking is delegates responsibility.
Contributed \$300 last year; HC branch had 6 delegates need 4 Alternates.

Vice President's Report –Education Committee Report

- NAACP partnered with Thomas Viaduct Middle School (TVMS) PTSA to host its first Equity Forum on April 24, 2018.
- Community conversation explored the difference between equity and equality with specific focus underway at the district and school level toward equity.
- Speakers: Dr. Kevin Gilbert, Diversity, equity and Inclusion Director; John Krownapple, HCPSS Coordinator-Diversity Equity and Inclusion; TVMS Principal Gene Ryan; James LeMon, HCPSS Executive Director-Community, Parent and School Outreach.
- On May 9, 2018, Willie Flowers and Laura Johnson attended the contract signing for the Interim Superintendent Michael J. Martirano to serve as HCPSS Superintendent for four years from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2022.
- June 10, 2018, from 4-6pm at Long Reach High School there will be a Board of Education candidate's forum co- sponsored by the NAACP and planned with PRACHC and CAC.
- Issues will cover equity, teacher recruitment and retention, academics, redistricting, family engagement, school safety and fiscal solutions.
- FREEDOM FUND FEEDBACK
- The event was not boring and people enjoyed it more than other events.
- Discussion of a "poor man's fund" to give unused tickets away.
- Key note speaker should be earlier on the Agenda because crowd thinned out
- People loved the spoken word (merged generations; jazz provided exposure)
- People should not have been directed to visit vendors during keynote speech.
- Consideration to break with speaker tradition and not have speaker at all.
- We had a really nice cover for the program.
- Options for a Howard County venue instead of Martin's West.
- Issue that Martin's would not accept check and said they needed cashiers check.
- Goal of a breakfast was to eliminate expenses; but it is still costly.

President

- Want to do an NAACP straw pole for the Board of Education Candidates
- 13 candidates
- pole doesn't allow for stress of partisan elections but does allow measurement of organization participation.
- Invite people to next meeting, have candidates speak and have open ballot.
- **MOTION: to have straw pole at next general membership meeting. Motion seconded by Mark Brooks.**
- People can pay that night to vote. Can't vote if not a member
- Looking for the top four vote getters.
- Jennifer to follow up with invited candidates from Board.
- Would like to acknowledge Richard Collin's death at the meeting. Anniversary is on the 20th.
- Family may be dining something too we will find out

- We will honor Richard Collins with a moment of silence on the 24th.

ACT-SO

- April 21, 2018, ACT-SO competition resulted in 5 gold medal winners.
- Lihua Mo Hunter (Dance Ballet) Atholton High; Marie Mbulu,(Dance Traditional)Howard High; Jericka Guy(Music Instrumental) Howard High; Amaiya Bloomfield,(Drawing Photography)Howard High; and Kyra Britt(Music Vocal) Howard High.
- June 10, 2018 3:30-5:30 is the ACT-SO awards ceremony at Locust Methodist Church (\$20 donation)
- National NAACP ACT-SO is in San Antonio Texas on July 12-15 2018.
- \$3,800 budget for the convention

Youth Council

- April 19, 2018 elections.
- Majority of 4 men on executive committee one female
- Food for Health forum is this Saturday 6:00pm. \$3.00 students \$10.00 for guests.
- Gun violence will be the topic. Last of a series
- Youth council hosted at the Jazz brunch.
- June 21, 2018 is the end of the year cook out. Encourage youth to get involved.
- June 21, 2018 Picnic for the Homeless at 5:00pm at Ridgley Run (normal meeting time)

Health Committee

- Would like to do Health presentation at general meeting.
- Committee meetings are at Starbucks near Wilde Lake.

Economic Development Committee

- Want a resource page on the Website. Pulling resources together.
- Work Force Development Presentation: Would like to use general membership meeting to accomplish this.
- Meeting with Deb Jung tomorrow. One issue is minority businesses.
- June 14, 2018, would like to invite Calvin Ball to a meeting.
- Would like to send out committee reports earlier to debrief before meeting.
- Get reports the weekend before Monday meeting.
- Email one sheet stating when meetings are to Jennifer and Willie.
- August 7, 2018 equal pay for women Happy Hour event. Looking for location at Jail Break or Roof Top somewhere.

Elder Initiative Committee

- September 22, 2018, from 10:00am-2:00pm at the Florence Baines Center.
- Senior Officer Andre Lingham will discuss Fraud Abuse.
- Panel on Mental Health and Depression.
- Grass Roots Executive Director on Board.
- Jennifer Jones will moderate.

MOTION: Motion by Alicia Jones McLeod to approve minutes for April 9, 2018. Motion seconded by Stephanie Wall.

MOTION to adjourn the meeting made by Alicia Jones McLEOD and seconded by Stephanie Wall.