

NAACP Howard County
Executive Committee Meeting
Minutes

Date: September 10, 2018

Time: 6:30pm

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

Attendees:

Willie Flowers

Laura Johnson

Lynda Earle

Alicia Jones-McLeod

Paul W. Wharton

Elexis Lawson

Michael Butera

Stephanie Wall

Charles Franklin

Colleen Hughes

Carole Fisher

Jennifer Jones

Isaac Allen

Hiruy Hadau

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Convention was a great experience.
- Branch had a good opportunity to recruit speakers.
- Went to the LGBTQ presentation, which was a learning experience. Learned that LGBTQ is severed for minorities and while the NAACP supported a workshop for them they and the black churches are not necessarily supportive of them.
- We had an opportunity to break barriers and build bridges in this area and could play a significant role in promoting understanding. This is consistent with civil rights advocacy.
- Want to promote creativity, commitment and ideas.
- National President indicated that in the last 10 years they haven't made a dime at the National Convention.
- 501(C)(4) is changing to 501(C)(6).
- The branch needs to build up on its own because the National level has other matters in the forefront. We need to figure out how to do things differently.
- National Organization is saying no to the State organizations because they are not in a position to help.
- Baltimore City Branch is President is under administrative oversight and 2 presidents have been replaced.
- The Howard County branch is as healthy or healthier than any branch in the state and we have a lot to build on.

TECHNOLOGY AND AUTOMATION

- Hope to have a student join the committee.
- Maryland Stem Festival will be October 26 and November 11.

- Stem of many colors is being held at Wilde Lake and they are looking for us to be a sponsor of the event, which is \$2500. 1,000 students expected to attend.
- Anticipate that one third of the participants will be from Howard County.
- Question is do we want to sponsor?
- We can collaborate. Or two sponsors for the race are tech companies.
- A concern was voiced that we have youth initiatives with the branch that need support Have to find a way to support that.
- President responded that we support them to the tune of \$5,000.
- The tech opportunity is a new area and no one is involved.
- Tech committee pointed out that the presenters are all Minority and the event provides an opportunity for minority youth that have been successful in this area.
- 66% of all new jobs will be in technology and we don't even know the name of these new jobs yet.
- There are not enough minorities and women in this area. People are moving here and taking these jobs.
- It was noted that we need to get mentors for the youth out of this.

MOTION: Alicia Jones McLeod moved to support the Maryland Stem event in the amount of \$2500. Mike Butera and Charles Franklin seconded the motion.

PRESIDENT

Leadership. All seats are open for anyone who is interested. Mr. Franklin has experience with elections.

- Alicia Jones McCleod nominated Charles Franklin to oversee the elections. None opposed.
- We are pulling together MLK 5K sponsors. Gateway Drive was not good for having shelter.
- Want to move the 5 race to Glen Elg this year given what has been going on.
- Treasurer sent in report

YOUTH COUNCIL PRESIDENT

- Attended the Convention in San Antonio Texas from July 14-18th.
- Learned that more money is going into jails than schools.
- Attended the FBI academy.
- Career fair is September 29, 2018, at Wilde Lake High School
- Annual feed the hungry event is November 17, 2018.

CONVENTION

Stephanie Wall is "Fired Up and Ready to Go!" The convention was inspiring. Helped confirm why we are needed and that we need to do more.

- Our branch had more delegates and alternates than anyone else in the State.
- We split up locations at the convention in order to cover everything.
- Laura Johnson shared that we had the opportunity to reshape the conversation on SROs and how we have built a relationship with the police in Howard County. We had an impact.
- People approached us to talk about it. Other issues included Diversity and inclusion, training in the school system, disparities in discipline.
- A resolution concerning homelessness among college students was passed.
- Alicia Jones McCleod shared that the debate at the convention was amazing. Every resolution was debated on the floor and our group was impactful because we were in every session.
- Everyone that attended the convention took a role and it was just fantastic.
- Nothing substantial on impact of technology on minority communities.
- Next year the convention is in Detroit.
- Recommendation that we implement a plan so that things don't fall apart. In order to make resolutions significant we have to show up in the community.

ACT-SO

- On August 2, 2018, members of the executive committee and ACT-SO leadership met with Ms. Bloomfield, mother of an ACT-SO convention participant. She was dissatisfied with the experience due to unfulfilled commitments that she said were made by ACT-SO leadership.
- The meeting took place in a local library.
- The executive committee supported \$2500 per organization to ACT-SO and youth council for the convention.

- Grievances were heard at the meeting and opportunities to respond were presented.
- Meeting resulted in the Executive Committee agreeing to allot \$258.25 per family that participated in the convention with ACT-SO.
- Lessons: While the preference is not to micro manage, a better job will be done framing expectations. Also, groups need to have a specific plan to fund raise. National gets \$18.00 of every membership fee. Branches get \$12.00. For some branches the Freedom Fund is the only way to raise funds.

BRANCH ELECTIONS

Need to nominate election committee. Candidates represent themselves to the committee. At October meeting, the candidate is given the floor and the floor is open to others who may not have appeared before the committee. An election supervisory committee is selected in October and they will conduct the November election.

Notification goes to the entire branch but only those active one month prior to the elections will be able to vote.

At the general membership meeting, Charles Franklin will be recommended to Chair the Nominating Committee.

MARYLAND STATE CONVENTION

At the next general membership meeting we will be nominating delegates to go to the convention. The branch is paying the registration cost for Delegates. Delegates can vote. Alternatives can vote if Delegate is not there. Youth council will pay for the 4 youth attending. Suggestion for a meet and greet on the front end.

RESOLUTIONS- Education committee has one ready to go. If we get them up to the night before we're good.

Executive Committee recommends the following delegates: Stephanie Wall, Laura Johnson, Charles Franklin, Jennifer Jones, Willie Flowers and Alicia Jones McCleod.

ELDER EMPOWERMENT

- Saturday September 22, 2018, 10:00am-2:00pm at the Florence Baines Center there will be an Elder Empowerment Forum. Delegate Terri Hill will be participating as well as HCPD Officer Andre Lingham, Sharif Braxton, Coordinator of Special Programs; Kate Dant (Grassroots); Nami volunteer and Board member Debbie Meyer.
- The theme is Protecting Ourselves. Protecting those we Love.

MOTION: Jennifer Jones moved to provide the Elder Empowerment Committee with \$500 for incidentals associated with covering the cost of the forum. Carole Fisher seconded the motion.

- **PRESIDENT-Percentage Plus**
- We have to be intent about showing up at events and inspiring people to vote. Target low voter precincts and maximize turn out.

- We are not taking a side on any particular candidate. We are looking at areas sympathetic to what we do.
- Note: October 19, 2018 is not on the percentage plus but we do have a booth
- Turn out the vote and knock on doors. A lot of traction in the Henrietta Lacks case.
- Wilde Lake Job Fair is October 3, 2018.
- Wilde Lake partnered with the Mall in order to do this
- There will be interviewing and hiring on the spot.
- Section 8 housing residents come from the city and have difficulty transitioning in the schools they are in and out.
- Predominantly at Long Reach, Wilde Lake Oakland Mills.
- No transition assistance for families. If we can connect with families and part time jobs can be provided for children that would help.

- **County Executive Debate**

- Collaborating with the Y of Central Maryland to present the County Executive Debate.
- We can get up to 300 people in attendance.
- Chamber of commerce has a debate for \$80.
- Last general meeting was substantial and was an indicator of what this one will look like.
- Committee to pull together questions according to varying committee topics.
- Mark Steiner to host. Areas of interest include housing, technology, law enforcement civil rights economic.
- **MOTION: Carole Fisher moved to adopt July 9, 2018, executive committee minutes. Mike Butera seconded the motion.**

- **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- **Launch committee: women of NAACP at White Oak Tavern on October 13, 2018.**

- **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

- September 18, 2018 is the next meeting.
- Breakfast event on October 19, 2018 recognizing the new CEO of the library Tonya Kennon and the Superintendent of schools will be invited.
- Hope to get sponsorship to cover the cost of the breakfast.
- Funding is \$2500 to support youth initiatives and to see one package that supports all ACT-SO and Youth Council.
- September 12, 2018 is the State of the School event. This is a ticketed event.

- **Harriet Tubman Foundation Event**

- September 15, 2018.
- \$20.00 a plate.
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- **MOTION: Alicia Jones McCleod moved to give \$200 to support the church golf tournament at First Baptist Church of Guilford. Mike Butera and Elexis Lawson seconded the motion.**
- **A Motion to adjourn was made and seconded.**

