

NAACP Howard County  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Minutes

Date: January 14, 2019

Time: 6:30pm

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

**Attendees:**

Willie Flowers

Lynda Earle

Barbara Morton

Alicia Jones-McLeod

Elexis Lawson

Mark Brooks

Becca Niburg

Jennifer Jones

Mike Butera

Alan Hyde

Colleen Hughes

Bessie Bordenave

Hiruy Hadgu

April Harrison

Kkori Jones

**Prayer-** Rev. Barbara Morton

**Executive Report**

National Meeting will be held Next Month on the 16<sup>th</sup>. National Organization will have an Executive Board Meeting in New York.

**President's Report**

- Seeking to have 2 or 3 significant events per quarter.
- Would like to pitch 2 programs: Program #1 is a public discussion about the significance of the history of the NAACP. Want people to know that we are here if they need support. Howard County Branch of the NAACP is inclusive. Do not want a stigma to continue the thought that multitudes of people couldn't benefit from the NAACP. Would like to Change misunderstandings.
- Program #2: at the National Convention I was exposed to sexual minorities in the LGBTQ community. They also have a stigma. Learned at the convention that under Julian Bond there was an effort to support same sex marriage. There was some friction and churches did not agree. Today, states have supported same sex marriage legislation. Still a rigid reality about where the black church is on this issue. There are still challenges between the LGBTQ community and the black church. The information was enlightening.
- The movement discriminates against sexual minorities.
- We can be a centering point around that discussion.
- Challenges in the church range from -Anti LGBTQ sentiments; to understanding; to promoting being non discriminatory toward anyone.
- A member pointed out that there is an insidious movement to pit African Americans against other groups. Also, a sentiment that this is not our fight.

- A member pointed out that she speaks with so many people that don't know why they should join the NAACP and she didn't know that we have a collective answer to why we should join the NAACP.
- A member pointed out that the faith community could play a part and be a forum to bring people in.
- President points out that we have to do things locally in order to build and that we can't contribute if we don't do something.
- A member pointed out that the NAACP is the group that fights for inclusion of all groups. There is a lot of synergy between NAACP and Immigration groups and LGBTQ.
- Presidents asks if that means we can do one connected forum that is inclusive.
- Basic plan is 2-3 weeks of marketing. The event could be in the second quarter maybe around the time of the Freedom Fund.
- It was noted that January 26, 2019, is HoCo Pride day in savage Maryland. There was discussion that we should support this event.
- 
- **MOTION: Mike Butera made a Motion to approve the agenda. Mark Brooks seconded the motion.**
- 
- President would like the Vice Presidents to oversee one area of fundraising, outreach, program and membership.
- First VP wants to create an attorney list and network that can step up in times of need. If legal defense is needed would want them in a position to be able help. Also, we want to create a catalog available to members.
- 
- **EDUCATION COMMITTEE:** Laura Johnson, Chair (by way of email)
- NAACP and BSAP will meet on January 18, 2019 to explore plans for a college signing day and a career fair in May.
- Next education committee meeting will be on January 22, 2019, at 6:30pm at the ElkrIDGE library. The focus will be a legislative update. Guest speakers are Marla Posey-Moss, Vice President of Advocacy MD PTA and Rick Tyler who will share legislative updates. Issues to watch for are education and family engagement.
- HCPSS Discipline work group will meet on January 28, 2019 to discuss next steps on the February Discipline Forum. All are welcome to these events.
- 
- **MLK 5K:** Willie Flowers, President
- Maglev The new train that gets you to DC in 20 minutes gave us bags for the race and items to put inside in addition to the Tee -Shirts.
- Bags are a traditional way to say thank you.
- Volunteers are needed to help with the race. Packet Pick up, Race day support each person get 10 people or get checks.
- Time of race moved back with the hope sun will warm things up.
- There are three ways to turn in money. Can turn in money on line through "Active. Com"(automated entity used for registration) the money goes directly to the NAACP account.
- Starting Thursday can get checks, cash or use the square on the mobile device and all money goes directly into the NAACP account.
- The APP goes directly to our (NAACP) account and will show up when we do our closing financial report.
- Some people send checks to the PO Box. and some people show up and pay he same day.
- We will be in the gym or lobby area of Wilde Lake High School to register.
- Suggestion to put membership material in the swag bags.
- After registration Race Martials are needed to tell people to stay in their lanes.
- We are utilizing the same route used by Wilde Lake cross-country team.
- Top male and Female will receive \$100.00

- Food will be vegan and meat chili, fruits, bagels, water
- **SWEARING IN**
- The swearing in of Officers and At-Large members will be January 24, 2019, at the General Membership meeting. Kori Jones will be spearheading and will do management of the event.

**Health Committee:** Mark Brooks, Chair

We would like to create a program sometime in the summer where we get people together on a Saturday morning and provide health information. Maybe charge a fee of \$3 but members would come for free. Hope to encourage people to join.

- Excited that our committee has grown. First meeting will be coming up on Wednesday.
- 
- **Tech Committee:** Mike Butera, Chair
- On January 23, 2019, we will meet at the Star Bucks in Wilde Lake Village Center.
- Looking at AI and machines learning the impact on the minority community. Have 2 important articles to read and discuss.
- We will discuss the tech event scheduled for November.
- Now have 5 people to welcome onto the committee.
- President points out two significant things as a result of tech advocacy: The library is budgeted for doing education and stem which is forcing schools to look at what they are doing in that area.
- President wants to make stem as common as sports and believes the structure is already there. (See 60 minutes.com for show aired this week regarding the issue)
- 
- **Veteran's Affairs:** Alan Hyde, Chair
- Scheduled teleconference to come up with a plan and agenda to reach out to veterans.
- Will be preparing and planning for the 22 a day push up
- President points out people who participated last year learned that police and first responders also deal with PTSD
- 22 a day push up is our addition to the challenge, which acknowledges that 22 veterans a day die due to suicide.
- 
- **ACT-SO** Bessie Bordenave, Chair
- Committee has 12 people. Kkori Jones is Co-Chair
- Trying to get a couple more males in the program
- Annie Foster has 3 boxes of ACT-SO materials.
- Letters sent to schools and various organizations about the program.
- January 21, 2019, after the day of service there will be a meeting.
- April 13, 2019, is the date of the ACT-SO competition. Location is not yet established but we will need a location with a piano.
- We are encouraging ACT-SO students to be members of the NAACP.
- Kori works with Voices for Change organization and will provide something positive for High School students 9th-12th.
- Ms. Bessie has done an outstanding job with the Youth Council we are looking for that with ACT-SO.
- President wants a projected budget for ACT-SO and we need to see what Horizon can contribute at least for delegates who want to go to the conference.
- 
- **Young Professionals** : Kori Jones, Chair
- Would like to have youth branch and adult branch build bridges
- Find out where the opportunities are for young professionals 20-40.

- Looking for a Pipeline for HCC into young professionals space and where they can give back. President pointed out that Kori hosted an event with 40-50 people. Off to a good start just need to do more of that.
- 
- **Older Initiative:** Elexis Lawson, Chair
- **September 28, 2019,** is the Elder Empowerment Forum.
- Looking at North Laurel Community Center and Kahler Hall. Baines is under construction.
- **The Theme is Howard County Promoting Your Best Life**
- President suggested looking at the speak easy campaign as well.
- Charles Franklin is looking at doing some sort of a fun game with the seniors.
- 
- **Marketing Committee:** Colleen Hughes, Chair
- Will be framing marketing and related activities for the web.
- Looking for others to join.
- 
- **New Business**
- President wants us to champion the Resilient People's Campaign inspired by the poor people's campaign terminology. Resilient is stronger.
- It was suggested that the People's Resiliency Campaign sounds better.
- Idea Given to marketing to design and run with it.
- 
- **MOTION: Mike Butera made a motion to accept January 5, 2019 minutes. Mark Brooks seconded the motion**
- 
- **Announcements:**
- This Sunday is the MLK event beginning at 3:00pm.
- Ridgley Run will be having two people coming to do kick boxing and Karate
- 10:00-11 will be line dancing and Yoga
- 11-11:30 will be zumba at Ridgley Run.
- February 23, 2019, Harriet Tubman Foundation will have a black history event at the Harriet Tubman Building
- June 25, 2019, Department of Community Services is having a shark tank event at Hammond High School. Students compete for grants as high as \$500 for service.
- Letters of interest are due this week.
- 
- **MOTION: Ms. Bessie Bordenave moved to adjourn the meeting Becca Niburg seconded the motion and the meeting was subsequently adjourned.**