

NAACP Howard County  
Executive Committee Planning  
Meeting

Date: January 5, 2020

Time: 1:00pm

Location: George Howard building 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, Maryland

Opening Prayer

We began with reflection guided by a song about Giving Thanks

Introductions/attendees

Wille Flowers, Jennifer Jones, Stephanie Wall, Laura Johnson, Carole Fisher, Colleen Hughes, Becca Niburg, Janssen Evelyn, Greg Lawrence, Kurt Wall, Christina Bostick, Michael Butera, DeAnna Brathwaite, Bernard Braithwaite, Charles Franklin, Lynda Earle, Kori Jones.

Branch Vision:

To effectuate positive changes through alliances, coalitions, legislation and policy, coupled with unity and passion.

National Mission

**“The Mission of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is to ensure the political, educational, social and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination.”**

Branch Purpose

The Howard County NAACP Branch’s Mission is to carry out the National Mission and goals.

**Structure:**

Executive Officers, At-Large Members, Committees, Volunteers/Community team Building

Local NAACPs are Branches of the overall organization.

Things that we do like the 22 a day push up shines a light on the PTSD that veterans and police often face. Technology Task Force discusses automation and artificial intelligence, which is a social issue. Both of these pursuits are consistent with the overall goals of the organization. Many of our endeavors may not seem readily identifiable as fitting into the overall goals but they are.

Branch Building Blocks (Membership, Fundraising=Grassroots Advocacy)

Resiliency-Education-Power (What power means for the Howard County NAACP)

Power is having a full participating seat at the table where you have an opportunity to effectuate outcomes.

## QUARTERLY STRUCTURE

- FOMP= FUNDRAISING; OUTREACH; MEMBERSHIP; PROGRAMS
- It was suggested by the president and agreed upon by the members last year that we should have a quarterly calendar.
- January-March is quarter one; April-June is quarter two; July-September is quarter three and October-December is quarter four.
- The goal is that each quarter will have a fundraising event, an outreach event, a membership event and a program event.

### President- Willie Flowers

The structure of our Branch includes a calendar that is divided quarterly with the goal of having functions pertaining to Membership, Fundraising and Programs in each quarter. We will continue that strategy which has worked well.

We will use our 2019 Calendar to discuss our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities for improvement and threats.

The Long reach village Center has space available. The County is offering the space to civic and civil non-profit organizations. We would like to take advantage of that opportunity and it will come at a low cost. Additionally, the NAACP State level could benefit as well.

This year we should plan to do more with uniting the black community and the LGBTQ community because there is a disconnect. We are very closely watching the potential divide of the Methodist Church over this same issue. We need to work together.

### Freedom Fund- Stephanie Wall

25% of what the Freedom Fund generates goes to the National NAACP Organization We have a dynamic speaker named Gloria Mayfield Banks.

We need to get dignitaries on the calendar now.

Working on sponsorships and table hosts

Need everyone's support to make this successful. Let us know of sponsors please.

### Education Committee- Laura Johnson

We have many events and activities including resource equity, college readiness, working to keep good teachers of color, expanding opportunities, diversity equity and inclusion committees and programs, education equity policy committee, discipline disparity and looking closely at the numbers of effected students of color regarding suspensions in order to identify inequities and rectify them.

We had an educational fundraiser called Sip and Savor, and a college-signing day. We need to coordinate our efforts such as better communication with legal redress

so that we are aware of any pending issues involving the school system and the NAACP when the Education Committee gets to the table. Also, we need more coordination with youth council.

We met with the technology committee to discuss how we can move forward together on certain issues.

At Large Member- Carole Fisher

The organization has gone from Anonymous to Relevant to Prominent!

Marketing Committee- Colleen Hughes

Website and Facebook is strong but we need to get more information out.

Many people don't look at email anymore so maybe we can do an email once a month but certain ages we need more of a presence on Facebook and twitter.

It was suggested that we get phone numbers because then you can send a text or tweet. It was pointed out that some people do not want that.

Need more advocacy on social media.

At Large Member/ Service Affairs- Becca Niburg

It was great that the NAACP had a table at Pride last year. There was a lot of Synergy.

Our ability to mobilize quickly is one of our strengths; but we need more time and planning.

We need to partner with other organizations involved with Veterans Day programs because there are a lot of different groups involved.

5K, Golf Tournament and 22-A day push up are all good events.

Board Member- Janssen Evelyn

Was welcomed to the Board after being recruited.

Suggested that we prioritize 4-5 focus points such as Education, Environmental Justice, Public Safety and Freedom Fund.

Maybe also focus on specific camps that would get kids into new areas and prepare them for the 21<sup>st</sup>. Century.

Consolidate 1 month for Hooping for Health and stem coding camp.

Public Safety- Greg Lawrence

Met with the Chief of Police and Corrections. Did not get to meet with the Fire Chief.

Wanted to connect with Youth Council on certain activities that they are doing like Know your Rights.

Technology- Mike Butera

13 policy areas identified.

Connected with Johns Hopkins Applied Sciences Lab and with our own Education Committee in order to work together.

The impact that access to the Internet has on employment is huge. Somehow big business seems to find a way for politicians not to talk about this issue.

We need bridges to get people from where they were to where they are going. There are jobs that are disappearing and they will not be back.

We did not get to do the Forum last year we would like to do it during the fourth quarter this year.

#### Legal Redress- Christina Bostick

There are 5 active cases. We filed a complaint in one of them. Another Case is under review at the Office of Human Rights.

#### Elder Empowerment- DeAnna Brathwaite

Prior Chair relayed information that the Elder empowerment Event went well. We had the food (sponsors) and had a good committee; but turn out could have been better.

Considering doing multiple local programs throughout the year.

Would like to go back to the Baines Center.

Believe it is easier if seniors, elders and mature adults are not required to register on line because that could be a hindrance and deterrent to participating.

#### Political Action- Bernard Brathwaite

Bernard Brathwaite graciously agreed to Chair this committee and expressed interest in the Service Affairs Committee.

#### At Large Member – Charles Franklin.

Informed us that the State Conference will be local for 2020.

#### Secretary/ Assistant Secretary- Jennifer Jones/Lynda Earle

Membership has been looking good but need to do more. In the past we were at most events with applications doing a great job recruiting between Jennifer and Carole getting the job done. Need to get back to that.

We need to get elected officials on board early with Freedom fund and other events.

No committee should be starting from square one when it comes to having a sponsorship letter for fundraising. Need to make sure information is shared. Otherwise we do a good job with banning together to get things done.

Like a more personal approach with how we do things. Reach out to the membership from time to time. There is an opportunity to have a greater impact.

## Youth Council- Kori Jones

Students are involved with Youth Council and so are their parents. We would like to rebuild and find other opportunities to engage and help teach the youth how to stand on their own two feet.

Youth are now used to going from one activity to the next. The level of commitment is different. We need to figure out how to best reach them. It was suggested that we observe a NESBE meeting to see how that is run and what works and what does not.

It was suggested that we find out from the Youth what they would like to get out of participating with the NAACP what are their expectations.

The calendar may look a little different for Youth Council this year as we restructure.

### Calendar Conversation

#### January

Political forum on January 16, 2020 to highlight candidates for the congressional seat that became available as a result of Congressman Elijah Cummings passing.

#### February

Education Event in February either on the Kirwan Commission or HBCU settlement

The Little Patuxent Review could provide an opportunity for an event in February or March.

#### March

Could have a restaurant night in March and continue to create a relationship with Royale Farms.

Possible Little Patuxent Review event.

#### April

Hooping for Health and ACT SO Competitions

Voting outreach and financial wellness event

#### May

Freedom Fund May 2, 2020

Potential college signing day or service academy

June Teachers of Color Networking Summer Send off will be in June

#### July

NAACP National Convention will be in Boston

\*We need to raise money to send members to this event

### September

Elder Empowerment is in September usually weekend after Harriet Tubman Day  
Education Breakfast will move back to September

### October

Stem program will be in October  
State Conference will be in October. We need to make money on it maybe have something at the Sundry

### November

Elections are in November. You must be a Member in Good Standing by April to run

### December

Kwanzaa end of the year meeting is in December.