

NAACP Howard County
Executive Committee Meeting
Minutes

Date: February 10, 2020

Time: 6:30pm

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

Attendees:

Willie Flowers

Lynda Earle

Stephanie Wall

Laura Johnson

Charles Franklin

Becca Niburg

Mike Butera

Colleen Hughes

April Harrison

Janseen Evelyn

President's Report

- As we move toward the Presidential Primary we need a percentage plus strategy; which means focusing on low performing areas of turn out.
- We will need to mobilize voters and encourage people to vote and fight against suppression of the vote.
- We are supporting NAACP youth who are members of NESBE. In the past we supplemented their trips.
- President is asking for us to support NESBE with \$1,000 to defray the cost of their March conference in San Antonio

- **MOTION: Mike Butera made a motion for the NAACP to provide \$1,000 to NESBE to support their trip to the March conference in San Antonio. Laura Johnson seconded the motion.**

- There is an opportunity for office space at Long reach shopping center. This will be a shared space with the Maryland State Conference who will be the lead tenant but we will also benefit.
- We will have two rooms and the suite will be shared with other organizations.
- Mike Butera suggested paying \$15 per week for a virtual assistant given that nobody in the NAACP has full time staff.
- The community Ecology Institute may also have space.
- We were looking to get an Environmental Justice Planning Grant and part of that was to make a garden.
- Black folks are not at the table regarding Environmental Justice work. We have to organize and get the information out
- We did meet to discuss the green new deal. Transition to the new green economy is going to take some push.
- Black History Expo is Saturday February 15, 2020. We need people to volunteer.

- **FREEDOM FUND COMMITTEE:**
- 35 tables available with 50 plus tickets already sold.
- We are soliciting sponsorships
- By the end of the week we expect to be on line; members can submit award nominees electronically.

- **EDUCATION COMMITTEE:**
- Kirwan, which is Maryland's blue print for the future of education, was introduced on the 7th.
- The bill would redesign the funding formula for Maryland schools and turn the recommendations into law.
- Testimony will be given on the 17th. We are looking at institutional poverty, the state of Howard County Schools and the operating budget.
- There will be testimony support for BSAP (Black Students Achievement Program)
- In January we will work on discipline disparities and New teachers and mentors support
- BSAP requested that we support the Unheard Perspective Show Case event by contributing \$200.
- Unheard Perspectives will be held at Hammond Middle School on February 29, 2020, from 9:00am-1:00pm.
- Lynda has participated as a Judge in the Unheard Perspectives Show Case over the last four years and described it as an educational and worthwhile endeavor that we should support.

- **MOTION: Lynda Earle made a motion to support BSAP by providing \$200 to support the Unheard Perspectives Show Case. Mike Butera seconded the motion.**

- The Educational Equity Committee, which worked last year to produce school system equity guidelines, completed a final draft and will present it to the Board of Education.
- The draft has strong language relating to all students including those with disabilities and English Language learners.
- The purpose is to eliminate education disparities in every area of the school system.

- We are looking to host an education candidate's Forum on March 26th. Natalie Zieger is working on outreach.
- President adds that this is an opportunity to promote membership and to conduct a straw poll.
- Charles suggested that we promote the March 26th event in Scott Ables Blog.

- **TECHNOLOGY:**
- We are determined to get the survey done
- The stem side of things is going well because of the education committee
- Its difficult to get people to understand the issue outside of the education stem field
- We have identified 13 areas of importance
- Facial recognition is one of the areas and what it will mean for financing and homes.
- It was suggested that we could do a town Hall or something with the applied physics lab.

- **Marketing Committee:**
- Asked whether we should produce a monthly newsletter
- The former newsletter was called the commitment
- President mentioned the Board of Little Patuxent Review who has challenges keeping subscriptions with their newsletter and maybe we can co-brand and have both logos with the common goal to encourage reading and writing for kids.
- Little Patuxent review does prose

- President suggested giving writing journals out to students/children to encourage them to write as part of the partnership.
- President disclosed that he is on their Board.
- Janseen suggested that We have a writing workshop or some program or activity and to give out the journals at that event
- Discussed having social black journalists association and novelists attend
- Janseen will help structure.
- Two titles considered for the project are “The Start off Something Beautiful” and “Tomorrow Comes”

- President-The CRATI (Civil Rights Advocacy Training Institute) is scheduled for March 21-22.

- **MOTION: Becca Niburg made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike Butera seconded the motion**

- The motion was adjourned.

***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.