

**NAACP Howard County
General Meeting
Minutes**

Date: September 28, 2017

Time: 7pm

Place: Ridgely Run Community Center, 8400 Mission Rd, Jessup 20794

President's Report

- There will be an Annual Giving Kickoff to raise funds at the end of the year. Fundraising is a priority. Anyone with interest or experience please contact Willie Flowers.

First Vice President's Report

- The following meetings/events were attended.
 - Democratic cookout
 - NAACP State event at Ridgely Run
 - Youth council meeting
 - Harriet Tubman event
 - PATH meeting

Second Vice President's Report

- The naming of the new elementary school in honor of Silas Craft was discussed.

Third Vice President's Report

- The Society is co-sponsoring the ACT-So kickoff
- Harriet Tubman event was a success

Treasurer's Report

- The report was handed out.
- There were no questions

ACT-SO

- Four students attended the national competition based on earning a gold medal at local competition.
- There were no medals won at the national level.
- ACT-So kickoff for the upcoming year will be held on Oct 14th at Oakland Mills Middle School from 9am-12.

Older Adult Initiative

- The Elder Empowerment event is Saturday – 9/30.

Speakers

Bill McMahon – Howard County Sheriff

- Sheriff McMahon has 30 years of experience in the police department
 - He was hired after there was a human rights commission report about the prior sheriff
 - Allegations of racism, homophobia, misogyny
 - There was outrage in community regarding report and prior sheriff resigned
- Challenges
 - Community confidence in the sheriff's office
 - Resources needed
 - More community involvement
- Responsibilities of sheriff's office
 - Courtroom security, domestic violence protective orders, warrants, service of process, evictions
 - Assist police department when necessary
 - Sheriff is an elected position; 4 year term
- Strategic plan
 - Recruitment and retention
 - Workforce – mainly people retired from other agencies
 - Community involvement – ex. Coffee with cops
- Questions
 - Has number in sheriff's office increased with population growth?
 - No. There are 56 deputies and 20 civilian employees.
 - 32% of deputies are minority, 11% are female
 - It is less diverse at the supervisory level
 - How many evictions?
 - Approx. 10/week
 - What can we do as citizens?
 - Let the office know about ways to interact.
 - Are there outreach programs?
 - Currently creating these opportunities.

Greater Baltimore Urban League

- The Greater Baltimore Urban League is an affiliate of the National Urban League.
- The Director of Programs discussed 2 of their programs
 - Leadership program – identified 4 schools – Wilde Lake, Long Reach, Hammond and Oakland Mills for program
 - Includes grades 8-12

- Program focuses on college and career readiness and service (75 learning hours/year)
- Workshops are self-empowering
- STEM focus
- Entrepreneurship program
 - Assist businesses at different stages – start-up, growth and mature
 - Program provides – workshops, seminars and one on one appointments
 - Workshop – Sept 29 – grant and proposal writing.
 - Located at 9770 Patuxent Woods Drive, Columbia, MD

Howard Hughes Corporation

- Current plan to build downtown Columbia
 - 800 apt units, 1500 people
 - Affordable mixed in with moderate and more expensive units
 - Walkable retail space
- Major employers downtown
 - MedStar, One Merriweather, Two Merriweather
- Opening in 2019
 - 380 units, 12K sq ft new retail space.
- There was debate around whether small businesses could afford the retail space and if the affordable housing projected monthly rental rate were believable.