

**NAACP Howard County
General Meeting
Minutes**

Date: November 30, 2017

Time: 7pm

Place: Medical Pavilion at Howard County, 10710 Charter Drive, Columbia 21044

President's Report

- There was a motion to approve the meeting agenda by Willie Flowers. The motion was seconded by Charles Franklin. All voted in favor of motion.
- State Conference – Legislation
 - Automation and civil rights
 - Coding as a second language
 - Thurgood Marshall Day
- 2017 Successes
 - Advocacy Training
 - Youth Advocacy
 - Education Redistricting Forum
- 2018 MLK Unity 5K Race
 - Title sponsors are Bith Energy and Prism.
 - The event will be Sat, Jan 13th. Location: 6940 Columbia Gateway Drive
- 2018 Percentage Plus
 - Voter engagement campaign
 - Focus on low performing precincts
- Older Adult Committee needs a chairperson
- Colleen Hughes is the new webmaster

Secretary's Report

- There was a motion by Mark Brooks to approve the minutes from the October general meeting. The motion was seconded by Willie Flowers. All voted in favor of motion.

Education Committee

- Planning 2018 meeting on Dec 2nd from 10-2pm.
 - Will use national NAACP as guide for priorities.
- Black Student Achievement Program
 - BSAP representatives attended last Education committee meeting.
 - Saturday Math Academy opens Jan 20th
 - Summer Institute
 - Education Committee will partner with BSAP during 2018
- Will have a stronger presence at Bd of Education meeting.

Guest Speaker – Steven Snelgrove, President Howard County General

- Howard County General Hospital overview
 - A member of Johns Hopkins for 20 years
 - 3rd largest employer in Howard County
 - Major impact on the economic well-being of the community
 - 50-60% of employees live in Howard County
 - Not supported by taxpayer dollars except for some capital improvement projects
 - 317K people live in Howard County
 - 202K visits
 - 78K emergency room visits
 - Ratio between licensed beds to emergency room visits is highest in state
 - 3,600 babies delivered
- Hospital focus areas
 - Partner with agencies to focus on entire continuum of healthcare.
 - Focus on hospital visit and what happens at home
 - Health Dept and Social Services on Bd of Trustees
 - Journey to Better Health program partners with faith based community
 - There are health screens on site
 - Hospital will do risk assessment regarding gaps in service
 - Top areas – obesity, behavior health, access to healthcare
 - Equity focus – what groups are underserved.
 - Johns Hopkins Office of Diversity and Inclusion addresses ways to achieve health care equity
 - Precision medicine - approach for treatment and prevention that takes into account individual's genetic makeup, environment, and lifestyle
- Hospital challenges
 - Howard County growing at double the rate of other MD counties
 - County is aging at twice the rate of other counties
 - Licensed for 267 beds; only have 244
 - 21% increase from Laurel zip code due to changes at Laurel Hospital
- Hospital successes
 - Only hospital in state rated A from Leapfrog Group, a national nonprofit health ratings organization
 - Improvements at hospital – percentage of people that leave without being seen was 8.5% three years ago; currently less than 1%
- Currently building a new 36,000 sq ft psychiatric ward and observation unit - \$45 mil
 - This expansion will create 30 additional beds
 - Funding sources include \$15 mil from philanthropy, \$15 mil from debt and \$15 mil from operational improvements; also asking \$5 mil from county
 - Upcoming County exec budget hearing – Monday, Dec 11th
- Need to build new ICU, maternal care, parking deck, ambulatory building, education center - \$500 million project