

**NAACP Howard County  
General Meeting/Kwanzaa Celebration  
Minutes**

Date: December 28, 2017

Time: 7pm

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

President's Report

- 2017 Successes – Freedom Fund, Women in NAACP Chat & Chew, 22 Push Up Challenge, Panel Discussions, Rally for Richard Collins, Guest Speakers, Advocacy Training, Elder Empowerment Seminar, Education Forum, Housing Seminar, Youth Advocacy Training
- Elexis Lawson is the chairperson of the Older Adult Committee
- Freedom Fund - need committee members
- 20/40 Young Adult - need a membership chair
- Presented Bessie Bordenave with a retirement gift

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President's Report

- 2017 Events attended - Harriet Tubman event, Feed the Hungry, PATH meeting, Guy Guzzone annual party, Howard County Voices of Change

Secretary's Report

- There was a motion by Carole Fisher to approve the minutes from the November general meeting. The motion was seconded by Stephanie Wall. All voted in favor of motion.

Education Committee

- 2017 focus – racial inequality in education, closing achievement gaps
  - Full funding for Black Student Achievement Program
  - Aligning strategy with national priorities
  - Greater dissemination of information/resources – education portal
  - Stronger presence at Bd of Education meetings
  - Parental engagement and voter education
  - Stronger community engagement
    - Held redistricting forum
    - Dr. Martirano was a speaker at NAACP general meeting

Armed Forces/Veteran's

- Held workshop at State Conference on Veteran's Rights

Labor & Industry

- Lewis Saunders and Don Cash chair committee

- Seek ways to improve economic status of minority groups
- Expand economic empowerment of minorities
- There are 30,457 companies in Howard County; 452 minority owned
- Encourage ownership of franchises.

#### Economic Development

- Bridge gap between job seekers and employers
- Involved with General Electric program for students that want to work at G.E.
- Job fair planned in 2018

#### Economic Sustainability

- Alicia Jones-McLeod – new committee chair
  - Executive Dir of MD – Black Chamber of Commerce

#### Health

- Mark Brooks - new committee chair

#### Public Safety

- Objective is to grow relationship with police department
- Draw attention to issues
- Empower and inform community
- Rich Gibson interested in committee

#### Community Engagement

- Percentage Plus
  - Goal is to register voters in low turnout precincts and get out the vote

#### Religious & Faith

- Working on church events for 2018

#### ACT- SO

- Year long program where students compete in different categories
- Local kickoff was in October
- The goals are to recruit committee members, increase social media presence, have successful competition in April

#### Youth Council

- Focus in 2018 is on membership
- Want stronger presence in Howard County