

NAACP Howard County
General Meeting
Minutes

Date: February 22, 2018

Time: 6:30pm

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

President's Report

Framework Announcements

*Executive Committee members may not simultaneously run for office and serve on the Executive Committee.

*Executive Members running for office may take a leave of absence or serve in an alternative way that is not considered a leadership position.

Events

*Racial Profiling Public Forum is next week at Wilde Lake High School.

*Voices of Color- NAACP met with Wilde Lake High School Students to discuss effects of section 8 housing and effects of former Baltimore residents who are new to the Howard County area.

*Housing Committee has no funds put toward the community and new section 8 populations.

*NAAACP is looking for a solution to this funding gap and to highlight the problems that exist.

*Our goal is to support families who need help and transitional support.

Freedom Fund Breakfast

*Date is set for May 5, 2018

*The theme is “The Year of the Woman”

Mission Road High School

*MOU years ago put Mission Road as the next location for a high school

* The new School Board pulled back from the plan

*Some public investment would help with the lack of area development

*Vice President Bessie Bordenave is involved with the efforts.

* The Executive Committee voted to support the Mission Road School efforts.

Agenda

*There was a motion made by Kim Flowers to approve the minutes from the January 25, 2018, general meeting. Becca Niburg seconded the motion.

ACT-SO

*15 students from various high schools auditioned Sunday one student will be playing at the Freedom Fund Breakfast.

Economic Development

*Meetings are the second Thursday of the month at 8880 Borne Road General Electric building.

*Goals are to help start and grow minority businesses in HC

* Plans to host Entrepreneurship development events and invite minority businesses

- *Assure that minority contracts are awarded to minority businesses
- *Get an accurate account of the numbers of businesses awarded contracts.
- *Promote a youth job fair for Howard County Public Schools to have summer opportunities to prepare for the workforce.
- *Will reach out to Office of Workforce Development.

Education Committee

- *Working with the School Board to have a forum on school suspensions.
- *Data shows discipline disparity for people of color.
- *James LeMon, Executive Director of Community, Parent and Student Outreach shared that the goal of HCPSS is to help all students be successful. There is a Wednesday evening and Saturday morning meeting for parent feedback with follow-up meetings to support all our kids.

The Meeting briefly adjourned to welcome the guest speaker.

Speaker:

Congressman John Sarbanes described his goal as a rescue mission for democracy with very high stakes. He spoke on a variety of subjects including the tax bill, health care and the NAACP's strong involvement, criminal justice reform, the Mueller investigation, Mass shootings and gun violence in urban settings, public financing, the second amendment, the opioid epidemic and the census. He encouraged citizens to communication with elected officials.

The meeting resumed once the guest speaker concluded.

Housing Committee

*The committee has grown to 4 members

*April 28, 2018, will be the first ever-full day symposium on the state of housing in Howard County.

*Working on finding a location

Older Initiative Committee

*On September 22, 2018, at the Florence Baines Center, the Elder Empowerment Forum will take place.

*There is a March 3, 2018 meeting at Ridgley Run. Mental Health issues will be addressed.

Health

*February is Heart month

*Members were educated on the difference between a heart attack and cardiac arrest.

President's Report Continued

*President reviewed NAACP support of a Mission Road School

*Executive Committee supports the school building location.

*A School would enhance property values and provide economic development opportunities and housing development to balance out redistricting.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Helen to support the Mission Road School. Carole Fisher seconded the motion.

Additional Business

* The Racial Profiling Forum next week will be duplicated at Oakland Mills, Long Reach, and Howard High Schools.

*Women in the NAACP had a reception last year to help bring women into the fold

*Tried to get Amy Sherald for the banquet; but she is booked (she recently painted First Lady Michelle Obama)

*It will be the Year of the Woman for the Freedom Fund Breakfast.

*FIRN has a 5K coming up on March 25, 2018 and a multicultural fair will be held simultaneously. Becca Niburg has more information.

*NAACP is a sponsor for Silas Craft Scholarship Committee.

A dinner will be held March 5, 2018, at Hunan Manor. \$35

*Next Tuesday at faith based centers and churches and synagogues there will be a courageous dialog about race. This conversation will be held the last Tuesday of each month and will culminate on June 4, 2018.

*President closed by noting that we are doing election activities and asked all to sign in for the greater good. Also noted that the Congressman respected the organization and encouraged involvement.

Motion was made by Kim Flowers to adjourn the meeting and Amy Brooks seconded the motion.

Meeting ended at 8:12pm.