

NAACP Howard County  
General Meeting  
Minutes

Date: March 22, 2018

Time: 6:30pm

Location: Wilde Lake Interfaith Center 10431 Twin Rivers Road,  
Columbia, Md. 21044

**President's Report**

Location Change

\*Due to the weather related school delay we were unable to meet at Wilde Lake High School.

\*We decided to meet at Wilde Lake High School in order to be part of a collaborative effort to help ameliorate the complex issues surrounding the neighborhood, the school and section 8 housing.

\*NAACP sat down with the School, Police, Housing Authority and the Young People.

\*Housing Authority gives no transition assistance to new families.

\*We were referenced to the Local Children's Board; which only gives eviction assistance to families.

\*When developers build communities they have to put money into the school system; but the Housing Authority puts nothing in.

\*Sensitive subject. Children come from the city often with trauma and difficulties. Need healing.

\*Our goal is to make sure that families have the resources they need.

School 13

\*School 13 Guilford Mission Road issue broke down into gentrification.

\*Little development in the area since 95 was completed.

\*Current School Board decided to pull out on prior decision to build.

\*Two communities were pitted against each other as a result.

\*VP Bessie Bordenave asked us to support the issue.

\* We were successful with our advocacy.

\*Observed the School Board. We need to pay attention in order to get people in office who are about relevant issues.

\*Policy doesn't matter if we don't get anybody elected.

\*8 in primary school board election; then 4 in general election.

\*They have done their job. We need to do the job at the grass roots. By being active. That is our job.

\*Rule is, we can't endorse outwardly but we can advocate our issues.

### **Education Committee**

\*Safety- attended a March Safety Forum. Dr. Martirano spoke about physical and mental safety.

\*New office of safety. Safety@hcpss.org

\*Hosted two forums about the state of discipline. This involves looking at the racial disparities in discipline practice, looking at the data and coming up with next steps.

\*April 11, 2018, is the third and final forum for now.

\*April 18, 2018, NAACP, Counsel of Elders and Black Student Achievement Program will be partnering to coordinate a voter registration at Centennial High School.

\*Participating in equity forum; but need more champions in form of written testimony regarding superintendents budget; sustaining BSAP; fair resources to schools in need; funding cuts that would effect diversity inclusion.

\*USA Science & Engineering Festival is April 7 & 8, 2018 at DC Convention Center.

\*April 16, 2018, is the next Education Committee meeting.

### **Faith & Religion**

\*Matthew Quainoo, Deputy Pastor at Celebration Church will lead.

\*Gathering data and needs in order to find solutions and collaborate with churches and the faith community.

\*Adopted Long Reach High School

\*Spoke with St. John's Pastor to get a Howard County High School.

## **ACT-SO**

\*The Youth Counsel is sponsoring April Madness, the first annual hooping for teen health on April 14, & 28, 2018 from 6:00pm-9:00pm at Wilde Lake High School.

## **Housing Committee**

\*First housing symposium will be held on Saturday April 28, 2018 from 9:00am -5:00pm.

\*Panel experts on ending homelessness; special populations; fair housing; affordable housing; legislation and more.

\*Need 21 volunteers to be successful.

\*Event Brite has been created; Webmaster can put on page.

\*Committee meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday; at 1:00pm at the Wilde Lake Starbucks.

## **Legal Redress**

\*Received 3 calls. Student for the deaf was discriminated against in Frederick. This was sent to the State NAACP Conference because it's technically out of our jurisdiction.

\*Discrimination case involving Kaiser Permanente sent to National Conference since occurred in Montgomery County.

\*Case in Howard County Schools involving a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student experiencing racist and sexist comments.

\*NAACP able to get involved and take action within 3-4 hour turn around time which is the way we do business.

**Motion was made by Becca Niburg to approve the February 22, 2018, General Membership Minutes. Mark Brooks seconded the Motion.**

## **Guest Speakers**

\*Hiruy Hadgu moderated a presentation on “Automation, Artificial Intelligence and Us.”

\* The panel included Saif Rehan, CEO of NextGen Consulting Inc.; Dr. Timothy Summers, PH.D, management and technology expert; John Dean, US Postal Service Cyber team Acquisition for Protection of Information & Modernized Equipment; Greg Lawrence, FAA Aviation Emergency Services.

The meeting ended at the conclusion of audience questions. 8:45pm.