

NAACP Howard County General Meeting and Planning Meeting Minutes

Date: December 27, 2018

Time: 6:30pm

Location: Ridgley Run Community Center, 8400 Mission Road, Jessup, Maryland

Prayer- by Dr. Jenkins Odoms

Introductions

President's Report

*Recognition of Umoja, which means Unity. It is the first day of Kwanzaa, December 26th.

*Acknowledgment of kujichagulia, which means self-determination. It is the second day of Kwanzaa on December 27th.

*Program Overview was conducted noting that there are two auxiliary organizations, which are ACT-SO and Youth Council.

*Discussion of creating a quarterly calendar. There would be four quarters and each quarter would have a Fundraising, outreach, membership and program event.

*MLK race, Black History event in February and Education event in March would all be in the first quarter.

3rd Vice President- Hiruy Hadgu

Role is to help the President execute the organization's agenda

President Points out that Hiruy brought us into the 21st century in terms of the website and need for technology.

Treasurer

*Organizations income for the year was \$59,480.84. The Freedom Fund Breakfast and the MLK 5K Race generated this money.

*\$59,360 was expended so we came out with \$100. Expenditures not related to the Freedom Fund are youth initiatives.

*President noted that we need to produce revenue for the organization.

*President noted Black Girl Magic Tee Shirts are available for sale

ACT-SO- Bessie Bordenave, Chair

*The President pointed out that Ms. Bessie has an outstanding reputation for working with youth. She was 1st. Vice President but had to step down.

*Ms. Bessie is President of the Harriet Tubman Committee and Foundation. The Foundation worked to turn the Harriet Tubman School back over to the public. With the help of Alan Kittleman, former County Executive, they were successful.

*ACT-SO has an annual competition in areas of the arts and sciences.

*Ms. Bessie is planning to move the ACT-SO program forward.

*She is asking for every member to contribute at least \$10.00 to sponsor a youth to be a member of the NAACP.

*President acknowledges Annie Foster, former Chair who reported 15 students performed locally and 5 students obtained gold medals.

Political Action Herb Smith, Chair

*Herb was elected to the Democratic Central Committee.

*Involved with working on campaigns across the country for the last 7 years.

*Wants to hold elected officials' feet to the fire and be a voice for people who don't have a voice.

Economic Development Alicia Jones-Mcleod, Chair

*Committee has done a lot of work this year. Had Dr. Calvin Ball as a speaker.

*We are creating a resource sheet for people to be able to find information in one condensed place regarding businesses.

*Attending events on what's going on economically in the county to help us prepare for a recession.

*Planning to have an economic event in the fall.

*Want to make sure soft skills training formation is available for everyone.

Education Committee Laura Johnson, Chair /Dr. Jim Turner presented

*We have four focus areas: to improve, increase resources and equity, ensure college and career readiness, hold schools accountable and improve teaching.

*need to take a positive approach to creating an environment conducive to learning. Improve how discipline is implemented.

*Goal is to ensure that schools conform to the precepts of the Every Student Succeeds Act.

*Need to be aware of what is going on in educational areas of policy and data.

*Believe community connections are important so there is a need to stay in touch with the minority community.

*Laura Johnson, Chair of this committee was selected to serve on County Executive, Dr. Calvin Balls Education transition team.

*First breakfast of Champions which supports making education a priority was held this year and will take place again in October.

*First straw poll of Board of Education nominees was conducted this year, by the NAACP.

*Involved with Guilford and Viaduct Elementary school snack pack program.

*2019 goals are to continue with the four pillars, elevate early access to stem and concentrate on social justice issues.

*Sign-up sheet available to join

Freedom Fund Stephanie Wall, Chair/presented by Lynda Earle

*This year's theme is "Honoring our Legacy, Energizing Our Future"

*The 2019 Freedom Fund Breakfast/Brunch will be held at the Hotel at Arundel Preserve.

*We have invited Dr. Freeman Hrabowski, President of UMBC to be our guest Speaker.

*Have secured the date of Saturday May 11, 2019.

Health Mark Brooks, Chair

*Health Committee has four members and counting.

*Meet at Star Bucks regularly.

*Took a survey in November to see what people were interested in hearing about

*Had many wonderful events this year and we are looking for more people to join.

Labor and Industry

*Don Cash will be heading this committee

Legal Redress

*Christina Bostick, 1st. VP will be heading this committee

Membership

*Erika Tillery will be heading this committee.

Public Safety- Greg Lawrence, Chair

*Former first responder has Fire, EMS, corrections and law enforcement connections as well as involved with school resource officers.

*Wants to bring a positive spin to law enforcement sheriffs and the court system.

*Wants there to be a sharing of knowledge and community outreach.

*President pointed out that we have created a relationship with the police where we get information, which helps thwart things before they get out of hand.

20-40 – young professionals club

*Kori Jones will head this committee

Women in the NAACP (WIN) Alicia Jones-McLeod, Chair

- *We held a black woman's equal payday in August
- *Want to raise consciousness about income inequality
- *Had an October Brunch centered around the book "We should all be Feminist"
- *February we will have a Galentine (now Valen-shine) day meeting with a purpose.

Military Veterans – Alan Hyde, Chair Dr. Jenkins Odoms

- *Served in Afghanistan
- *want to be able to identify veterans in need
- *Striving to be a resource.
- *President pointed out that the 22 a day push up challenge is to recognize and bring attention to the fact that 22 military veterans die per day because of PTSD.
- *Police and firemen suffer from this too.

Technology Task Force – Mike Butera, Chair

- *This new committee is gathering information
- *Focusing on technological equality for minorities
- *Concerned with the effects of Artificial Intelligence and Automation on communities of color
- *Three groups of concern are 35-50; Millennial and Boomers.
- *Need to develop a set of policies to help each group to deal with technology.
- *Looking at the school system and level of preparedness for students.
- *We did present a resolution to the National NAACP, which passed.
- *Next meeting is January 23, 2019 6:30 at Wilde Lake Star Bucks
- *President pointed out that we want every child to have access to STEM.

Housing Committee – Kent Blake, Chair

- *We have had one symposium so far under Kim Flowers
- *Meeting with the Housing Commission. Trying to track some of the violence that is taking place in Wilde Lake,
- *Section 8 housing is an issue. The President points out that there is no offer of housing assistance to people who come here with vouchers. No transition assistance given but they do give eviction assistance.

Elder Initiative Committee- Elexis Lawson, Chair

- *Charles Franklin and Annie Foster and Jennifer Jones did an outstanding job with this year the Elder Empowerment Summit was held at Baines center looking at new locations.
- *By 2020 half of the population will be 65 and older
- *Planning 2019 resource day. Elder Empowerment will be in September.

Youth Council- Isaac Allen, President

*Maxine Cohen reported that the youth council was very active this year.

*Hooping for Health tournament is the biggest event.

*Youth Council participates with feeding the homeless on a weekly basis.

*At the County Executive listening session the President of the youth Council Isaac Cohen presented and expressed concerns in the public forum.

MOTION: Motion was made to approve the October 25, 2018 minutes. The motion was seconded.

The meeting was adjourned and various committees met to discuss their agendas for the upcoming year.