

November 6th, 2019
GENERAL MEETING
BERKSHIRE COUNTY BRANCH, NAACP

Simon's Rock College of Bard, Blodgett Building

Attendees

See Addendum

AGENDA:

- 1. Meeting Called to Order 6:11 pm**
 - a. Dennis Powell thanked Simon's Rock and the BSU for hosting the Branch.
- 2. Opening Silence**
- 3. Review of Treasurer's Report**
 - a. Merle Ferber made a motion to approve last meeting minutes.
 - b. Al Blake second.
 - c. Approved.
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. Merle Ferber made a motion to approve last meeting minutes.
 - b. Tommie Hutto Blake second.
 - c. Approved.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

- 1. Finance & Freedom Fund - Will Singleton**
 - a. Freedom Fund Berkshire Hills Country Club November 9th, 6 pm.
 - b. Tommie Hutto Blake and Erica Mielke provided an update on ticket sales – around 200.
 - c. Goal to give 10 students \$1000 each for expenses related to higher education.
- 2. Face Book - Leah Reed**
 - a. Not present
- 3. Education Committee – Will Singleton & Hugh Guilderson**
 - a. Report submitted.
 - b. Meeting Nov 18th to discuss programs in Pittsfield and North Adams School Committee.
 - c. Meeting with the North Adams School Committee on November 13th.
 - d. Dennis Powell re-elected to the Pittsfield Public School Committee.
 - e. Will be looking to groom young people to run for office.
- 4. PR Media- Megan Whilden**
 - a. Not present.
- 5. Membership & Life Membership - Chad Robertson**
 - a. Welcome to new members.
 - b. Will be looking for members of a membership committee next year to streamline processes.

6. **Race Relations** - Shirley Edgerton & Joel Priest
 - a. Joel Priest introduced the Black Student Alliance from Darrow School who were in attendance.
7. **Economic & Environmental Justice** - Al Blake, Chad Roberson
 - a. The Branch is co-sponsoring 'Under Pressure' at BCC.
 - b. Working on advancing several environmental justice bills in Boston.
8. **Social Justice Action Committee** - Drew Herzig & Rebecca Thomson
 - a. Report submitted.
9. **Redress Committee** - Christina Daignault & Doug Mishkin
 - a. Update on Mr. Moore in North Adams.
 - b. Update on Ms. Moore in North Adams.
 - c. Pushback on Facebook for Branch marching in the parade.
 - d. Uptick on negative comments on Facebook.
 - e. Christina Daignault will be filing a police report on violent comments she has received on Facebook.

BUSINESS:

10. **Election Results**
 - a. Report on election results.
11. **Youth Chapters**
 - a. Working on creating Youth Units at Williams, MCLA, and in Pittsfield.
12. **Office Space/Meeting Space**
 - a. We no longer have Tyler Street Lab.
 - b. Will have office space across the street from 730 Tyler St.
13. **Day of Dialogue – Educating a diverse community/Dr. Benson**
 - a. November 7th at MCLA 8:30am
14. **Community Conversation on Poverty**
 - a. Friday November 15th 9am Berkshire Athenaeum
15. **Gaining Power to Make Change in Our Communities**
 - a. Chad Robertson will send out to the Branch.

NEW BUSINESS:

16. **Conversation with Black Student Union at Simon's Rock**

ADJOURNMENT

17. **Adjournment 8:59pm**
 - a. Marlina Willis made a motion to adjourn.
 - b. Chad Robertson seconded.
 - c. Meeting adjourned.