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
   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  

9. **Redress Committee** - Christina Daignualt & Doug Mishkin  
   a. Update on Mr. Moore in North Adams.  
   c. Pushback on Facebook for Branch marching in the parade.  
   d. Uptick on negative comments on Facebook.  
   e. Christina Daignualt will be filing a police report on violent comments she has received on Facebook.

**BUSINESS:**

10. **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. Marlena Willis made a motion to adjourn.  
    b. Chad Robertson seconded.  
    c. Meeting adjourned.