

December 4th, 2019
GENERAL MEETING
BERKSHIRE COUNTY BRANCH, NAACP

Berkshire Athenaeum, Pittsfield Massachusetts

Attendees

See Addendum

AGENDA:

- 1. Meeting Called to Order 6:12 pm**
 - a. Leah Reed called the meeting to order.
- 2. Opening Silence**
- 3. Review of Treasurer's Report**
 - a. Merle Ferber made a motion to approve Treasurer's Report.
 - b. Al Blake seconded.
 - 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 was a success.
 - b. Only about \$500 short of \$10k goal for student aid.
 - c. Debrief meeting on Saturday December 7th.
- 2. Face Book - Leah Reed**
 - a. Increase of page views by 3k during Freedom Fund period.
 - b. Posted Freedom Fund pictures online.
- 3. Education Committee – Will Singleton & Hugh Guilderson**
 - a. Committee will reach out to different School Committees in the county.
 - b. Work with the Pittsfield Public School System on emotional intelligence training.
 - c. Met with the North Adams School system on programs.
 - d. Will work on integrated black history in schools. Dr. Snead training teachers.
 - e. A meeting at Monument Valley Middle School will be held on January 24th to discuss anti-Semitic incident at the school.
- 4. PR Media- Megan Whilden**
 - a. Not present.
- 5. Membership & Life Membership - Chad Robertson**

- a. Dennis Powell and Chad Robertson will meet with BSU at Simons Rock and Society of the Griffins at Williams College on forming a Youth Units.
 - b. Will form a membership committee in 2020 to increase Branch membership.
6. **Race Relations** - Shirley Edgerton & Joel Priest
- a. Chairs not present.
7. **Economic & Environmental Justice** - Al Blake, Chad Roberson
- a. Bill Mc Kebin will be speaking at MCLA on December 5th
 - b. Climate action events in the county on December 6th
 - c. Discussion of ways to promote climate justice events to the Branch.
8. **Social Justice Action Committee** - Drew Herzig & Rebecca Thomson
- a. Census 2020 updates.
 - i. Only two genders are listed
 - ii. Same sex relationships are listed
 - iii. Still looking for census takers.
 - b. Committee will host No Visible Bruises book read.
9. **Redress Committee** - Christina Daignault & Doug Mishkin
- a. Not present.

BUSINESS:

10. **NAACP & Williams College Strategic Planning**
- a. Presentation submitted.
 - b. Discussion on how Williams College can interact better with the broader community.
11. **Living Legacy Project – Barbara Dean**
- a. Barbara Dean gave an update on her trip with the Living Legacy Project
12. **BSU/Simon's Rock**
- a. Dennis Powell to give an update on the Simon's Rock at next Branch meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

13. **Kwanza Event – Sat Dec, 28th**
14. **Tony Gibson (of the Black 14)**
- a. University of Wyoming are looking to give scholarships to students of color.
 - b. Tony has information to give to students.
15. **Drew Herzig discussed the Business Against Bigotry Campaign**
- a. January 8th Branch meeting will discuss he initiative
 - b. People of color will have an opportunity to give feedback on how to make businesses more welcoming to people of color.

ADJOURNMENT

16. **Adjournment 8:13pm**

- a. Merle Ferber made a motion to adjourn.
- b. Tommie Hutto-Blake seconded.
- c. Meeting adjourned.