January 8th, 2020
GENERAL MEETING
BERKSHIRE COUNTY BRANCH, NAACP

Berkshire Athenaeum, Pittsfield Massachusetts

Attendees
See Addendum

AGENDA:

1. Meeting Called to Order 6:11 pm
   a. Leah Reed called the meeting to order.

2. Opening Silence

3. Review of Treasurer’s Report
   a. Erica Mielke gave an overview of Treasurer’s Report.
   b. Jeff Turner made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report.
   c. Tommie Hutto-Blake seconded.
   d. Approved.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
   a. Merle Ferber made a motion to approve last meeting minutes.
   b. Tommie Hutto-Blake seconded.
   c. Approved.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

1. Finance & Freedom Fund - Will Singleton
   a. Nothing to report.

2. Face Book - Leah Reed
   a. Increase in traffic with Facebook page.

3. Education Committee – Will Singleton & Hugh Guilderson
   b. Money for post-secondary education support will be allocated evenly to all who applies.
   c. Will met with the North Adams school district administration leadership.

4. PR Media- Megan Whilden
   a. Not present.

5. Membership & Life Membership - Chad Robertson
   a. Moving to a national membership platform.
   b. As part of the new membership process at National, membership may receive an email from National welcoming them to National, and not the Berkshire County Branch.

6. Race Relations - Shirley Edgerton & Joel Priest
   a. Four Freedoms event January 12th.

7. Economic & Environmental Justice - Al Blake, Chad Roberson
a. Raei Bridges will be taking Chad Robertson’s place as co-chair of the committee.

8. **Social Justice Action Committee** - Drew Herzig & Rebecca Thomson  
   a. Business against bigotry campaign serves as committee report.

9. **Redress Committee** - Christina Daignault & Doug Mishkin  
   a. High level update of committee work was given without giving details that would reveal identity of parties involved.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

10. **Poor People’s Campaign - Cynthia Pease**  
    a. June 20\(^{th}\), 2020 March on Washington, D.C.  
    b. NAACP National is a coalition member.  
    c. Bus will be traveling from Sheffield.

11. **Four Freedoms March – Sunday January 12\(^{th}\)**  
    a. Members wishing to march with the Branch should meet at City Hall by 1 pm.  
    b. Branch will be tabling at the Colonial Theater after the march.

12. **Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration – January 19\(^{th}\)**  
    a. 3 pm service at Second Congregational Church in Pittsfield.  
    b. Branch President Dennis Powell will be giving some remarks.  
    c. Keynote speaker will be the Reverend Comithier of the Macedonian Baptist Church of Albany.

13. **Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration – January 20\(^{th}\)**  
    a. Branch will be partnering with BCC in the Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service.

14. **U.S. Census Increases Pay for Massachusetts Census Workers Needed**

**Presentation:**

15. **OPEN TO ALL CONVERSATION - Rebecca Thompson + Drew Herzig**  
    a. Moderated by Will Singleton the Social Justice Action Committee led a discussion on how Berkshire County Businesses can be welcoming to people of color.

**ADJOURNMENT**

16. Adjournment 7:53 pm  
    a. Merle Ferber made a motion to adjourn.  
    b. Tommie Hutto-Blake seconded.  
    c. Meeting adjourned.