

January 8<sup>th</sup>, 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
  - a. Report submitted.
  - 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 12<sup>th</sup>.
- 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<sup>th</sup>, 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<sup>th</sup>**

- 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<sup>th</sup>**

- 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<sup>th</sup>**

- 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.