

July 1, 2020
GENERAL MEETING
BERKSHIRE COUNTY BRANCH, NAACP

Zoom

Attendees

Attendance recorded with Zoom registration.

AGENDA:

- 1. Meeting Called to Order 6:05 pm**
- 2. Opening Silence**
- 3. Review of Treasurer's Report**
 - a. Erica Mielke gave an overview of the current budget.
 - b. Merle Ferber made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report.
 - c. Chad Robertson seconded.
 - d. Approved.
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. The June Branch meeting minutes are not completed and will be approved at the next Branch meeting.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

- 1. Face Book** - Leah Reed
 - a. Chair not present.
- 2. Website** – Rebecca Thompson
 - a. Rebecca Thompson provided an update of improvements made and coming to the website.
- 3. Membership & Life Membership** - Chad Robertson
 - a. A membership survey will be sent out for people who want to be members of committees.
- 4. Health** – Brooke Bridges
 - a. Discussion of voter registration and membership drive later in the month.
 - b. Discussion of a having an access to ancestral food program with ties to land and farming.
 - c. Working on social/emotional learning curriculum for young people of color.
- 5. Race Relations** - Shirley Edgerton & Joel Priest
 - a. A training on allyship will be given at the August Branch meeting.
 - b. Discussion of Op-Ed piece on policing reforms being penned for publication in the Eagle.
- 6. Community Coordination** – Dubois Thomas

- a. Discussion of the Central Berkshire Leadership Academy.
- b. Discussion of the Housing Report Card project.
- 7. **Environment & Climate Justice** - Al Blake, Raei Bridges
 - a. Al Blake gave an overview of legislation.
 - b. Information of the Mass Save Program.
 - c. Raei Bridges working on a project with Berkshire Botanical Garden.
- 8. **Economic Development/Justice** - John Lewis
 - a. The Commonwealth is providing \$50M in relief funding for Black owned businesses.
 - b. Working with 1Berkshire on the Covid Phase 3 opening of the economy.
 - c. Working with government agencies on set aside programs for minority businesses.
 - d. Will create a survey for the business community and how they serve Black and Brown professionals.
- 9. **Redress Committee** - Christina Daignault & Doug Mishkin
 - a. High level update of committee work was given without giving details that would reveal the names of community members.

PRESENTATION:

Rep. Tricia Farley-Bouvier gave an update on legislation that would positively impact marginalized members of our community. HD5166 and the R.A.F.T. program.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 10. **Discussion of the rollout of the Strategic Plan adopted by the Executive Committee in June.**
- 11. **A call for Committee Chairs and members: Education, Finance & Freedom Fund, Political Action, Legal Redress, Communications, PR & Media.**
 - a. The Branch Secretary will send out a membership survey.
- 12. **Gather-In distribution of stipends for higher learning.**
 - a. Stipends will be awarded at the July voter registration drive.

ADJOURNMENT

- 13. **Adjournment 8:09 pm**
 - a. Chad Robertson made a motion to adjourn.
 - b. Kathie Penna seconded.
 - c. Adjourned