

## NAACP Branch Meeting October 4, 2023

**6:00 pm - 6:08 pm:** People entered meeting

*Sabrina Allard welcomed everyone in, introduced herself and made a point that Dennis was on the call but just taking a rest. Sabrina started the meeting by taking a moment of silence to honor our indigenous brothers and sisters.*

**Sabrina:** Let us honor the land that was stolen by them. Let us honor the lives that were lost through murder. So much trauma in that legacy. But tonight we'll take a moment to really honor the people of each of these tribes and beyond.

As we move into our agenda- Marcus can you give everyone a treasurer update?

**6:10 pm**

**Marcus Coleman:** Hi everyone, welcome. We officially transferred into quickbooks.

*Marcus shared screen.*

*\$188,000 current balance.*

*He showed a statement of Activity for September*

Any time we have any fundraising initiatives, they have great reporting tools. We'll be able to report out a lot better going forward.

**6:13 pm**

**Sabrina:** Thank you Marcus. Next up is the approval of the September Minutes.

Shirley motion to approve September minutes

Jeff seconded

All in favor

**Sabrina:** I am so honored to be introducing Dr. Shirley Edgerton - a beloved treasure of a community member who has been uplifting young Black women- she'll be talking to us this evening about the Civil Rights Bus tour. I'll turn it over to Shirley.

**6:15 pm**

**Shirley:** Thank you for that warm presentation. I'm excited to share space with my young friends. . . . One of the young ladies you will hear from is leading the youth committee. You will hear from her last. I think we have at least 6 of our ambassadors (8-11 years old) and scholars who are present tonight.

*Ambassadors named Alaisia (10 years old) and Elyse (9 years old) took the floor and shared their experience*

*Shirley thanked the Ambassadors.*

*And then called on the Scholars, namely Reina, Kennedy, Cashey and Lorie, who spoke.*

**Shirley:** Thank you to everyone for sharing your perspective. I applaud each one of you. At this time does anyone have any questions for our young folks?

*Sabrina asked about how they took care of themselves when they were disturbed.*

*Marisa asked about what surprised them- something they heard or their own reaction to something.*

*Kamaar and "What does Civil Rights mean for you today? What are your hopes and dreams?"*

**Shirley:** Thank you to everyone who shared. And thank you for your support.

**6:44 pm**

**Sabrina:** Thank you for sharing your wisdom. Sabrina shared some pieces of wisdom that she gleaned from the youth's sharings, including the mention of "limitless learning" as well as how "little acts can make big empowerment."

**6:47 pm**

**Dennis Powell:** Presidential Announcements. The first item on that list is that the political action committee needs a co-chair. I will ask the chair, Kamaar, to talk about it

**Kamaar:** We were lucky to have had Helen Moon and she introduced a candidate boot camp and her strategy is one we should move forward. Anyone interested, please reach out.

**DP:** I too want to reach out and thank all these brilliant young minds, what I'm looking at is future school committee members - this is what civic engagement is all about.

*DP spoke about the debate being on October 19th but unfortunately Conte is not available so it's now on October 23rd which is a Monday, 6 to 8 pm. The moderator will be Will singleton. Letters have gone out today to the candidates. PCTV is on board to tape it and show it live on their facebook as well as ours.*

**DP:** We will need volunteers to assist the committee and the moderator Will to pull the debate off. So if you have some time to devote to that, please contact Kamaar.

[kamaart93@gmail.com](mailto:kamaart93@gmail.com)

**Sabrina:** Dennis tell us about freedom fund

**DP:** Our freedom fund event is going back live. On January 20th We have hired an individual who is decorating the hall. Caratina and myself are looking for members that will work with this person to set up the table displays and everything that she's come up with. It is our major fundraiser to support our youth going away to college

The last 2 years we have given out \$40,000. Awards will be given out. Dubois award. Indigenous people award. We will be recognizing people in the community who are game changers.

*Dp mentioned that he will co host with sabrina. "We may even have a little skit goin"*

**DP:** Darcie and Kate and Roberta will be all over getting the word out about the debate.

**Sabrina:** Move into the report of the committees:

*Daryl- not here.*

*Race Relations- Shirley - working with family in school*

*Antony- not here*

*Kamaar- nothing to report*

*Rebecca - A few things to upload. White learning circle program*

*Frances- nothing to report. Hopefully next month we'll have something more to contribute.*

*Roberta- Meeting with Kate and Darcie on friday. Freedom fund planning and debate.*

*Catarina- DP covered everything. Next meeting we'll have a lot more updates.*

New business or announcements -

Tommie- NAACP and Bridge and OLLI and Unitarian church has an event on october 25th- at UU meeting house in Housatonic. A new opera.

*Rebecca needs indigenous peoples day info. Sabinra will send*

Friday- hosting women of the blues concert with gina coleman and  
Bcc 6 pm

Marjorie- publicly thank Kamaar and Francis for helping her with bike ride

**7:31 pm**

**DP:** motion to adjourn

*Shirley seconded*

*All in favor*

**Sabrina:** Take care of you

\*As recorded by Marisa Massery