

**SEACOAST NAACP #2070
1 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVENUE, PEASE INTERNATIONAL TRADEPORT
PORTSMOUTH NH 03801
MEMBERSHIP MEETING, April 3, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 6:36 with a welcome by President Rogers Johnson and an invocation by Chaplain Irving Heughan.

Secretary's Report

The minutes of the March 6 meeting were read and accepted.

President's Report

The MLK Breakfast Committee met on March 28 in Conference Room 1 at the Portsmouth Public Library, with Jon Ring acting as committee chair. Additional meetings are planned for April 18 and May 16, both at the Portsmouth Public Library.

A Community Dialogue meeting is scheduled for May 17 at UNH.

The Branch has reserved a table for ten for the NEAC Hall of Fame Dinner to be held on May 20, 2017 at the Newton Marriott Hotel in Newton MA. The Branch will pay for transportation and the meal. As of April 3, two spaces are still available on a first come-first served basis. A volunteer is still needed to drive the van rented by the Branch.

We have been asked by NEAC President Juan Cofield to host NEAC's next Quarterly Meeting. Rogers spoke of the need for membership participation in preparing for and carrying out this event. The Branch will provide a continental breakfast and a lunch for approximately 50 attendees. We will need to set up the meeting room for the meals and the meeting, and put it back in order when the meeting concludes at approximately 3:00 p.m. Rogers stressed the importance of a good showing by our membership, to help with the work and to show our commitment to social justice.

Rogers has received a call from Spencer Little, President of the Black Student Union at UNH, asking members of the Branch to attend the UNH Black Family Weekend taking place from April 3-April 9. Rogers sent a contribution for the event on behalf of the Branch.

Rogers reported on legislation recently passed or in process in the State Legislature.

Committee Reports

Legal Redress

Rogers has received a letter of complaint and has informed the complainant that a complaint form needs to be submitted per NAACP policy.

Veterans Affairs

Fred Ross reported that the armed forces will be accepting donations online for military children in need.

Old Business

Rogers will ask Larry McGhee, as a resident of Eliot ME, to reserve a date for the annual picnic at the Eliot Boat Basin.

New Business

Jody Hoffer Gittell shared information about SURJ (Stand Up for Racial Justice), an organization working for justice, human dignity and a sustainable world. SURJ has recently made a donation to the Seacoast

NAACP. Jody, Rogers Johnson, and Nur Shoop will meet with members of SURJ on April 10 at Breaking New Grounds.

Nur Shoop shared information about a presentation on “Middle East Policy in the Trump Era” which will take place at the South Church on April 25 at 7:00 p.m.

Jon Ring shared information about the tour to the recently opened National Museum of African American History and Culture and the Frederick Douglass House Museum in Washington, D.C. The tour includes hotel accommodations and passes to the museums. A bus to Washington will leave Portsmouth on Tuesday, August 15 and will return on Friday, August 18. Valerie Cunningham can be contacted for more information.

Following the round table discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Elsemore
Secretary