

NAACP Seacoast Branch 2070 Meeting Minutes of September 10, 2018

A. Executive Committee Meeting Present: Rogers Johnson, James "Bat" Kaddy, Freddy Ross, Rene' Goins, Phyllis Killam-Abell, Irving Heugan, Fred Ross, Brad Randolph, Jon Ring.

1. Meeting was convened at 6:03 pm. Frances Elsemore was not present, so Jon was asked by Rogers to record the Minutes.
 2. President Rogers Johnson summarized topics for the Branch General Membership Meeting this evening. There was much discussion.
 3. Rogers said that the Nomination Committee must be set up, as election of officers will take place on November 5. He will be looking for volunteers during the Branch Meeting.
 4. There will be a Special Guest Speaker from NAACP National tonight to discuss support for the possible vote to repeal the death penalty this week in the NH Legislature.
 5. The NEAC Annual Meeting will be held at the Boston Marriott September 21 – 23.
 6. Executive Session was closed at 6:22 pm.
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B. Branch Membership Meeting Present: Rogers Johnson, and all members of the above Executive Committee, plus many others (see meeting sign-in sheet) - total of 20-ish folk.

1. Meeting was opened at 6:33 pm.
2. Chaplain Irving Heugan lead us in prayer. Amen to that !!
3. Secretary Report was given by Bob McElwain in the absence of Frances Elsemore, who read the Minutes of August 6, which were approved as written.
4. President's Report by Rogers Johnson:
 - a. NH Governor's Advisory Commission on Diversity and Inclusion: The Manchester Listening Session was held. There will be Sessions held for deaf and blind residents.
 - b. Rogers mentioned that the Newmarket Police Department has hired an African-American officer.
5. Ngazi Ndulue was introduced from the NAACP National Office. She spoke about the current effort at the NH Legislature to repeal the death penalty. A Governor Veto override vote is necessary. There was much discussion about the history, reasons, and nature of the effort to approach our NH Senators. The vote is scheduled for Thursday this week.
6. Jon Ring gave a brief report about the 2019 Seacoast NAACP MLK Breakfast Committee planning for the January 21st MLK Celebration to be held at South Church in Portsmouth. All is proceeding very nicely. The next Committee Meeting is 9/20 at 6 pm.

7. Nina Jordan was present to tell us that there have been no recent Legal Redress activities.
8. Ken Mendis of the Race Unity Team in Exeter informed the Branch about activities associated with the Race Unity Walk for September 29 at 9 am. All are welcome.
9. After much discussion, the Nominating Committee was approved to consist of: Jon Ring, Fred Ross, and Linda Freeman. The slate of Officers will include: President Rogers Johnson, First Vice-President James “Bat” Kaddy, Second Vice-President Freddy Ross, Secretary Frances Elsemore, Assistant Secretary Jon Ring, Treasurer Jody Hoffer-Gittell. The Nomination of Officers was moved, seconded, and approved. The Election will take place at the Branch Meeting on November 5, 2018.
10. Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan S. Ring, Assistant Secretary