

NAACP Seacoast Branch 2070 Meeting Minutes of August 7, 2017

A. Executive Committee Meeting Present: Rogers Johnson, C. Fred Ross, James "Bat" Kaddy, Phyllis Killam-Abell, Irving Heugan, Renee Goins, Nur Shoop, Brad Randolph (arrived at 6:13), Jonathan Ring.

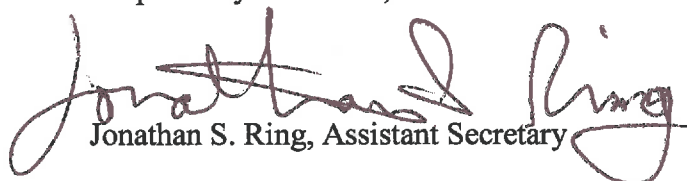
1. Meeting was convened at 6:01 pm.
2. President Rogers Johnson noted that the Branch needs to register four (4) members to attend the NEAC Annual Conference to be held in Massachusetts on September 22 - 24. Jon suggested that Rogers, Fred, Freddy and Frances should be approved to attend. There will be more discussion tonight at the Branch Membership Meeting.
3. Rogers said that the Annual Picnic will be held on August 20 from 12 - 3 at the Eliot Boat Dock Landing off Route 103. He will prepare BBQ chicken. Nur said that she suggests that there should also be some vegetarian foods, salads, etc.. Jon will bring hot dogs, trash bags, and recycle bins.
4. The September Branch Meeting will be held at UNH to focus on Campus issues regarding students, particularly in response to recent Cinco de Mayo activities. Rogers said that he will work to obtain more youth members, and perhaps even a Student Chapter for NAACP. There will be no Branch business conducted at this meeting. Rogers noted that there is a lot of "bad press" about to break concerning the UNH Organization treatment of students of color, faculty and administration persons. There should be a "zero tolerance" policy for negative treatment.
5. NAACP will have a display table at U-Day on the UNH Campus on September 12 from 3:30 - 6:30. Rogers is looking for Branch members to help him staff the table and to answer questions.
6. Executive Session was closed at 6:30 pm.

B. Branch Membership Meeting Present: Rogers Johnson, C. Fred Ross and all members of the above Executive Committee, plus many others (see meeting sign-in sheet) - total of 15 folk.

1. Meeting was opened at 6:40 pm.
2. Chaplain Irving Heugan lead us in prayer. Amen to that !!
3. Linda Freeman read the Minutes of July 10, which were approved as written.
4. Treasurer Report was given by Rogers Johnson, which was approved as presented.
5. Veteran's Affairs Report was given by Fred Ross noting that more troops are needed to fill the ranks. The draft may return.
6. President's Report by Rogers Johnson:

- a. MLK 2018 Breakfast Committee will meet on August 22 in Portsmouth.
- b. The NEAC Annual Meeting will be held September 22-24 in Mansfield, MA. There are three Branch Members so far to attend: Rogers, Fred and Freddy. We need one more member. Any interested person should speak with Rogers.
- c. UNH Students of Color Cinco de Mayo situation: Rogers summarized the results of his meeting in July with the Dean of Students and others attempting to provide a positive approach for systematic racism education at the University for students, staff and administrators. Mary Stevens gave her perspective of the process, as she also had attended that meeting. There was much discussion. Sean McGhee provided additional comment and thought.
7. The most untimely passing of the honored and most distinguished Ms. Wanda Mitchell, age 57, and formerly of the UNH Administration, was noted. Fred and Sean provided valuable background information.
8. Bob McElwain mentioned that his wife had recently observed racist graffiti at Odiome State Park in Rye, and at Dos Amigos Restaurant in Portsmouth. These have been reported to the authorities.
9. Black NE Conference will be held at UNH October 20 and 21. The topic: "The Science and Engineering of Race: Living Through the Archives." All were encouraged to attend.
10. NAACP Picnic August 20 from 12 - 3 pm at Eliot Boat Landing Pavilion off Route 103. Nur reported that the Green Acre Baha'i School youth may help to set-up the picnic, and to break-down, as they are located adjacent to the Boat Dock. Bat will provide music. Everyone should bring salads, beverages, and foods.
11. Rogers noted that the next Branch Meeting will be held on September 11 at UNH to focus on issues at the Campus regarding students, particularly in response to recent Cinco de Mayo activities. The Meeting will be in the MUB at 6:30 pm in Room 334. We will promote discussion about student issues and provide support for their challenges. Rogers said that he will work to obtain more youth members, and perhaps even a Student Chapter for NAACP. There will be no NAACP Branch business conducted at this meeting. There should be a "zero tolerance" policy for negative treatment. Sean mentioned that building relationships with the students is critical to moving forward.
12. There were several public announcements of local activities made.
13. Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Jonathan S. Ring, Assistant Secretary