

**SEACOAST NAACP #2070  
1 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVENUE, PEASE INTERNATIONAL TRADEPORT  
PORTSMOUTH NH 03801  
MEMBERSHIP MEETING, January 7, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with a welcome by President Rogers Johnson and an invocation by President Emeritus Fred Ross.

**Secretary's Report**

The minutes of the December 3, 2018 meeting were read and accepted.

**President's Report**

President Rogers Johnson has been involved in the aftermath of an incident that took place in early December at Dover High School, in which two students in an Advanced Placement U.S. history class sang a jingle invoking the KKK that they had composed as the fulfillment of an assignment to create a Christmas carol using events from the Reconstruction. Consequences of the incident have included parent outrage and questioning of the qualifications of the teacher as well as the content of what children are learning at Dover High School. Rogers noted that the two students may encounter in gaining acceptance at colleges with the viral video of their performance on line. He reported that the Dover Police Department has been busy responding to death threats and bomb threats to the teacher, the students, and the school, and that members of the Department feel that the trust they have worked hard to instill in the community is now compromised.

The School Board has held a listening session regarding the incident and plans a meeting to decide whether the suspended teacher will return to the classroom. Rogers has advised the school on how to handle this situation and on the possible consequences of a wrong decision.

Rogers has also advised the school on how to obtain funds for diversity training in the school.

The NAACP will urge the New Hampshire State Board of Education to make changes in the Social Studies curriculum to include more diversity, and to appoint a person of color to the Board next year.

**Ongoing Business**

The President's Report was followed by roundtable introductions and information, including notice by Jonathan Ring of the upcoming broadcast on the WORLD Channel of the documentary film *An American Story: Race Amity and the Other Tradition*, and a report by Derek Haddad of Exeter's Racial Unity Team on activities planned for the 2019 Racial Unity Day.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary