

**NAACP #2070
1 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVENUE, PEASE INTERNATIONAL TRADEPORT
PORTSMOUTH NH 03801
MEMBERSHIP MEETING, December 9, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m. with a welcome by President Rogers Johnson, an invocation by Guest Chaplain Terry Robinson, and round table introductions.

Secretary's Report

The minutes of the November 4 meeting were read and accepted with a correction.

President's Report

President Johnson reported on new and troubling information from the Hampton School District. The school board has disseminated a newsletter containing false information concerning the Cochrane case to the residents of Hampton, and has created false and contradictory documents regarding the case. One document was so heavily redacted as to be useless to anyone hoping to become informed about the district's handling of the case.

Portsmouth Listens held community discussions on Equity and Inclusion on November 7, 14, and 21.

The 2020 NAACP Annual Convention will be held in July, in Boston. The Branch will be expected to help the National office with logistics, etc.

A final report-writing session of the Governor's Advisory council on Diversity and Inclusion is scheduled for December 12.

Rogers attended the NEAC Quarterly meeting held in Middleton, RI on December 7, and returned with information about the Tubman Youth Project being developed by NEAC, which hopes to fund the attendance of 500 to 800 young people—high school juniors and seniors and college students—at the Annual Convention, giving them the opportunity to participate in the Convention events and also to learn about graduate and undergraduate programs at colleges and universities in the greater Boston area. The Project envisions bringing the students to Boston a day before the NAACP convention begins to attend a full day of presentations by the participating institutions, and to provide for them to remain in Boston a day after it concludes, giving them an opportunity to visit one or two campuses in the area. Another goal of the project is to expose colleges and universities in the area to exceptional young leaders from across the country who have achieved academically and have demonstrated a concern for human and civil rights.

Ongoing Business

Jon Ring reported on plans for the January 20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast.

Rogers has sent letters inviting members of the police departments in the Seacoast area to the breakfast.

The Reverend Frank Newsome of North Church in Portsmouth will hold an MLK, Jr. prayer service on the afternoon of January 19.

Jody Hoffer Gittell has met with Will Arvelo to plan for the Freedom Fund Dinner, which will take place in May at The Tuscan Kitchen on Lafayette Road.

Guest Speaker

Shirley Brown, a local organizer for the Amy Klobuchar campaign, spoke to the members of Amy's experience and qualifications for the office of President.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary