

**NAACP #2070**

**1 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVENUE, PEASE INTERNATIONAL TRADEPORT  
PORTSMOUTH NH 03801**

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING, August 3, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. with a welcome by President Rogers Johnson and introductions of members.

9 people attended the meeting in person at the Pease Tradeport location, and 13 participated via Zoom.

### **Secretary's Report**

The Secretary's Report was read and accepted with a correction.

### **President's Report**

Rogers reported that in July he attended 19 meetings via Zoom and spent over 100 hours working with the members of the Covid-19 Task Force. The Task Force has issued a comprehensive in depth report analyzing the factors which lead to the disproportionate impact of Covid-19 on communities of color in New Hampshire. The information gathered has been provided to Governor Sununu and to the Governor's Council on Diversity and Inclusion. The Governor has assigned a subcommittee under the Council to deal with the issue, and will address these disparities by Executive Order or legislation. Rogers urged members to read the Task Force report.

A Dover High School student who called out a fellow student for racist comments on Tik Tok has been accused of cyberbullying and threatened online. Rogers is working to make sure this student is investigated fairly. He has been in communication with the Dover police chief and is assured the police will work to safeguard the student. Rogers thanked Nur Shoop, who works with students involved in the Dream Project at the school, for her support of this student.

The Law Enforcement Accountability, Community, and Transparency Council will meet on August 5 and 6 at UNH.

The New Hampshire State Advisory Council on Civil Rights will meet on August 17.

The committee studying Economic Vitality in New Hampshire will hold a final meeting on August 18. Rogers noted that corporations and businesses like to move to states that have a diverse population and/or are willing to begin the process of attracting people of color to work as engineers and teachers, etc. The committee will seek out college students in these fields and try to persuade them to come to New Hampshire upon graduation. He also noted that such diversity also helps the state retain its young people.

The Governor's Council on Diversity and Inclusion plans to carry out diversity training by the end of August.

Rogers asked Jon Ring to read aloud a letter from Julie Cochrane expressing her gratitude to the Branch for its effective support in the case of the bullying of the Cochrane's daughter in the Hampton school system.

Rogers reviewed the steps necessary to carry out the Branch elections in November. We need to form a five-member nominating committee which will present a list of nominees at the September meeting. Members nominated for an office must sign a consent form which will be given to the Secretary.

## **Committee Reports**

### **MLK Jr. Breakfast Committee**

Jon Ring, chair of the committee, recommended a postponement of the Breakfast because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Members discussed if and how the upcoming breakfast should be held. Jon will set up a committee meeting to discuss all suggestions.

### **Youth Council**

Nur Shoop has been working with students involved in the Dream Project at Dover High School and has talked with the Dean of Students regarding the student accused of cyberbullying.

## **Ongoing Business**

David Watters spoke in appreciation of the work Rogers is doing around the state.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary