

**PORTSMOUTH NAACP, BRANCH 2070
MEMBERSHIP MEETING, January 2, 2012
1 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVENUE, PEASE INTERNATIONAL TRADEPORT**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm. with an invocation by President Fred Ross.

Secretary's Report

The minutes of the December 5 meeting were read and accepted.

President's Report

The new President of the Springfield, MA Branch has received a threatening handwritten letter alleging to be from the KKK.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legal Redress

Co-Chair Nina Jordan has received a phone call from an older black woman alleging abuse by a member of the Police Department. Since the woman is from Nashua, she was referred to the Manchester Branch. Nina noted that this is the second incident reported recently in which a police officer refused to show his badge or give his name.

ONGOING BUSINESS

Members voted unanimously to accept the Legal Redress jurisdiction boundaries proposed at the December meeting. This vote was the second of the two consecutive membership votes required by NEAC to establish the boundaries. Branches having been encouraged by NEAC to limit their jurisdiction to an area that can be served effectively, the Legal Redress jurisdiction of the Seacoast Branch will include Rockingham and Strafford counties and the towns of Eliot, Kittery, South Berwick, and Ogunquit in York County, Maine. As noted by Nina Jordan at the December meeting, complaints from outside this area can be referred to the Human Rights Commission and to attorneys who have agreed to advise complainants by phone.

Members voted unanimously to authorize the Treasurer to disburse funds for recurring Branch bills such as telephone and bank fees, without waiting for authority to issue each of these checks.

Freddye Ross reported that she attended the rally in New York to protest voter ID requirements which in effect disenfranchise targeted members of the population. She noted that South Carolina has outlawed these requirements and other states are in line to do so.

GUEST SPEAKER

Political Action Co-Chair Phyllis Killam-Abell introduced Lee Quandt, a retired state worker and for ten years a Representative from Exeter to the State Legislature.

Following the round table, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Elsemore
Secretary