



**Washington, DC NAACP Branch
General Body Meeting
Thursday, November 8, 2007
Israel Baptist Church
1251 Saratoga Avenue, NE
7:00pm**

AGENDA

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|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| I. Call to Order | Lorraine Miller, President |
| II. Opening Prayer | Rev. James Coleman, Chaplain |
| III. Greetings | Lorraine Miller, President |
| IV. Reading of Minutes | Ruby Lewis, Secretary |
| V. Treasurer Report | Angela Wood, Treasurer |
| VI. Black Jewish Dialogue Update | Ernestine Brown |
| VII. Jena II March | Terry Walker |
| VIII. Local Justice Task Force | Campbell C. Johnson, III |
| IX. <u>Committee Reports:</u> | |
| o Legal Redress | E. Ned Sloan |
| o Veteran Affairs | Joe Wynn |
| X. Announcements | |
| XI. Next Meeting Date | |
| XII. Adjournment | |



DRAFT

**Washington, DC NAACP Branch
General Body Meeting
Thursday, October 11, 2007
Israel Baptist Church
7:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

- I. Peter Carr, Brittney Autry, and Ceily Moore, NAACP Howard University Chapter reported that 41 Howard students and 9 adults traveled 26 hours (one-way) to Jena, LA on September 20, to attend the Jena 6 rally. Approximately 9,000 students and 1,000 adults attended rallies which were conducted in three sites in Jena before the supporters were able to converge at the LaSalle Parish Courthouse. Peter Carr, Chapter President, presented thank you notes for donors who contributed to the Chapter's travel costs.
- II. The Local Branch requested that NAACP members contact and show support to Rev. Raymond Bell, Pastor, First Rising Mt. Zion Baptist Church, who is first cousin to Jena 6 defendant Mychal Bell.
- III. Campbell C. Johnson, III, President, Enterprise Development Institute, proposed that a Local Justice Task Force (Action Committee) be initiated to receive individual and community concerns and to address disparity. The motion was approved. Mr. Johnson is seeking volunteers to serve on the newly formed Local Justice Task Force. Campbell C. Johnson, III, Chairman, Urban Housing Alliance will provide property tax reduction information to displaced moderate and low-income families on Saturday, October 20, 10:30 a.m., Spirit of Peace Baptist Church, 4311 R Street, Capitol Heights, MD.
- IV. The local branch of the American Jewish Committee will host the Black-Jewish Dialogue meeting on November 8. The DC Public School's Superintendent will participate in the forum. The American Jewish Committee's annual convention will be held on October 15, 6:30 p.m., Washington Hebrew Congregation, in Northwest DC. Tickets are \$25.00.
- V. Committee Reports:

Political Action Committee

- Eugene Kinlow, Outreach Director, DC Vote, reported that the DC Voting Rights legislation (Congressional Seat) failed to receive the 60 votes needed for cloture (57-42). Advocates will continue to garner support from City Council members in DC's eight Wards and from Congress via constituents who have moved to Washington. The *Washington Post's*, October 9, Metro Section contains an article concerning the possible outcome of a vote in 2009. The Stand Up for Democracy, Free DC, 10th Anniversary celebration will be held at Carnegie Library on Friday, October 19. Marion Barry is expected to attend. The Honorable Vincent Gray, DC City Council Chair, will host a youth forum on Saturday, October 13, at the DC City Council office building.

Veteran Affairs Committee

- The NAACP National Convention approved Joe Wynn's (Local Branch -- Veterans Affairs) Resolution that veteran workshops be included at local, state, regional, and national conferences. The Texas State Convention invited Joe Wynn to attend their session and to assist in presenting 2 1/2 days of veteran workshops. Saturday, November 10, will mark the 25th anniversary of the Vietnam War Veterans Memorial. A 9:30 a.m. parade and other events are being planned. Volunteers are needed.

Fundraising Committee

- The October 13, "Barrier Breakers" Freedom Fund Gala was postponed/canceled because of low ticket sales and sponsorship.

VI. Bishop Imogene B. Stewart announced African American Veterans and Families will host the 40th annual Thanksgiving Day dinner on Thursday, November 22, at 1110A 6th Street, N.E., DC 20006, (202) 518-8488.



DC NAACP Branch

Young Adults Committee Report

- I. The objectives of the Young Adults Committee are to recruit young adult members and encourage their participation in the branch initiatives through actively chairing and participating on committees of the Washington, DC Branch.
- II. The Young Adults Committee meets monthly to highlight the mission on the NAACP, objectives of the DC Branch, and discuss various education, economic, political, and health issues of interest to young adults.
- III. Our current initiatives are to continue increase the visibility of the NAACP DC Branch amongst young adults within the DC community, encourage membership dues payment, and motivate young adult members to be active committee chairs and members within the DC Branch.
- IV. YAC Goals:
 - Activate and Chair the Public Relations Committee. Person will be responsible for updating membership e-mail list and sending e-mails to mailing list. Person will develop press releases as needed
 - Activate and recruit an International Affairs Committee Chair
 - Activate and recruit a (WIN) Women In NAACP Committee Chair
 - Activate and recruit a Public Relations Committee Chair
 - Recruit a WebMaster to develop and maintain the branch website
 - Recruit a Social Event Planner to plan social events targeting young adults (i.e. Happy Hours)
 - Recruit a Fundraising Committee Co-Chair to specifically solicit and coordinate sponsorships
 - Recruit a Membership Committee Co-Chair to plan membership drives targeting young adults and assist Mrs. Fitzgerald with processing memberships
- V. Events:
 - On Thursday, November 29, 2007, we will collaborate with Thursday Network, NCNW, and the NAACP DCAC units to co-host a State of Emergency Forum on the unjust treatment of African-American youth within our juvenile justice system.
 - We are now co-hosting First Fridays at Felix with several other young professional organizations. Our first event co-hosting First Fridays will be held on Friday, December 7, 2007.
 - On Monday, December 17, 2007 we will co-host the Advance Film Screening of "The Great Debaters" with Thursday Network.

Respectfully Submitted By:
Akosua Tyus 11/4/2007



Washington, DC NAACP Branch **Economic Empowerment Committee Report**

- I. The objective of the Economic Empowerment committee is to accelerate economic growth in our communities and eliminate existing racial and ethnic economic disparities through implementing educational and advocacy programs.
- II. There are several programs developed by the NAACP National Office, which the Economic Empowerment Committee has requested information on implementing. These programs include Building on a Dream, Economic Reciprocity Initiative, Bank of America's Financial Empowerment Initiative (FEI), and the Reginald F. Lewis Youth Entrepreneurial Institute.

"Building on a Dream"

- "Building on a Dream" is a Homeownership Program developed by the NAACP National Office.
- This program is a partnership between the NAACP and the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) committed to ensuring that all American families who desire to own a home are able to do so.
- This program involves producing the housing report "Building on a Dream," which focusing on the state of minority housing in America and hosting Housing Town Hall meetings to address housing issues.
- Copies of the "Building on a Dream" Executive Summary Housing Report were distributed to the committee.
- Christine Bischoff of the NAACP National Office is the contact for implementing "Building on a Dream." She has offered to answer any questions our branch has on this program and assist our branch in implementing this program.

Economic Reciprocity Initiative (ERI)

- The Economic Reciprocity Initiative (ERI) measures corporate America's financial relationship with the African American community.
- Since 1996, the National NAACP Office has developed an annual Consumer Choice Guide analyzing the diversity efforts of 50 private corporations in lodging, telecommunications, financial services, general merchandising, and automotive industries.
- The national office recommends branches host workshops educating the community on the results of the annual Consumer Choice Guide.
- Copies of the 2006 Consumer Choice Guide were distributed to the committee.
- Christine Bischoff of the NAACP National Office's Economic Empowerment Department is the contact for this program and has offered to answer any questions our branch has on this program.

Financial Empowerment Initiative (FEI)

- The Financial Empowerment Initiative (FEI) is designed to advocate for increased access of African-American and other minority communities to credit, capital, and financial services in order to create wealth.
- The FEI program focuses on educating individuals about managing credit, achieving homeownership, business development and personal investing, while increasing financial literacy in general.
- The Bank of America Financial Empowerment Initiative (FEI) is currently being restructured by the National Office.
- Dawn Franklin explained that while the national office restructures the Financial Empowerment Initiative (FEI) with Bank of America, individual branches are welcome to develop Financial Empowerment Initiatives (FEI) with other financial institutions.
- Doris Bishop recommended that our branch contact Wachovia Bank as a potential partner in implementing our Financial Empowerment Initiatives (FEI).

Reginald F. Lewis Youth Entrepreneurial Institute

- The NAACP Reginald F. Lewis Youth Entrepreneurial Institute is an out-of-school based program offered through a partnership with (HBCU)'s to inspire young people to view entrepreneurship as an option for success and to teach them the skills required to become successful business owners.
- The Reginald F. Lewis Youth Entrepreneurial Institute for 2007 is currently on hold by the National Office.
- Dawn Franklin of the NAACP Economic Development Department is the contact for the potential implementation of this program.

III. The Economic Empowerment Committee identified workshops to be planned and conducted throughout the year. These workshops will focus on **Homeownership, Entrepreneurial Development, Credit Repair, Jobs, Tax Preparation, and Predatory Lending.**

Home Ownership Workshops

- Partner with local banks, HUD, and local community organizations to provide information on the benefits and feasibility of home ownership
- Work with local media outlets (local radio, television stations, newspapers) to ensure that event is listed on citywide community calendars

Entrepreneurial Workshops

- Partner with local business owners and community organizations to provide information and resources for attendees
- Organizations could include Small Business Association, lenders, and grant providers
- Work with local media outlets (local radio, television stations, newspapers) to ensure that event is listed on citywide community calendars

Credit Building Workshops

- Bring in various speakers, financial advisors, and community organizations to provide information on improving FICO scores, paying off debt, effective money management skills, etc.

- Speakers could include Michelle Singletary (of TV One's Singletary Says), Operation Hope, etc.

Job Fair

- Partner with local staffing agencies, local businesses, and federal agencies
- Provide information on job training programs
- Publicize event citywide and possibly partner with other local organizations
- Outreach to local high schools, community colleges, universities, community centers

Tax Preparation Workshop

- Provide attendees with information on federal tax credits, tax preparation, common mistakes, etc.
- Partner with local tax preparation providers such as H&R Block and the IRS
- Possibly offer free tax prep during workshop (encourage attendees to bring W2 forms and other info)
- Host in a location with a computer lab to provide e-filing

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Washington, DC NAACP Branch Health Committee Report

The first Health Committee meeting was held on Tuesday, September 4, 2007 at 6:30pm in the Black Women's Health Imperative office located at 1420 K St, NW, 10th Floor, Washington, DC.

The NAACP has 5 major health advocacy areas in which the Health Department requests that branch health committees focus their efforts on:

- Racial disparities and access to health care
- HIV/AIDS
- Respiratory diseases
- Mental Health
- Obesity and obesity related diseases

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Washington, DC NAACP Branch Youth Works Committee Report

- I. The objective of the Youth Works Committee is to develop youth leadership effective in positively affecting change with the community.
- II. The Youth Works Committee will work with the DC Area Council to implement a mentorship program between the Youth Council, College Chapters, and DC Branch members. This committee will function as a liaison fostering a collaborative relationship between the Youth Council, College Chapters, and DC Branch.
 - DC NAACP Youth Council
 - Howard NAACP College Chapter
 - Georgetown NAACP College Chapter
 - George Washington University NAACP College Chapter
 - American University, Catholic University, and UDC once re-activated and chartered
- III. The Region VII Youth & College Division office has appointed Akosua Tyus and Gerard Charles as Advisor and Co-Advisor in the activation of the DC Area Council. The DC Area Council will function as a governing body, which oversees the Youth Council and College Chapters in Washington, DC. Members of the DC Area Council will include all Youth & College units in Washington, DC. We would like to schedule a preliminary strategic planning meeting within the month of May, to develop goals and strategies for the DC Area Council.
- IV. Professional Development Mentorship Program:
 - The NAACP DC Branch Mentorship Program will include Professional Networking Events and on-going individual mentoring between branch members, college chapter members, and +18 youth council members.
 - A Professional Resource Database will be developed to track DC Branch Members professional expertise to be utilized as potential panelist and speakers for college chapters and youth council events.
 - An Internship Database will be maintained to receive internship opportunities in the community and promote awareness of the programs among youth council and college chapter members.
 - o The Branch Office is looking for interns to assist the Office Manager
 - o Joe Wynn is seeking an intern to assist his office with Veteran Affairs issues.

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