



**Washington, DC NAACP Branch  
General Body Meeting  
Thursday, April 12, 2007  
Israel Baptist Church  
1251 Saratoga Avenue, NE  
7:00pm**

**MINUTES**

- I. The Washington, DC NAACP Branch General Body Meeting was called to order at 7:07pm, by Joe Wynn, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President.
- II. Rev. Dr. E. Gail Anderson-Holness gave the opening prayer.
- III. Joe Wynn welcomed branch members and guests. Guest and members attending for the first time introduced themselves.
- IV. The minutes from the March 8, 2007 General Body Meeting were distributed and read silently by the general body. Rev. Dr. E. Gail Anderson Holness motioned the approval and acceptance of the minutes. The motion was seconded by Ruby Lewis and approved by the general body.
- V. Angela Wood, Treasurer, reported that the branch has an operating balance of \$8,800. The branch is current on all expenditures and office expenses. She plans to schedule a Finance Committee Meeting in May.

**Fundraising Committee:**

- Angela Wood reported that the branch is planning a fundraiser for 2007, which is expected to raise between \$100,000 and \$300,000 in revenue for the branch.
  - We plan to hire a professional event planner to coordinate the details of this event.
  - This event is planned to be a black tie banquet recognizing our president, Lorraine Miller, as the first African-America female to be appointed Clerk of the U. S. House of Representatives. The tentative date for this event will be Saturday, October 13, 2007. The proposed theme for this event is "Breaking Barriers." Proposed ticket prices are \$75 per person.
- VI. Former Mayor Anthony Williams had a death in his family, so his award recognition will be postponed for a later date.

## VII. Committee Reports:

### Youth Works Committee

- Rev. Dr. E. Gail Anderson Holness reported that the Youth Works Committee plans to work with the DC Area Council on implementing a mentorship program between the DC branch, youth council, and college chapter members. This program will involve creating a database of interested members' professional backgrounds and implementing programs to support the professional development of youth and young adults.
- The Region VII Youth & College Division appointed Akosua Tyus, Advisor and Gerard Charles, Co-Advisor in the organization of the DC Area Council. The DC Area Council is to coordinate the activities and secure the cooperation of all youth units in Washington, DC. Youth units include the DC Youth Council and College Chapters in DC. The DC Area Council will work with the DC Branch Youth Works committee to foster a working relationship between the branch, college chapters, and youth councils in DC.
- UDC has formed an activation committee to charter a college chapter. They have the funding for the 30 members necessary to charter a college chapter.
- Rev. Dr. E. Gail Anderson Holness distributed a professionally bound resume portfolio to the membership and announced that she has submitted her resume for consideration as President and CEO of the NAACP National Headquarters. E. Ned Sloan motioned for the NAACP DC Branch to support her candidacy for the position as NAACP President and CEO through writing a letter of support. This motion was seconded by Doris Bishop and unanimously approved by the membership.

### ACT-SO Committee

- Ruby Lewis, ACT-SO Chair, reported that the ACT-SO competition will be held on Saturday, April 21, 2007 at UDC from 10:00am to 2:00pm. We are still recruiting DCPS high school students between grades 9 and 12. Nathan Saunders volunteered for the Washington Teachers' Union to assist with increasing student participation in the competition.

### Education Committee

- Nathan Saunders announced that the Washington Teachers' Union and the NAACP DC Branch Education Committee co-sponsored a successful educational forum titled "Equity Matters," which was held on Wednesday, March 14, 2007 at the ARC-Community Room located at 1901 Mississippi Avenue, SE, Washington, DC. The forum addressed four issues detailed in the "NAACP Call for Action in Education," including (Issue #1) increasing resource equity, (Issue #2) improving teacher quality, (Issue #5) creating smaller class sizes, and (Issue #8) reducing the high school drop-put rate.
- Washington Teachers' Union sponsored the catering for this event.
- Michael Wotorson, Director of the NAACP Education Department, moderated the panel discussion. The panelist included Nathan Saunders, E. Ned Sloan, Graylan Scott Hagler, and Richelle Patterson.

### Legal Redress

- E. Ned Sloan reported that a Complaint Form has been developed and will be used to track and address complaints received by the branch.

### Membership Services Committee

- Elnora Fitzgerald reported the branch has 22 new memberships, including 16 regular memberships and 2 Life memberships.

### Economic Empowerment Committee

- Louise Langley submitted an e-mail to the branch resigning as chair of the Economic Empowerment Committee.

### Political Action Committee

- Eugene Dewitt Kinlow, Political Action Committee Chair, reported the DC Emancipation Day Voting Rights March will be held on April 16, 2007 at Freedom Plaza, located at 13<sup>th</sup> Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW.

### Veteran Affairs Committee

- Joe Wynn, Third Vice President and Veteran Affairs Committee Chair announced Veteran Affairs Committee meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at 6:30pm in the Office of Veteran Affairs, located at 441 4<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Washington, DC.

### Young Adults Committee

- Akosua Tyus, Assistant Secretary and Young Adults Committee Chair announced the first Young Adults Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 9, 2007 at 7:00pm in the Washington Teachers' Union Conference Room located at 1717 K Street, NW, Suite 902, Washington, DC. The goals of this first meeting include establishing specific committee objectives and developing a membership outreach plan.
- On Thursday, March 29, 2007, Stephanie Brown (NAACP Youth & College Division, National Director), Akosua Tyus, Young Adults Committee Chair, and several other young adult professionals hosted a Young Adults Happy Hour at the Eyebar to kick-off the NAACP Regional Conference and network with other young professionals. Over 30 young adult professionals were in attendance, which generated 15 new Young Adult Committee members and 2 new memberships.
- The Young Adults Committee goals include recruiting young adult members that will support the goals of the DC Branch and be involved in branch activities. The Young Adults Committee is initiating a coalition between several black community organizations in DC including Urban League Young Professionals, National Council of Negro Woman, National Black MBA Association, National Society of Black Engineers, National Pan Hellenic Council, Washington Teachers' Union, Morehouse Club, DC Metro CITE, Delta Sigma Theta, Sorority, Inc., and Sigma Gamma Rho, Sorority, Inc. The purpose of this coalition will be to strategically collaborate on addressing mutual issues within the community. We seek to meet quarterly to strategize, align similar objectives, support programs, and potentially co-sponsor programs within the community. The first meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 14, 2007 at 7:00pm in the Washington Teachers' Union Conference Room.

### Regional Conference

- Joe Wynn, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President and Josh Jefferson co-chaired the Region VII Advocacy Training Conference for 2007. Joe Wynn reported that the Region VII 2007 Civil Rights Advocacy Training Regional Conference was hosted by the DC NAACP Branch. It was held at the Capitol Hilton in Washington, DC from March 29-31, 2007. The Regional Conference committee met periodically to coordinate the conference activities and the responsibilities of hosting the conference.
- Joe Wynn reported that the conference was successful registering over 100 members throughout Region VII. The turnout was less than the average 300 registered members, due to the Virginia State Conference boycotting the Regional Conference.

- Joe Wynn reported that several successful education and empowering workshops were held throughout the Regional Conference weekend. Ernestine Brown coordinated the registration kits. Gloria Jefferson recruited hosts and hostesses. Richard Dudley coordinated public relations. Ruby Lewis coordinated the Taste of DC, which was held Friday evening. Rev. Dr. E. Gail Anderson Holness was the keynote speaker at the Mass Meeting. Angela Wood and Louise Langley coordinated the decorations for the Delegates Reception. Lorraine Miller was the Mistress of Ceremony, Akosua Tyus introduced the keynote speaker, and Rev. Charles White was the keynote speaker for the Freedom Fund Dinner. 6 vendors purchased booths for the conference. The vendors that stayed through the conclusion of the Freedom Fund Dinner on Saturday evening made profitable sales.

VIII. Lorraine Miller, President, announced that the National Convention will be held July 7-12 in Detroit, MI. Election for the National Convention Delegates will be held at the next General Body Meeting on May 10, 2007 at 7:00pm in the Israel Baptist Church.

IX. Announcements:

- Akosua Tyus announced that the Greater Washington Urban League (GWUL) Energy Assistance Program is now accepting applications Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays only from 9:30am to 4:30pm at 2901 14<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009. For more information call (202) 265-8200 x250 or x257.
- Nathan Saunders announced that the Washington Teachers' Union is sponsoring a bus trip to New York to see the Color Purple on Saturday, April 28, 2007, departing at 9:30am and returning at 3:00am. Ticket prices are \$177.50 and can be purchased by contacting Tonia Pollard of the WTU office at (202) 293-8600.
- Akosua Tyus announced that her father, Kofi Tyus, owns a greeting card company and has catalogs for Mother's Day, Graduation, and Father's Day greeting cards.

X. Rev. Shearin gave the closing prayer. The meeting adjourned at 9:08pm.

**ATTENDEES**

Dr. E. Gail Anderson-Holness  
 Shavon Arline  
 Doris Bishop  
 Ernestine Brown  
 Estella Burton  
 Johnny Byrd, SGT  
 Gregory Evans  
 Jack Evans  
 Elnora Fitzgerald  
 Anthony Floyd  
 Carmen Francis  
 Gloria Jefferson  
 Joshua Jefferson  
 Sylvia Jeter  
 Campbell Johnson  
 Theresa Johnson  
 Alberta Kinard  
 Eugene Dewitt Kinlow  
 Louise Langley  
 Kelvin Lassiter  
 Ruby Lewis  
 Charles Lowrey  
 Page 4 of 4

Michael McElloy  
 Lorraine Miller  
 Ayo Moore  
 Nathan Saunders  
 Morris Shearin  
 E. Ned Sloan  
 Eva Stephens  
 Rebecca Thompson  
 Akosua Tyus  
 Wayne Upton  
 Terry Walker  
 Karen Wentz  
 Regina Williams  
 Angela Wood  
 Ardell Woodland  
 Joe Wynn

<p><b>38 Total Attendees</b>  <b>6 Visitors</b></p>
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