



**Washington, DC NAACP Branch  
General Body Meeting  
Thursday, January 10, 2008  
Israel Baptist Church  
1251 Saratoga Avenue, NE  
Washington, DC  
7:00pm**

**MINUTES**

- I. Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Rev. Shearin, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.
- II. Rhonda McManus gave the opening prayer.
- III. Rev. Shearin brought greetings and informed the membership that Lorraine Miller is currently on travel in Israel with Speaker Pelosi and President Bush.
- IV. The minutes from the December 14, 2007 General Body Meetings were read silently and approved with noted corrections.
- V. We are currently looking for volunteers to help staff the branch office while we continue to review and interview Office Manager Applicants.
- VI. Ruby Lewis announced that Mrs. Louise Langley resigned as Office Manager on December 13, 2007. We are currently looking for volunteers to help staff the branch office while we continue to review resumes and interview applicants. Several candidates have been identified and a selection will be made by the end of the month. A Retirement Celebration will be held for Mrs. Langley on January 25, 2007 at B. Smith Restaurant from 6:00-8:00pm. The dinner cost is \$40.00 per person. Dinner payments are being collected by Ruby Lewis.
- VII. Angela Wood, Treasurer reported that the branch is current on all expenditures and office expenses. The branch currently has \$27,000 in its operating account and \$9,000 in its Freedom Fund account.
- VIII. Sable Nelson announced the NAACP DC Area Council has been structured as the governing body, which oversees the Youth Council and College Chapters in Washington, DC. Members of the DC Area Council include all Youth & College units in Washington, DC. The first NAACP DC Area Council Meeting was held on Sunday, October 14, 2007. At the October 2007 meeting officers were elected. President is Sable Nelson from Howard NAACP College Chapter. Vice President is Sean White from GWU NAACP College Chapter. Secretary is Ellie Gunderson from Georgetown NAACP College Chapter. Treasurer is Ashley Taliaferro from DC NAACP Youth Council.

Akosua Tyus and Gerard Charles were appointed Advisor and Co-Advisor in the activation of the DC Area Council. Thus far DCAC has worked with American University to re-activate the AU NAACP and UDC has chartered a new chapter. The next DCAC meeting will be held in February 2008.

## IX. Committee Reports:

### Fundraising Committee

- Ruby Lewis announced the “Barrier Breakers” Fundraising Gala has been rescheduled for March 5, 2008. It will be held at the Grand Hyatt hotel in Washington, DC. The fundraising goal is to raise \$150,000 to \$200,000 for the branch through selling between 300 and 500 tickets. Entertainment will be provided by the Dynamic Superiors. Ticket prices are \$100 or \$750 per table. Key persons include Nancy Pelosi, Robert McGlotten, Dorothy Jackson, and W. Ronald Evans.

### Young Adults Committee

- Akosua Tyus, Assistant Secretary and Young Adults Committee Chair announced that the objectives of the Young Adults Committee are to recruit young adult members. 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. Goals include appointing a Public Relations Chairperson that will be responsible for updating membership e-mail list and sending e-mails to mailing list. Other goals include to activate and recruit an International Affairs and (WIN) Women In NAACP Committee Chair. On Thursday, November 29, 2007 we collaborated 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 was held on Friday, December 7, 2007. We also co-hosted the Advance Film Screening of “The Great Debaters” with Thursday Network on Monday, December 17, 2007. Akosua Tyus introduced 5 students visiting from Texas Southern University that learned about that DC Branch General Body Meeting on the [www.naacpdc.org](http://www.naacpdc.org) website.

### Youth Works Committee

- E. Gail Anderson Holness, Youth Works Chairperson announced the objective of the Youth Works Committee is to develop youth leadership effective in positively affecting change with the community. The Youth Works Committee will work with the DC Area Council to foster a collaborative relationship between the Youth Council, College Chapters, and DC Branch.

### Veteran Affairs Committee

- Joe Wynn, Third Vice President and Veteran Affairs Committee Chair announced Veteran Affairs Committee co-hosted the monthly Veterans United for Community Service (VUCS) Forum on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, January 3, 2008, along with the D.C. Office of Veterans Affairs, the National Association for Black Veterans (NABVETS), and the Veterans Enterprise Training & Services Group (VETS Group). The purpose of the forum is to exchange information and ideas with Veterans, Agency Representatives, Community Leaders and Residents. It was held from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm at the Citywide Conference Center, located at 441 4<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Wash., D.C.

The next forum is scheduled for the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, February 7, 2008 at the Citywide Conference Center in Washington, D.C.

Political Action Committee

- Eugene D. Kinlow announced the a Pre-Primary Caucus will be held Saturday, January 19, 2008 at McKinley High School located at 2<sup>nd</sup> and T Street, NW. The next Political Action Committee meeting will be held in February 2008.

Membership Committee

- Elnora Fitzgerald announced the branch processed 524 memberships between January and December 2007.

X. The next meeting will be held Thursday, February 14, 2008 at 7:00pm in Israel Baptist Church.

XI. The meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

Attendees:

Rev. Shearin  
Ruby Lewis  
Akosua Tyus  
Angela Wood  
E. Ned Sloan  
Imogene Stewart  
Vincent Cail  
Rick Barrera  
Nikiah Hawkins  
Amy Brooks  
Albert Roberts  
Kevin Lassiter  
Eugene Kinlow  
Sable Nelson  
E. Gail Anderson-Holness  
Theresa Johnson  
Elnora Fitzgerald  
Rhonda McManus  
Louise Langley