

SUTLAND CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
Regular Meeting Minutes - Virtual Zoom
May 16, 2022

Meeting called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Presiding Officer Carol Jones

Invocation given by: Rev. Brenda Cardwell

Presiding Officer Carol Jones; welcomed members and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Roll Call of Executive Board Officers present: Presiding Officer / Treasurer, Carol Jones, Assistant Treasurer, Terri Miller, Recording Secretary Kenneth Waddell, Correspondence Secretary, Charlotte Williams, Financial Secretary, Judy Bowie-Robinson Trustee Monica Gaddy, Trustee Bryana Head, and Membership Committee Chairperson, Mary Allen.

Participants: thirty-one (31)

Guest speaker, Willie Flowers, President of Md National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

Mr. Flowers stated he is working on what is going on in the country. He reminded everyone that this week in the Prince George's County is the fifth (5) anniversary of Richard Collins's death. Richard Collins III, commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army was days away from graduating from Bowie State University when he was killed in May 2017 at a University of Maryland bus stop. Sean Urbanski, a white supremacist walked up, told him to "step left," then stabbed him in the heart. The University of Maryland opened up opportunities to honor him; even though, he was not a student there. A monument and scholarship allotments of \$1 million for students taking Reserve Officers Training Corp (ROTC) and seek a career in the military, work implement by his parent since his death. He was not eligible for death benefit because he did not graduate from West Point or the Naval Academy. However, post humanly, those benefit have been granted for those who now graduate from ROTC without attending the fore – mentioned military institutes.

Prince George's County, Md State's Attorney, Aisha N. Braveboy is working to strength hate crime laws in Maryland. Hate is real! Everything at the local level has a purpose. We cannot go back the way things were. Keep doing what you are doing to unify yourself.

There are 25 NAACP branches in Maryland, including two (2) in Baltimore. Region 7 include VA, MD and DC. There college chapters, youth councils (every county in MD has something). The councils aspire the youth in a purposeful life. The 2022 NAACP National Convention will be in Atlantic City, NJ. Most of work is volunteer, Headquarters in Columbia, MD. People are encouraged to get involved to increase membership, fund raisers, program development, committees, education and health care.

Prince George's County NAACP, President is Linda Thomas. She is doing things in the community to show the NAACP is actively engaging the community in constructive direction with the local community, such as, working with chat groups, people with invisible disabilities (e.g., ADHD, epilepsy).

Fundraisers is used used to diversify creative ways to ensure the cash flow is there.

Grants are utilized in prohibition on tobacco; hence, standing up against it for African Americans, American Heart, Voices for the Children.

The National NAACP has been successful enough that they will be able to pay off all their debts at the end of 2022, with a \$45 mil surplus. This will help with being able to pay staffers at the grass roots areas. Churches have been a big influencer that has geared the direction of programs, training and fundraising endeavors.

Several incidents at schools have been raising issues in the state. A lot of folks are organizing into a bargaining union to protect their labor rights and wages.

Grant funding will give opportunity for walking tours jobs for retirees.

The NAACP follow the Critical Race Theory (CRT) – It should be our role to teach our children about their heritage, it should not be left to the schools.

Student Loan Reduction – We should consider how to magnify reductions on student loans in the first place, such as Pell Grants. No one should not go to school because the fear of debt.

Voting – we want folks to vote. Bring Black folk out to vote. When we do not, things are impacted in our community.

Open for Questions:

Q. Tobacco stores, what can we do? Ans: We can remind elected officials to not get paid off. Menthol flavored cigarettes enhance Black folks smoking habits.

Q. Piggy backing off the first question, what official should we focus on? Ans: All, tell them what your agenda is, do not let them come to you; for emphasis, education awareness, and not give up on it.

Q. You mentioned Walking tours, what are they? Ans: There are Grants available for 501 3c organizations to bring people into your state or community to share the local community and/or state heritage.

Q. In Suitland, what types of programs or outreach do you have for inclusion? Ans: Creative Youth Council, diversity challenge technology is widespread.

Growing Green with Pride – Team Leader, Jamie Loizzo:

Forty volunteers met at the parking lot of Creature Suitland and participated in a successful Prince George's County cleanup program "Growing Green With Pride" on April 23, 2022. Twenty-five (25) bags of trash was collected. The organization won a \$500.00 award for future project. Next clean up will be May 21st (Saturday). We will meet at the Welcome to Suitland sign across from Chick fil-A.

Recommendation to pay for Website Redesign:

Alice Holt motioned to pay the fee of \$585.00 for the redesign of the SCA website and LinDonna Griffin 2nd. All were in favor, and none opposed.

Recommendation to select person to cut grass at clubhouse not to exceed \$300 per month:

Judy Bowie-Robinson motioned to select person to cut grass at clubhouse not to exceed \$300 per month and Doris Jones 2nd. All were in favor, and none opposed.

Recommendation to reestablish QuickBooks as part of our finances, \$450 yearly:

Mary Allen motioned to reestablish QuickBooks as part of our finances at yearly cost of approximately \$450 and Doris Jones 2nd. All were in favor, and none opposed.

Open for Questions and /or Concerns:

Candidate Forum:

County Council District 7 & County Council At Large: Both Forums will be held on Wednesday,
May 18, 2022

1. County Council District 7 - Time: 7:00 – 7:45 pm
2. County Council At Large – Time: 8:00 – 9:00 pm

Voter's Registration:

1. Creative Suitland Parking Lot - Time: 2:00pm – 5:00 pm – May 22, 2022
2. Giant Food's Parking Lot - Time: 2:00pm – 5:00 pm – June 26, 2022

Pilgrimage Christian Church in Suitland, MD:

Food giveaway - Time: 2:00pm – 5:00 pm – May 21, 2022

Meeting Adjourned: 08:35 PM

Kenneth Waddell
Recording Secretary