

**PORTSMOUTH NAACP, BRANCH 2070
MEMBERSHIP MEETING, APRIL 5, 2010
1 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVENUE, PEASE INTERNATIONAL TRADEPORT**

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by President Fred Ross, with an invocation by Chaplain Irving Heughan.

Secretary's Report

The minutes of the March 1 meeting were read and accepted.

President's Report

President Fred Ross shared information about the new NAACP Interactive Historical Timeline, where members, especially students, may find interesting historical information of which they have been unaware. The Website for the Timeline is <http://www.naacphistory.org> .

Fred expressed appreciation for all the help and support WalMart has given the Branch in recent years, including the NEAC breakfast buffet and annual picnics with delicious food supplied, cooked, and served by WalMart managers.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Freedom Fund

Freddye Ross urged members to sell raffle tickets to friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers, and to promote attendance at the event. She expressed thanks to Jon and Phyllis Ring, Rogers Johnson, Allison Grover Khoury, Pat Gormley, Valerie Cunningham and Fred Ross for their donations to the silent auction.

Bat Kaddy provided an enjoyable preview of the music of Pete Peterson, who will be a featured performer at the fundraising event.

Legal Redress

Nina Jordan reported that we have received two complaints this month from families of inmates. She said that our question is how we can best serve these people who allege that they are being wrongly accused. Our best effort in the past has been to speak with the parties involved, including the individual's attorney. Most attorneys have welcomed our support of their client. Sometimes our help is in the form of accompanying clients to court so they do not feel so alone, especially when they are the only persons of color in their community. Because many of the attorneys involved are public defenders with a large caseload, Legal Redress can help by making a call to the attorney when a client is anxious about not having received a phone call or letter in a long period of time. At other times, they can explain the attorney's thinking in a way that is better understood by the client and the client's family.

A recent complaint concerning the harassment of a six-year old child has come from a family in Maine. The case was referred to the Portland Branch.

Another hearing on the NH Bully Law will be held in Concord on April 6. Rogers Johnson will join Nina in attending the hearing.

Media and Publicity

Fred spoke of the need for consistent notice of upcoming meetings in local papers, noting that we need a back-up for the times when Dom Domingo is out of town. Ideas were discussed for media coverage of the April 24 Fundraiser.

Scholarship Committee

Rob McGann reported that few applications have been received, and the deadline for application was extended to April 15. Members discussed possible reasons why more students are not applying, and suggested ways to encourage more students to apply.

Website

Fred noted that the Website looks really good after its recent update.

During the round table, members introduced themselves and reported on recent and upcoming events relating to the interests and goals of the NAACP.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

Frances Elsemore