

MLK Dream Team
Thurs., February 23, 2017
Kennedy Branch Library

Presiding: Watasha Barnes Griffin and Cherise Flowers

Members Present: Cherise Flowers, Watasha Barnes Griffin, Beth Quarles, Rhonda Ward, Keith Doudt, Becki Clock, Yvonne Thompson, Cornelius Dollison, Mary Dollison, Charles R. Payne, Marilyn Carey, Beth A. Messner, Susan Fisher, Di Lynn Phelps, LaKeyta Brown.

Meeting Convened at 8:10 a.m. with a moment of silence.

Minutes: The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: No Report. Susan has gotten the records from Linda Rent and has paid all the invoices to date. A new treasurer will be voted on later in the meeting.

Freedom Bus Report:

- The Silent Auction was very successful at the Black History Month Kick-Off, making over \$1000. Cardinal communications is sending out thank you for the donors of auctioned items and acknowledgment letters to those who purchased.
- They have been able to print about one half of the flyers and materials for the Freedom Bus.
- Charles said the Bus Committee has not met in the past month.
- Susan reported we had been contacted by a group in Noblesville and it was decided not to go at this time. The contact person was not sure if they wanted the bus or not and the bus still needs a repair on the oil leak. Discussion followed suggesting we connect with this group at another time. Susan did suggest the contact person check our website.
- Beth reported the bus was on Ball State campus yesterday, February 22.

Black History Month

- The event went very well.
- Everything was sold at the silent auction.
- There was a lot of positive feedback about the essays and the presentation by Dr. Payne and Mrs. Otee Stills.
- Steve Perry did a video of the event and gave us a copy.
- DiLynn did a fantastic job with the essay contest. She reminded us that Rhonda will be doing this next year.
- Dr. Terry Whitt Bailey did a great job as the MC and giving a tribute to Al Rent.
- Food Drive, no report.

Walk of Fame: No report.

Voter Registration: We discussed doing voter registration at the Black History Kick-Off Month. Open Door will continue doing open enrollment.

Day of Prayer: Yvonne asked for our thoughts on how this should be presented this year. Last year there were different speakers from different religions. This went well. It was suggested that we do something very similar this year. The Day of Prayer is the first Thursday in May.

Yvonne also asked about an Indiana House bill to address Hate Crimes. She suggested we might put together a letter as a group. Yvonne will send each of us a copy of the bill and the name of the sponsor. Susan moved that the Dream Team show support for this bill, Beth seconded and the motion passed.

Youth Citizenship Awards & Essay Contest:

- DiLynn thanked everyone for their help and support.
- The event went very well.
- Paris McCurdy was the special speaker.

Scholarship Committee: Susan added the amounts of the two scholarships on the application and got it to the committee. Becki has personally taken copies to each of the schools in Delaware County and talked to the Guidance Counselor responsible for scholarships. She is sharing with them that this is a collaboration with NAACP and Muncie Black Expo. She has updated the school contact information. Mary will get applications out to groups in the community. Becki will email her a cover letter and also email the membership the list of schools she has visited so if there are any others you can let her know. Deadline is April 25.

New Business:

- Becki was nominated as the new treasurer. Susan moved and Marilyn seconded the motion. It was passed. Susan suggested that we have three people who can sign the checks. Right now it is Susan and Dave Heeter at Mutual Bank. Keith moved, and Mary seconded to have three signatures from the MLK Dream Team for the checking account. Motion passed. Susan, Watasha and Becki will arrange to go to the bank to get the signature cards updated.

Old Business: Jacey Foley sent a text to Watasha saying that we really need a website. It was decided to discuss this at the next meeting. Beth said Cardinal Communications could help to get information on the old website. Since the semester is half over she said it was something they would not be able to take on at this time.

Announcements by Members:

- There is one more Mayor's Black History Month Forum, Tuesday, February 28 at 6 p.m. at Union Missionary Baptist Church. It will honor Allie Craycraft and Hurley Goodall.
- Mary reported the Citizens for Central are seeing positive results. They are at Central on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:15 until 7:55 a.m. They are starting another time, on Fridays, during the lunch hours to give students an opportunity to learn about what is going on in the community.

Adjourned at 9:11 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Becki Clock, Secretary

Next Meeting: March 23 at 8 a.m. at Kennedy Library.