

**City of Keene**  
**New Hampshire**

**MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr. /JONATHAN DANIELS COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, January 4, 2017**

**5:00 PM**

**Trustee's Room, Library**

**Members Present:**

Bill Hay, Chair  
Melanie Everard, Vice-Chair (Late)  
Rev. Michael Hall  
Yves Gakunde  
Mandi Slate  
Dottie Morris (Late)

**Staff Present:**

Meghan Spaulding, Recreation Programmer

**Members Not Present:**

**1) Call to Order and Roll Call -**

Chair Hay called the meeting to order at 5:03 PM. Roll call was conducted.

**2) Approval of Minutes – December 7, 2016**

Rev. Hall made a motion to approve the minutes of December 7, 2016 as submitted. Ms. Slate seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**3) Finance Report – (Page 7 of 7)**

Ms. Spaulding reported the balance remains unchanged at \$8,762.66.

Mr. Gakunde made a motion to accept the Finance Report as presented. Ms. Slate seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**4) Request of Funds- Keene Interfaith Clergy (Page 4 of 7)**

Chair Hay noted Mark Ferrin addressed the Committee last month with this request for funds and asked for a motion of support. Mr. Gakunde commented on the budget (\$900) asking what will happen if they don't raise all the funds. The request to the Committee is for \$500. Ms. Spaulding pointed out monies would be earned from ticket sales for the event.

Martin Luther King, Jr. /Jonathan Daniels Committee  
January 4, 2017

Ms. Slate motioned to approve the \$500 Request for Funds from the Keene Interfaith Clergy Group. Ms. Morris seconded the motion which carried on a vote of 5-0. Rev. Hall was recused from voting as he is part of the Clergy Group.

Rev. Hall asked for a speaker from the Committee to be present to talk about the work the Committee does and possibly the D.C. trip. Chair Hay agreed to speak at the MLK, Jr. Breakfast to represent the Committee. Rev. Hall welcomed all Committee members to the event being held on January 16, 2017.

#### **5) DC Trip – Marketing Ideas**

Chair Hay asked for marketing ideas. Mr. Gakunde suggested using the City's Paycheck Newsletter online which reaches all employees. Ms. Everard suggested getting the Sentinel to write an article. Ms. Slate suggested inviting someone from the Sentinel to the Breakfast. After discussion Committee members agreed with this idea. Ms. Everard agreed to contact Callie Ginter as suggested by Chair Hay. Ms. Morris said she could add it to the KSC events calendar. Mr. Gakunde also indicated he would create a brochure for local distribution; the draft will be forwarded to Ms. Spaulding. Noting the lack of Civics education these days Rev. Hall suggested this could be the slant the Committee comes in on for this trip. Rev. Hall also noted going on the Chris Coates show has been very successful; he suggested using this approach as the Committee gets closer to the date. Ms. Slate and Ms. Everard indicated they would be unable to make the trip. This will be an ongoing discussion.

Changing gears Chair Hay commented he has been thinking about what the Committee will do this year after the Breakfast; he noted past events.

Ms. Slate reiterated previous discussions regarding the Wallace's book and getting the message of the book out to students. Ms. Everard reported discussing this with Nancy Ancharski and they determined it would be a larger task than anticipated. Ms. Everard suggested getting two books for each school (10 books in total). She continued someone could attend a Staff meeting to request the books be introduced to the students. Ms. Spaulding noted people do go in and read in the classrooms. Committee members were in favor of this idea with the majority of Committee members indicating they would be willing to read. Ms. Everard also suggested starting at the 5<sup>th</sup> grade level. Being unsure of the protocol for setting this up Ms. Everard indicated she would approach her Principal first and report back to the Committee. Discussion ensued with regards to the cost of purchasing the books; Chair Hay indicated he would speak to the Wallace's regarding a donation.

Ms. Slate made mention of the "Teaching Tolerance" magazine and asked if it was still in the schools. Ms. Everard was unsure so Ms. Slate said she would look into it. Ms. Slate also made note of the American Girl doll class she teaches at "Kids on Campus". She noted the dolls come with books based on history (historical stories) that are for the 10-year old audience. Recently American Girl came out with a doll that is civil rights based from the 1960's.

Returning to the trip Rev. Hall suggested going next door and doing a show about the different stops. He noted this is something they would show multiple times. Rev. Hall also suggested a calendar of events and made note of last year's Day of Service cards.

Committee members agreed to brainstorm ideas for what to do in 2017.

**6) Membership** – Students/Adults- 2 Seats Open

Ms. Slate provided contact information for Madison Tremblay to Ms. Spaulding. Ms. Tremblay is a junior in High School and lives in Jonathan Daniels original home. Ms. Slate did invite Ms. Tremblay to the February meeting.

Ms. Morris and Mr. Gakunde also provided adult contact information to Ms. Spaulding. Ms. Spaulding will send Letters of Interest to Ms. Tremblay, Kelly Walsh, and Bridey Scully. Mrs. Spaulding outlined the process for bringing on new members that she will be following. In response to Rev. Hall, Ms. Spaulding noted she would verify the total membership the Committee is allowed.

**7) Vote on 2017 Meeting Schedule** – (Page 6 of 7)

Rev. Hall motioned to approve the 2017 Meeting Schedule with the exception of July 5, 2017. Ms. Slate seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

There will be no July 5, 2017 Committee meeting.

**8) New Business** –

1. Chair Hay reported the Executive Director of MONIFF will come before the Committee next month to address a Request for Funds. Ms. Spaulding reminded Chair Hay the Request gets to her five (5) days before the agenda is published.
2. Ms. Spaulding noted Election of Officers would be on the next agenda.

**9) Adjourn-**

There being no further business Chair Hay adjourned the meeting at 5:47 PM.

**Next meeting date:** February 1, 2017

Respectfully submitted by,  
Mary Lou Sheats-Hall, Minute Taker  
January 5, 2017

Respectfully edited by,  
Meghan Spaulding, Staff Liaison  
January 5, 2017