

City of Keene
New Hampshire

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

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

5:00 PM

Trustee's Room, Library

Members Present:

Yves Gakunde
Mandi Slate
Dottie Morris
Melanie Everard, Vice-Chair (Late)

Staff Present:

Andy Bohannon, Parks & Rec Director

Members Not Present:

Rev. Michael Hall
Bill Hay, Chair

1) Call to Order and Roll Call -

Vice-Chair Everard called the meeting to order at 5:04 PM. Roll call was conducted.

2) Approval of Minutes – March 1, 2017

Mr. Gakunde made a motion to approve the minutes of March 1, 2017 as submitted. Ms. Slate seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

3) Finance Report – (Page 6 of 6)

Mr. Bohannon reported the current balance is \$9,012.66. Mr. Bohannon explained the format change back to a three column spreadsheet. He noted the current balance includes the \$750.00 donation from the St. James's Thrift Shop which goes before City Council for acceptance this week. The Committee also received \$500.00 from the City of Keene and spent \$500.00 each on the MLK Breakfast and the Monadnock Film Festival.

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

4) Programming Ideas-

1. Read Aloud Programming-

Ms. Slate provided an update on her contact with the two authors discussed at the previous meeting. Ms. Slate reported Cynthia Levinson indicated she would have her booking agent,

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Samantha Clark contact Ms. Slate. After discussion Committee members agreed once a booking agent was involved the cost would probably be very high. Continuing her update Ms. Slate noted Susan Meyer is interested in a book visit. Ms. Meyer is available in the fall. Ms. Meyer charges \$1,500.00 plus travel, lodging and modest food which includes up to three presentations and an informal lunch conversation. Ms. Meyer also asks that a book sale flyer be distributed prior to her visit. Ms. Slate provided Ms. Meyer's website information www.susanlynnmeyer.com. After discussion Committee members agreed on the following:

1. The three presentations could involve the Franklin Elementary School, a classroom at another elementary school (tie in the KSC Early Education), and have the last presentation at the Library in the evening.
2. The author luncheon is a great idea; people to invite include the Mayor, someone from C&S, and/or the School District.
3. The Committee can apply for a \$1,000.00 grant from C&S and pick up the remaining \$500.00 balance.
4. Hotel accommodations for one night are not a deal breaker.
5. The Committee agreed with Ms. Morris' suggestion to use either "Skating with the Statue of Liberty" or "Black Radishes for the book read. Both books were written by Susan Meyer.
6. Mr. Gakunde suggested connecting with Friends of the Library.
7. Mr. Bohannon suggested contacting Gail Zachariah to see if there are any grants available.
8. The Committee agreed the event should take place in September.

Mr. Gakunde motioned for the Committee to pursue contracting with Susan Meyer to do a book reading in Keene. Ms. Morris seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The following is the Committee "To Do" list with updates to be provided at the next meeting.

1. Mr. Gakunde will connect with "Friends of the Library".
2. Ms. Slate will check with Ms. Meyer regarding an evening presentation. She will also keep Ms. Meyer informed about the Committee's intent.
3. Mr. Bohannon will connect with Gail Zachariah. Mr. Bohannon will make the C&S connection. Mr. Bohannon and Ms. Slate will work on the C&S grant application.

With regards to the Community Read Aloud also discussed at the last meeting Committee members agreed Ms. Meyer's could be the kickoff to this endeavor. This will be placed on the next agenda for further discussion.

- Monadnock Progressive Alliance –

Vice-Chair Everard reported the Safe City initiative is moving along. She noted the Immigrant and Refugee Partnership is using Jonathan Daniels as their touchstone. Vice-Chair Everard reported on a panel discussion to be held on April 24, 2017 with Attorney Cathy Chesney as one of the speakers. Attorney Chesney is associated with the ACLU. Vice-Chair Everard will forward the information to Mr. Bohannon for distribution to the Committee.

5) Washington DC-

Mr. Bohannon reported the trip has been announced so we are now waiting to see if we get any registrations. Mr. Gakunde also noted the trip information is posted on the City website. After

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discussion Mr. Bohannon agreed to make the contacts for visiting the Black History Museum during the trip.

6) New Business –

1. Mr. Gakunde referred to the email regarding the Film Festival (April 22, 2017) panel “I’m Not Your Negro” and asked which Committee members were going to help. Chair Hay had said he would do it. Ms. Morris had also volunteered and agreed to contact Mr. Antonnuci to see if he was available. Mr. Bohannon agreed to have Chair Hay contact Ms. Morris prior to the event.

7) Adjourn-

There being no further business Vice-Chair Everard adjourned the meeting at 5:38 PM.

Next meeting date: May 3, 2017

Respectfully submitted by,
Mary Lou Sheats-Hall, Minute Taker
April 6, 2017