

City of Keene
New Hampshire

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

Wednesday, May 4, 2016

5:00 PM

Trustee's Room, Library

Members Present:

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

Staff Present:

Meghan Spaulding, Recreation Programmer
Andy Bohannon, Parks & Rec Director

Members Not Present:

Ella MacDonald
Melanie Everard

1) Call to Order and Roll Call -

Chair Scalia called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM. Roll call was conducted.

2) Approval of Minutes – March 2, 2016 (Pages 2-4 in the packet)

Ms. Slate made a motion to approve the minutes of March 2, 2016 as submitted. Rev. Hall seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

3) Finance Report – (Page 6 of 8 in the packet)

Ms. Spaulding reported no changes in the balance (\$8,263.06) from last month.

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

4) MONIFF Request for Funds – (Page 5 of 6 in the packet)

Mr. Gakunde asked if the request was valid being the event has already occurred. Chair Scalia said we've never accepted an application for an event that has already happened. There was no one from MONIFF present to address their request. Chair Scalia recommended the Committee not entertain this request. Chair Scalia did suggest letting MONIFF know the Committee is interested in working with them in the future and advising them of the request timeline procedure. Discussion ensued regarding the Committee's past involvement with MONIFF. Mr. Hay

suggested Ms. Costello wasn't aware of the request process. Rev. Hall suggested MONIFF could resubmit the request early for next year. Ms. Spaulding will verify the process is available on the Committee's webpage. Mr. Bohannon provided a history of the Committee's funds received from City Council and other entities for new members. Mr. Bohannon also noted that a request for funding/sponsorship can be submitted early. Discussion continued to answer the question whether or not the Committee should be a fiscal agent for other events. Referring to MONIFF Mr. Bohannon noted other than the Jonathan Daniels Award there is no connection to this Committee, and does not align itself with the mission of the Committee. Chair Scalia discussed the difference in the Committee's involvement with MONIFF and the Interfaith Clergy Group for past events. Chair Scalia noted no ill-will towards MONIFF; he agreed with Mr. Bohannon's comments about not seeing the connection to the Committee's goals/mission. No opposing comments were provided by the Committee members. Rev. Hall asked if there was a cap on the amount of funds the Committee donated per event; he also discussed stewardship of the Committee's funds.

Rev. Hall moved that the Committee respectfully decline the MONIFF request for funding. Ms. Morris seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

5) **Voter Turnout**- No update at this time.

6) **DC Trip Update**- Informational (Pages 7-8 in the packet)

Mr. Bohannon discussed the trip proposal (costs based on 40 people) he obtained from Wilson Bus Lines noting some of the meals can be removed to reduce the costs. Mr. Bohannon also pointed out as this is their busy time the Committee will need to decide whether they want in or not. He advised now would be a good time for the Committee to start organizing if this is something they want to do. Chair Scalia asked about a signup timeframe and the hotels. Mr. Bohannon indicated there is a 30-day cutoff, and the hotel names were not provided. He also suggested the hotels would probably not be in the city. Mr. Bohannon also pointed out the only ticketed item on the trip is the National Cathedral Tour. Rev. Hall asked if it was possible to switch a visit to one of the museums for a visit to the Supreme Court. Mr. Bohannon indicated this could be arranged. Mr. Bohannon will also verify the cancellation policy with Wilson.

Rev. Hall made a motion that the Committee move forward with this idea and proposal from Wilson Bus Lines. Mr. Gakunde seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

7) **New Business**-

1. Chair Scalia reported he has been given a new position at Franklin Pierce and will be leaving the Committee. Chair Scalia will be submitting his resignation letter to take effect in June. Committee members will elect a new Chairperson at the June meeting.

2. Ms. Morris reported she heard something about a Jonathan Daniels Human Rights Center. Chair Scalia verified this as true adding it is going through the Historical Society. Chair Scalia also agreed to reach out to Rich Kallich for the June meeting to hear their ideas for moving forward.

3. Chair Scalia reminded the Committee of the January vote to not hold a July meeting. At the next meeting Committee members will discuss whether or not to hold an August meeting.

Martin Luther King, Jr. /Jonathan Daniels Committee
May 4, 2016

8) Adjourn-

There being no further business Chair Scalia adjourned the meeting at 5:42 PM.

Next meeting: June 1, 2016

Respectfully submitted by,
Mary Lou Sheats-Hall, Minute Taker
May 6, 2016