

City of Keene
New Hampshire

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

Wednesday, October 5, 2016

5:00 PM

Trustee's Room, Library

Members Present:

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

Staff Present:

Meghan Spaulding, Recreation Programmer

Members Not Present:

Melanie Everard, Vice-Chair

1) Call to Order and Roll Call -

Chair Hay called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM. Roll call was conducted. Chair Hay welcomed Senator Molly Kelly as a guest.

2) Approval of Minutes – September 7, 2016

Mr. Gakunde made a motion to approve the minutes of September 7, 2016 as submitted. Rev. Hall seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

3) Finance Report –

Ms. Spaulding reported the balance remains unchanged at \$8,762.66. In response to Mr. Gakunde, Ms. Spaulding reported she and Mr. Bohannon discussed the report and everything is there.

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

4) Get Out the Vote –

Chair Hay introduced Senator Molly Kelly who noted she was here to ask for the Committee's support for a project to get Jonathan Daniels' name out in the community.

Senator Kelly noted she is the Co-Director at the Center for Civic Engagement (Antioch University); she explained the Center facilitates deliberative dialogue for important issues that arise in the community. Senator Kelly explained these forums are different than what she does in the Senate. One of the actions that came out of a recent forum was the project she is here to share today. She continued the question to the forum was “why is there a lack of voter participation”. Senator Kelly reported input was received from people all over the community; she added these forums provide different perspectives on an issue.

Senator Kelly noted Rudy Fedrizzi suggested helping the group of underage voters from St. James Church to encourage people to get out and vote in honor of Jonathan Daniels. Senator Kelly noted the group’s trip earlier this year to Selma, Alabama and the fact they wanted to do something to help even though they aren’t old enough to vote. Senator Kelly reported on the decision to hang banners in downtown Keene, in mid-October. She noted Mr. Fedrizzi would be meeting again tonight with the young people who will come up with the message to be put on the banners. The banners will include Jonathan Daniels profile along with the message. Senator Kelly said she wanted to make the Committee aware of this project and be able to report back to her group that the Committee supports the project.

Ms. Slate made note of the Letter to the Editor she wrote about six weeks ago on behalf of the group. Mr. Gakunde asked if the group was using social media. Explaining nothing is known about the candidates other than from ads, Senator Kelly suggested this could be part of another project; this project specifically deals with the banners. Senator Kelly also noted other ideas that were raised at the forum.

Continuing her comments, Senator Kelly noted the license for the banners is owned by the Rotary. Pointing out she is not here to make a big ask regarding the costs Senator Kelly noted eight banners can be purchased for \$1,600 or 15 banners can be purchased for \$2,100. Chair Hay commented the project is definitely in line with what the Committee does; he continued by noting the process adopted by the Committee for monetary requests. Senator Kelly advised that personal contributions were also welcome and provided her contact information to Ms. Spaulding. Senator Kelly noted she would report back to her group the Committee is in favor of and supports this project. Senator Kelly also asked if the Committee thought there was anyone else she should be talking to. No suggestions were offered.

Senator Kelly agreed to let Ms. Spaulding know when the banners will be going up so she can notify the Committee. Chair Hay and Committee members thanked Senator Kelly for coming.

5) New Business –

1. Ms. Spaulding reported Mr. Bohannon asked if the Committee was still interested in the D.C. trip, and if so when (May or late September). Committee members agreed this item should be placed on the next agenda for discussion.

6) Adjourn-

There being no further business Chair Hay adjourned the meeting at 5:28 PM.

Next meeting date: November 2, 2016

Martin Luther King, Jr. /Jonathan Daniels Committee
October 5, 2016

Respectfully submitted by,
Mary Lou Sheats-Hall, Minute Taker
October 7, 2016

Respectfully edited,

Meghan Spaulding, Staff Liaison