

reston black focus

p.o. box 793 □ reston, virginia 22091

Board of Directors Meeting
September 18, 1974, 8:20 p.m.
Home of Sylvia Turner

Present: Bradley, Sharp, Summey, Turner, and Welch

Minutes of the August 12 meeting were distributed and approved.

Finances. In the absence of Doris Gilmore, Sharp reported that as of August 30, there was \$341.50 in the regular account and \$2643.00 in the festival account.

Aftermath of the Rorls Killing. (Mr. Felix Rorls was killed by a policeman in Herndon on August 22.) Welch reported that she had not contacted the Rorls family. Sharp reported that she had attended two meetings related to the situation. The first was with the Fairfax County-wide Black Citizens Association, a group with representatives from most of the black civic associations in the county. This organization is the successor to the Fairfax County-wide (Colored) Citizens Association which is reorganizing with a charter committee chaired by Bob Secundy. The group decided to go on record in support of the petition drawn up by the ad hoc committee formed in Herndon with the help of FCAP, and to send a letter to Bob Horan, Commonwealth's Attorney, requesting to meet with him.

The second meeting was an open community meeting held by the ad hoc committee in the Herndon Intermediate School. Representatives from the (Col. King) (Mr. Harmon) police department, the Commonwealth's Attorneys office, and Jean Packard, Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors faced questions/and complaints from about 125-150 angry people, black and white from the Reston-Herndon area. Complaints ranged from outrage over the police department placing an officer

on administrative leave after he shot an unarmed man five times to complaints about the capricious enforcement of the town loitering ordinance and the lack of recreation facilities in the Herndon Gardens and Dulles Park Apartment area. The meeting was highly emotional; it is difficult to tell whether anything was accomplished. However, Horan did send the case to the grand jury days afterwards. FCAP is working with the Recreation Department to try to set up a recreation facility, possible in the Dulles Park Shopping Center. The mayor has requested that the Intermediate School be used as a Community Center. Sharp explained to Jeff Krause, the lawyer representing the Rorls family that Focus would like to assist him and the family if possible. The draft of a letter to the Commonwealth's Attorney and the Board of Supervisors was approved to be sent. (See attachment).

New Committees. The following committee chairmen were appointed:

Social Services--Enoch Butler

County Relations--Norm Seabrooks

Employment--Merrie Holmes

Elections-Mary Butler

A list of possible additional members of each committee was discussed. Each committee will be asked to report to the Board in writing: a complete roster of members, a statement of purpose, and a list of immediate goals and activities. A chairman is needed to head a Children's Activities Committee and interface between the Board and the various age group coordinators. Bradley will follow up.

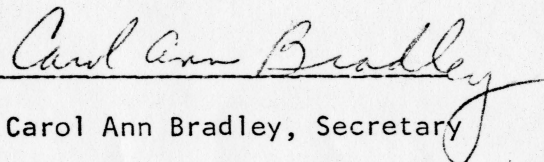
Human Relations Commission. Several candidates for Focus endorsement were discussed. Sharp will find out from Supervisor Scott what the proper procedure is for making recommendations. Then we can determine how many and which names to submit in order to have the most effective input.

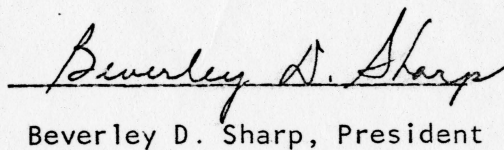
Thomas Resigned. Effective 9/16/74, Laura Thomas has resigned from the Board and the Education Committee. The committee will find a new chairman. Festival. The Board will send written thank yous to everyone who worked on the festival. The notes could also include an invitation to a thank you party, if the Festival Committee decides to stage one (to save postage). This idea will be presented to Howard Robinson for consideration by the festival committee. Sharp will handle printing.

Next Meeting. October 10, 1974, 8:00 p.m. at Clarestine Summey's home.

Annual Membership Meeting. Scheduled for November 12, 1974, as called for in the by-laws. Welch will make arrangements.

Adjourned. 10:25 p.m.


Carol Ann Bradley, Secretary


Beverley D. Sharp, President