

## RESTON BLACK FOCUS

Steering Committee Meeting  
June 24, 1974, 7:30 p.m.  
Home of Doris Gilmore

Present: Beverley Sharp, Laura Thomas,  
Eileen Welch, Carol Bradley,  
Howard Robinson, Doris Gilmore.

Minutes of the June 1 and June 13 meetings were read and accepted. A question was raised as to the spelling of Clarestine Sumney's name. The chairperson, Bev Sharp, requested that the secretary mail the minutes to each member of the Steering Committee at least five days prior to the next scheduled meeting.

### Steering Committee. Action since last meeting:

- 1) Doris Gilmore will now be in charge of finances, since Charles Smith will be out of town for one month. Her assistants will be Cora Wethers, Fred Fresh, and Dan Turner.
- 2) Mona Blake testified on behalf of Reston Black Focus before the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors concerning the Saunders ~~B.~~ Moon Community Action Program. She will send a copy of her statement to the Steering Committee. (June 17)

Membership. Eileen Welch reported that a booklet and questionnaire are being readied to send to the Black Reston population. Orange and yellow membership cards will be printed @ 500 for \$8.00.

Newsletter. The newsletter is to be ready on June 28 so it can be mailed with the membership questionnaire and information booklet. It will include an appeal for a typist.

Human Rights Ordinance. The hearing has been postponed until July 15. There is a need for Black Focus to testify before the Board of Supervisors. Some suggested names were: Bob Secundy, Kathy Lamkin, and Margaret Stockton.

Bev will follow up. Carol is going to set up a community meeting for Supervisor Jim Scott to present the ordinance to the Reston community, with possible co-sponsorship of RCA.

Next Meeting. Scheduled for July 15, 7:30 p.m. at the home of Bev Sharp.

Education Committee. Laura Thomas reported that the main concerns of the committee are:

- 1) Screening process for special education
- 2) Constitutionality of recent census
- 3) Discipline at all levels
- 4) Concern about the Mount Vernon High School

Festival. Howard Robinson presented a letter from the Virgin Islands concerning the format of the festival. Possibly we can get their steel band. An overview and time table was presented. There is a need to:

- 1) Put all committees together
- 2) Identify any potential committees
- 3) Secure a statement from each committee concerning format, needs, etc.

Timetable:

July 15 -first press release

July 20 -projected budget and income statement

July 28 - present complete statement on festival at general meeting

August will be the selling month, pulling together the Black Community Gulf Reston, and the rest of the Reston community

August 16 - final phase--second press release, radio and TV talk shows

August 19 - final planning day with all chairpersons, Steering Committee, and past chairmen of festivals

August 20 - program <sup>book</sup> ~~book~~ should be completed and sent to printer

Focus of festival-- Mr. Robinson feels that we should:

- 1) focus on the importance of Black Focus at the festival
- 2) honor a person or persons. Lerone Bennett could possibly be chosen. Also we could have a Black Focus Honor List recognizing



persons who have made outstanding contributions to Reston.

The committees are: Finance and Budget, Exhibits Theater, Conference Dance, Public Relations, General Services, Entertainment, and Program.

A discussion of the location of the festival followed. It was decided that it would be held at the International Center. The preliminary program includes: Saturday--evening dance

Sunday--exhibits, entertainment, teenagers' street dance

Monday--conference, some exhibits, poolside fashion show and cocktail party.

Packages of tickets could be available for all events at a cheaper rate than a ticket to each individual event.

The Fairfax County Police will be called upon to direct traffic at the light on Reston Avenue on the days of the festival.

Other Black clubs in Reston will be asked to participate in the following activities:

- 1) Roosters-entertainment
- 2) Jack n' Jill-children's activities
- 3) Restonians-fashion show/cocktail party
- 4) N. C. N. W. - refreshment booth

Mr. Robinson is concerned about incorporating the organization as soon as possible. He also needs pictures to design a brochure for the festival.

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Meeting adjourned at 10:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Ann Bradley