

Ward Concerns Aired At Local NAACP Meeting

By C.B. Hauser
Special to the Chronicle

The local branch of the National Association of Colored People, meeting at Dellabrook Presbyterian Church on Sunday, aired a variety of concerns, passed three motions, and heard a report on plans for the Spring Membership and Fund Raising Campaign.

Concern was expressed about the effect on the black community of the proposed realignment of city ward lines. The political action committee mentioned that it will take steps to see that the community is correctly instructed on returning the cards which are being sent from the Board of Elections to purge the voting lists of persons who have not voted since a given date.

An announcement was made of committee members who will attend the meetings of the Board of Aldermen, the County Commissioners, and the School Board. Also plans were announced for monitoring the voting records of local representatives in the various legislative bodies.

Mention was made of the sanitary conditions and the freshness of the meats and vegetables in the stores which are located near the black community. The fact was deplored that one had to go "way across town" to make suitable purchases of these necessities. Also, unkind words were spoken of blacks who make their money off of blacks but "Who don't help us."

The city's affirmative action and community

development plans were considered. Concern was expressed over the policy which calls for tearing down rather than renovating existing housing. The affirmative action plan will be further studied. A motion was adopted pledging the association to fight discrimination in employment and in housing in both the private and the public sectors.

J. Henry's store on Trade Street which is being forced to close because it has received so many bad checks was discussed. It was pointed out that there is need for an Economic Task Force to help such businesses.

The problem of crime in the neighborhood, especially the drug problem and the problem of black on black crime received much attention. The inadequacy of police protection and the reluctance of witnesses to come forth were noted.

Also mentioned were the people who distribute drugs who are known to the police through paid informers. Crooked police were also mentioned as part of the problem. Rather than turn in the pusher, a better solution would be to work for jobs for our people so they "would not be used." The dangers involved in turning in a drug pusher were mentioned.

In light of the discussion, a motion to form a Crime Watch was modified to provide for setting up a task force to determine the feasibility and the workability of setting up a Crime Watch. The task force is to report its findings during the March meeting of the association.

The third and last item which ended in a motion dealt with the killing of black children in Atlanta and the killing of blacks in Buffalo and other cities.

The body deplored the casual attitude and the indifference which the nation has displayed in response to these tragedies. The idea of expressing concern and urging action on this problem by wearing a black ribbon on the arm was very favorably received.

A motion was passed calling for the president to appoint a task force to draw up a suitable plan for dealing with this matter. The president appointed Father Micheal B. Curry and Mrs. Clara W. Nesby to work with him in drawing up the plan.

The final item at the meeting was a report by James Mack outlining plans for the membership and fund raising campaign. The campaign will begin this week and it will culminate with the Freedom Fund Banquet April 30, 1981.



Winston-Salem State University Chancellor Dr. H. Douglas Covington pins U.S. Army Meritorious Service Award on Charles Willis; a former master sergeant in the Army who is an instructor at the university.

WFU Students enter Douglass Moot Court Regional Contest

Bargery Glenn Williams and Lawrence U. Davidson III will represent Wake Forest in the regionals for the Frederick Douglas' Moot Court Competition held in Memphis, Tenn. February 25-March 1.

They will be one of 26 black teams from regional universities entering the contest. The top four teams selected from this competition will go on to Houston, Texas

for the national competition in March.

Mr. Williams and Mr. Davidson III are two of nine black law students at Wake. They are second year students and members of the WFU Moot Court Board, the American Bar Association (ABA) student division and the Black American Law Student Association (BALSA), WFU chapter.

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Students Told: "Be Peculiar"

By C.B. Hauser
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Taking off from a description of an imaginary conversation with a lily which was flourishing and blooming profusely amid rubbish and garbage in an alley, Dr. Lester B. Brown told students at Winston-Salem State University to "use your mind in your own activity and bloom where you are."

Dr. Brown is president of College and University Management and Long Range Planning Consulting Firm and Visiting Professor at Florida International University, Miami, Florida. He has served as president of Voorhees College, Denmark, S.C., and as president of Florida Normal College, Miami, Florida.

The former college president was in Winston-Salem appearing in a Lyseum Event, "A Joseph N. Patterson Assembly." The event was sponsored by the Division of Education as part of the University's celebration of Black History Month.

Dr. Brown said the subject of his talk came from a remark made to describe a serious student on a certain college campus who refused to join in the activities of students caught up in the drug culture. They said of the student "he is peculiar."

According to Dr. Brown, the peculiar student:

- has good manners
- dreams a lot
- does the best that he can under the circumstances that exist
- is characterized by a heart that is attached to a reality beyond self

In closing, Dr. Brown recited lines from William Henley's "Invictus," ending with "I am the master of my fate. I am the captain of my soul." He told his audience that they would be peculiar students when they came "to fully understand the meaning of the words of this great poem."

Lauretta Battle, Miss Winston-Salem State, presided at the assembly. James Mitchell, president of the senior class gave the welcome. Rev. Cedric Rodney, University Chaplain, gave the invocation and the benediction.

Dr. Melvin F. Gadson, Director of the Division of Education and a former student of Dr. Brown, introduced the speaker, and the University choir under James Kinchen furnished the music.

Dr. H. Douglas Covington, University Chancellor, gave remarks and presented a Meritorious Service Medal, on behalf of the United States Army, to Charles H. Willis, a former Master Sergeant, who is serving as an instructor at the University.

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