



**Fairfax County NAACP
General Membership Meeting
November 25, 2025 (7:00 PM via ZOOM)**

1st VP Evelyn Spain called the meeting to order at 7:02PM. There were 30 members and guests in attendance. 1st VP Spain began by reading the Fairfax County NAACP mission statement:

“The Fairfax County NAACP is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization, whose mission is to achieve equity, political rights, and social inclusion by advancing policies and practices that expand human and civil rights, eliminate discrimination, and accelerate well-being, educational, and economic security of Black people and all people of color.”

Religious Affairs Co-chair Pat Jackson then offered an opening prayer after which 1st VP Spain asked Secretary O’Brien to give his report, followed by the treasury and committee reports:

Secretary

Mike O’Brien

- The minutes for the October General Membership meeting were completed but were not able to be sent out prior to the meeting for review. The minutes for both this meeting and the previous meeting will be sent out for members to review prior to the December gathering so that they can be approved.

Treasury

Dr. Monique Norwood, Assistant Treasurer

- All accounts remain in good standing with the state and national NAACP.

Prior to the Committee reports, 1st VP Spain reminded Committee leaders to submit their 2026 Advocacy Agendas and 2025 Committee Close-out Reports to Secretary O’Brien. She also requested that a moment of silence be observed in recognition of the recent passing of long-time member [Mattie Palmore](#).

Budget

Les Shockley, Chair

- On **December 22**, the Board of Supervisors will be meeting with the Fairfax County School Board to discuss the budget for the 2027 Fiscal Year. Chair Shockley will work with the committee chairs to put forward advocacy concerns.
- The Budget Committee’s 2025 advocacy wins:
 - The Public Defender’s office received an increase in funding & staffing
 - The collective bargaining contract put forward by the Fairfax County teachers union was accepted (though not every part was agreed to).
- Areas of continued advocacy for 2026:
 - Growing the FCPD co-responder program (i.e. Prevention of tragedies such as [Sydney Wilson](#)’s unnecessary murder after police were contacted by a third party seeking a mental health/wellness check in for Ms. Wilson).

Housing

Mary Paden, Chair

- The county is revising its policy plan governing land use decisions. Chair Paden shared that the revised plan will be incorporating some of the committee's feedback (i.e., employ community development initiatives rather than allow large scale developers to take over land which often leads to displacement).
- The committee is working with mobile home communities to advocate for their ability to purchase their parks when they are for sale, and if that is unsuccessful, for the land developer to pay mobile home owners in-place fair market value for any homes that cannot be moved as well as relocation costs for homes that can be moved.
- Fairfax County leadership stepped in to fund homeless shelters and thus ensured that they can remain open for services after the nonprofit that was responsible for much of the funding went under. The county also hired a consultant to interview those impacted by homelessness to get input on how to develop a plan for rapid rehousing. Chair Paden asked that members who may have information to share on this contact her at housing@fairfaxnaacp.org.

Freedom Fund

Evelyn Spain, Chair

- The 2026 Freedom Fund Gala/Masquerade Ball will be taking place at the [Falls Church Marriott in Fairview Park on Saturday, October 10 \(5:30-10PM\)](#). The new venue will be able to accommodate a maximum of 300 attendees. The Communications team will send out a "Save the Date" in the near future.
- To accommodate the cost of the new venue, ticket prices will be going up to **\$150 per person** and sponsorship tiers will also be raised.

Membership

Jasmine Carr, Co-chair

- In 2026, the committee will be running it's 3rd annual Black Greek Letter membership drive. At the end of the drive, the branch will honor the organization with most applications submitted to the Fairfax Co. NAACP during that period. Co-chair Carr shared that the committee will begin it's outreach this December when she presents at the National Panhellenic Council then the drive itself will run from **mid-January to late March**.

Political Action

Lenior Simmons, Chair

- During 2025, PAC held five voter registration & education drives and two postcard campaigns (400 postcards sent) for both the Virginia primary and general elections.
- The committee hosted a candidate forum, a "What's on Your Ballot" Zoom event, and a "Souls to the Polls" early voting event.
- Chair Simmons noted that the committee is looking for new members and that those interested in joining may email her at politicalaction@fairfaxnaacp.org.

Religious Affairs

Pat Jackson, Co-chair

- Co-chair Jackson attended the American Turkish Friendship Association Dinner this month with 3rd VP Les Shockley.
- The committee will be hosting its annual Juneteenth event on **Saturday, June 13, 2026 (3PM) at Bull Run Cemetery** which will be preceded by the annual cemetery cleanup (date TBA).

Economic Development

Richard America, Chair

- The committee has been discussing with Fairfax Co. leaders the possibility of putting together a program to support entrepreneurs. More will follow as this is finalized.

Prior to closing the meeting, 1st VP Spain made several announcements:

- 1st VP Spain attended the Manassas NAACP meeting on supporting Black businesses. She shared the discount code provided (**28NOV - 1DEC NAACPVA25**) and several links to shopping networks at which the code could be used:
 - <https://www.vablackchamberofcommerce.org/>
 - <https://shopthehood.store/>
 - <https://www.shopdcsbdc.com/>
- There will be an unveiling ceremony for the new statue of Barbara Rose Johns in **Emancipation Hall at the US Capitol on Tuesday, December 16 (3-4PM)**. 1st VP Spain has 3 tickets available to those who wish to attend. Those interested should contact her at freedomfund@fairfaxnaacp.org.
- There will be no General Membership meeting in December. Instead, the branch will be hosting a Holiday Party at the **Gum Springs Community Center on Wednesday, December 17 (6:30-8:30PM)**. Light refreshments and there will be an ugly Christmas sweater contest.

1st VP Spain brought the meeting to a close at 7:40PM.