



Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee

197½ Auburn Avenue, N.E.
Atlanta 3, Georgia

MUrray 8-0331

Highlights of SNCC Meeting, April 21-23, 1961, Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, North Carolina

The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee closed its busy week-end agenda on a high note calling for sit-ins across the South to extend their efforts into job discrimination, theater stand-ins, recreational (golf courses, swimming pools, beaches) facilities, and an all out voter registration campaign, entitled "Operation Door Knock".

Also from the meeting came the unanimous decision to telegram a call to President Kennedy and Sargeant Shriver, newly appointed Peace Corps, head, to place Fayette and Haywood Counties in Tennessee on the State Dept. roster for technical assistance when the program is initiated.

The Committee also approved the "School Closing Project" which will be a follow-up drive ~~of~~ by CORE to test the dining facilities in interstate travel. The Committee strongly urged students to send detailed complaints of their being denied service to the Justice Department and to SNCC, who will in turn pressure the I.C.C. and the Justice Dept. to take appropriate action to see that the Supreme Court's decree is implemented.

Among the high points on the Committee's agenda was the stand-in demonstration staged before area theaters. Two members of the Coordinating Committee, Charles Sherrod, of Richmond, Va., and James Hester, of Charlotte, N. C., were arrested and placed under a fifty dollar bonds each for alleged trespassing violations.

The Committee decided to put "Operation Door Knock", into operation in Rock Hill, S. C., and Mississippi. The Committee pointed out that it is willing to cooperate and to formulate our resources in getting the program under way. CORE expressed a desire to cooperate jointly with this program. Details have to be worked out accordingly; personnel and funds.

The Committee decided that employment would be their long range program, and that they would for the present, concern themselves with the Telephone Company and that the Bus Companies(local) be placed on the agenda for future consideration. Here also, details were not spelled out. (Negro operators and phone line men)

Relat Project in 2 cities

The Committee requested that all areas be notified about the importance of May 17th and that they hold some type of demonstration in their community; namely in connection with travel facilities.

The Committee decided to launch an all out fund raising campaign in the immediate future. Still concerned about hiring a Field Secretary in the near future; funds permitting.

The Committee decided that a Fall Conference would be held, but tabled discussion of any plans until next meeting; and gave the Administrative Sec'y the authority to do any investigation he felt would add to the proposed Conference taking place.

The Committee also said that "we recognize the ever increasing need to broaden the base of the sit-in efforts and the Coordinating Committee is going on record as willing to participate whole-heartedly with each co-ordinating effort convened in good faith to supply this broader base for massive student nonviolent direct-action".

The next SNCC meeting will be held on the 8,9,10,11 of June, in Louisville, Kentucky.

AGENDA

STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING

Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, North Carolina
April 21-23, 1961

Chairman: Charles E. McDew, South Carolina State College, SNCC

1. Introductions and announcements: Ed King
2. Review of Minutes
3. Area Reports
4. Office report and recommendations
5. Motion picture on student workcamp projects and discussion of the Charlotte, Greensboro and Nashville activities: Dick Ramsey
6. Review of Rock Hill -- What did we gain from the experience?
7. State of Budget -- Finances
 - a. Income
 - b. Expenditures
8. Completion of descriptive piece on SNCC
9. SNCC Fall Conference
10. Consideration of a May 17th Action Day Project
11. Consideration of proposed SNCC School Closing Project
12. Summer Action Program
 - a. Bus Rides (Implementation of Federal Court decisions)
 - b. Train Rides (Implementation of Federal Court & I.C.C. decisions)
 - c. Public Parks
 - d. Municipal Beaches and Swimming Pools
 - e. Municipal Golf Courses
 - f. Workcamp Projects
 - g. Voter Registration Drives
13. Future Action Program -- Long Range Public Utilities Program
 - a. Bus Companies
 - b. Telephone Companies
14. Discussions: What does it take to build a Student Movement?
Should a good philosophy be the basis for our action in the future?
What can we do about those communities that are still trying to move? What can we do about the HARD CORE SOUTHERN STATES--Namely, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and South Carolina? What can we do about those areas where desegregation has taken place? How can a Student Movement work with the political forces in America? Where do we go from here? Should the area of jobs be our long range program?
15. Discussion on the student conference at Highlander Folk School
16. Other Business
17. Date and place of next SNCC meeting

MINUTES

STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING
April 21-23, 1961, Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, North Carolina

The STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING began Friday evening, April 21st. Those present for all or part of the meeting were:

Mr. Charles McDew, Chairman
South Carolina State College
Orangeburg, South Carolina

Mr. Ed King, Administrative Secretary
Atlanta, Ga.

Miss Ruby Doris Smith
Spelman College
Atlanta, Ga.

Miss Lenora Taitt
Spelman College
Atlanta, Ga.

Miss Patricia Simon
Spelman College
Atlanta, Ga.

Miss Lydia Tucker
Clark College
Atlanta, Ga.

Miss Birdie McHugh
Central High
Louisville, Ky.

Mr. Nathaniel C. ~~King~~ ^{LEE}
Miles College
Birmingham, Alabama

Mr. Lonnie C. King
Morehouse College
Atlanta, Ga.

Mr. Daniel Mitchell
Clark College
Atlanta, Ga.

Mr. Frank G. Halloway
Atlanta, Ga.

Mr. Raoul Cunningham
Central High
Louisville, Ky.

Mr. Arthur Smith
Central High
Louisville, Ky.

Mr. William Greene
Johnson C. Smith University
Charlotte, N. C.

Mr. James Hester
Johnson C. Smith University
Charlotte, N. C.

Mr. Charles Jones
Johnson C. Smith University
Charlotte, N. C.

Mr. John A. Gaines
Friendship Junior College
Rock Hill, South Carolina

Mr. Howard Hamer
Friendship Junior College
Rock Hill, South Carolina

Mr. John D. Foster
Friendship Junior College
Rock Hill, South Carolina

Mr. Charles Sherrod
Virginia Union University
Richmond, Virginia

Mr. Timothy Jenkins
National Student Association
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Mr. Thomas Gaither
Congress Of Racial Equality
New York, N. Y.

Mr. Bernard Lee
Southern Christian Leadership Conference
Atlanta, Georgia

Mr. Richard Ramsay
American Friends Service Committee
High Point, North Carolina

Mr. Herman Roether
Americane Friends Service Committee
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Mrs. Estelle Wychoff
Southern Conference Educational Fund
Atlanta, Ga.

Miss Ella J. Baker, Advisor
National Student YWCA
Atlanta, Ga.

Mr. Charles McDew presided over the meeting as official Chairman, and Miss Lydia Tucker was asked to serve as recorder. The agenda was adopted as printed.

I. Review Of The February Minutes

Members of the Coordinating Committee received copies of the February minutes and the recommendations were reviewed for any changes or clarifications.

II. SNCC Fall Conference

It was decided by the Committee to table discussion on this matter until the next meeting.

III. Committee Action

The Committee approved the "School Closing Project" presented by the Administrative Secretary and requested that directives be sent to all student protest groups and Colleges asking their participation and cooperation in this campaign. The campaign would call attention to the equal access of all facilities to interstate passengers regardless of race. The Chairman was asked to write a letter to the Federal Bureau of Investigation asking them to be on guard for possible violence throughout various Southern cities during May 21-June 10.

IV. Summer Action Programs

The Committee decided to encourage students to use public Beaches, Parks, Golf Courses, Tennis Courts and Swimming Pools during the summer. Further details as to how this project can be successfully carried out, will be discussed at the June meeting.

It was decided that SNCC should encourage people to register and vote. The Committee also decided to work with Mr. Amzie Moore of Cleveland, Mississippi in getting a Voter Registration Project underway there this summer, and to cooperate with CORE in the same effort in Rock Hill, S. C.

It was further decided by the Committee that we encourage all members of SNCC and other protest groups to register when they become of age in their respective state.

The Voter Registration effort should be called "OPERATION DOOR KNOCK".

V. Future Action Programs

After much discussion, the Committee decided to accept the proposal coming from the Administrative Secretary concerning a Southwide student employment project for the Fall. This effort would be concerned with the employment of Negroes as telephone operators and line-men. The details are to be worked out at the June meeting.

The Committee decided to table discussion on a proposed Fall Bus Company Employment project until the June meeting.

VI. Fayette and Haywood Counties, Tennessee

The Committee decided to telegram President Kennedy and Sargeant Shiver,

head of the Peace Corps., requesting that Fayette and Haywood Counties, Tennessee be placed on the State Department roster for technical assistance when the program is initiated.

VII. National Student Association

The Committee accepted the resignation of Timothy Jenkins, National Affairs Vice-President, USNSA as a member of the Coordinating Committee. Mr. Jenkins stated that he has a organizational technicality and that his status with SNCC would have to be presented to the USNSA Congress for approval.

VIII. Finance Committee

The Committee decided to replace Timothy Jenkins with Charles Jones as a member of the Finance Committee.

IX. SNCC Brochure

The Committee voted to commend the work the Administrative Secretary presented to the meeting concerning the descriptive piece on "This Is SNCC". It was suggested that the brochure could be brightened up with photos and etc., which could be worked out in detail by the Administrative Secretary.

X. Office Staff

The Committee voted to give the Administrative Secretary a seven day vacation after the close of the school year. This should be done with consultation of the Atlanta Advisory Committee.

XI. Field Secretary

The Committee voted to ask Miss Diane Nash if she would re-consider the offer to become Field Secretary of the Coordinating Committee.

XII. Cooperation With Student Protest and Civil Rights Groups

The Committee passed the following resolution: "we recognize the ever increasing need to broaden the base of the sit-in efforts and the Coordinating Committee is going on record as willing to participate whole-heartedly with each co-ordinating effort convened in good faith to supply this broader base for massive student nonviolent direct-action.

XIII. Election Of SNCC Chairman

Mr. Charles McDow of South Carolina State College, Orangeburg, S. C., was elected to serve as Chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee until the next meeting.

XIV. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Coordinating Committee will be held the week-end of April 8-11 in Louisville, Kentucky.