

WORKSHOP ON COMMUNITY CENTERS

Proposals:

1. That SNCC adopt the proposal submitted by Frederick Johnson for the training of local people and staff involved in Community Centers and that a Committee composed of staff interested in the Community Centers project be instructed to meet following the retreat to evaluate the proposed training program and to make any necessary additions or changes.
2. That staff people interested in Community Center programs take time after the retreat for discussion of specific program ideas and needs.

WORKSHOP ON VOTER REGISTRATION

It was the consensus of those participating in the voter registration workshop that there were flaws in SNCC voter education programs and these flaws were caused primarily because the staff was ill equipped. They were and are not familiar with all of the programs such as the Federal Programs, Community expansion and the Education programs which are so necessary in making a working voter registration program. We therefore propose that the voter registration workers attend some type of educational program which will make them aware of their responsibility.

We also propose the voter registration programs in this order:

1. Organizing
2. Educating
3. Community Expansion.

The suggestions proposed for organizing were: around block clubs; issues in local elections; youth organization (that is to say young Freedom Democrats); adult political organizations (that is to say Freedom Democratic Party); citizens committees, and the distribution of food and clothing. Food and clothing, in some areas, are to be used as an organizational tool as well as to meet the needs of the people who have need and tried to register to vote.

The suggestions proposed for voter education were literacy classes, citizenship classes, freedom schools, depth canvassing, distribution of literature, and federal programs. Depth canvassing is probably new to most of us, therefore we have defined it as being: teaching political programs and educating around the vote while canvassing.

DANGER AREAS: Freedom Vote, and Freedom Registration.

The suggestions proposed for community expansion were: job training; building businesses; bringing industry; getting local officials of a particular choice.

DANGER AREAS: Black machines; Mrs. Boynton's in Selma, Ala., the Southwest Georgia situation.

A consensus reached by the body was that the voter registration workers who only take people to the courthouse are obsolete. Some educational program for voter registration workers should be proposed and voted on, since voter registration workers are SNCC's most important product.