

TO: Staff and Summer Volunteers

RE: Precinct and County Meetings for Freedom Democratic Party

Decide what counties you can cover from your project.

Decide on dates, places, and times for meetings.

The meetings can be done in one of two ways:

EITHER have precinct meetings in several precincts, then have a county meeting with the precinct convention delegates.

OR have a single county meeting. At the county meeting break down into precincts, elect delegates to the county convention. Hold the county convention with these delegates. Let the remaining people act as spectators.

Probably it will be easier to hold a single county meeting, but it might involve more people if you can hold separate precinct meetings.

Full records of the meetings and of the results of the elections at the meetings should be kept.

The Jackson office will help in the following ways if needed:

- 1) Will supply materials for canvassing
- 2) Will supply speakers for meetings.
- 3) Will supply information on what is happening elsewhere so your program can be geared in with those elsewhere in the state.

In turn the Jackson office needs:

- 1) Names of the counties being worked
- 2) Dates and places of meetings
- 3) Results of meetings

Precinct meetings

- a) Attendance record at precinct meeting
- b) Names of delegates chosen for county meetings
- c) Resolutions passed

County meetings

- a) Attendance
- b) Names of delegates chosen for state convention
- c) Names of those elected as executive committee members
- d) Resolutions passed

What To Do At A FDP Precinct Meeting

1. Election of precinct officers.

Elect a permanent chairman and a permanent secretary. The permanent chairman then presides over the election of delegates to the county convention.

2. Election of county convention delegates.

All Freedom registered voters in the precinct can vote in the election of delegates to the county convention.

Each precinct shall have 10 votes in the county convention. The votes can be distributed among the delegates according to any scheme determined by the precinct.

3. Resolutions.

Resolutions can be introduced and acted upon by the precinct convention. They express the sentiments of voters in that precinct.

~~Sample Resolution:~~

Whereas we believe that the National Democratic Party represents the best interests of the majority of the people in Mississippi, and

Whereas the Mississippi Democratic Party has stated in party literature that it is not a part of the national party and has not supported the Democratic presidential candidates,

We therefore resolve that the delegate(s) from this precinct be instructed to go on record, if they are ultimately selected as delegates to the Democratic National Convention, as supporting the party platform and the persons selected to be the party's candidates.

What To Do At A FDP County Convention

1. Administration.

The chairman of the county FDP executive committee presides over the convention.

(Elect a chairman ~~for~~ the county convention.)

2. Speech.

A speech is delivered by a keynote speaker.

3. Election of state convention delegates.

Each county receives twice as many votes in the state convention as it has seats in the State House of Representatives.

The election of delegates to the state convention is identical to the procedure used in the precinct meeting.

4. Election of new county FDP executive Committee.

The county convention breaks down into five caucuses, each representing a county supervisor's district.

Each caucus nominates three candidates for the new fifteen member executive committee.

The convention re-convenes and ratifies the new executive committee.

5. Resolutions.

The county convention may adopt resolutions to go to the state convention.