

helpful

The Parents Mississippi Emergency Committee met in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Graham, 811 N. Maple Drive, Beverly Hills, on Monday, July 20, 1964, at 8 PM, Dr. Arthur Carstens, presiding.

Upon invitation, California Congressman James Corman appeared before the Committee and indicated his interest in the Mississippi Summer Project. He had been in Mississippi and plans to return. He has talked to Assistant Attorney General Katzenbach about the work going on there.

Mr. Richard Wilson, Chairman of the Bail Committee, explained a plan to maintain a revolving bail fund, stating that all contributing parents, regardless of amount, would share in this fund, whenever bail was needed. (Plan will be in operation by the next day.)

Mr. Hal Light, from the San Francisco Parents group, outlined what his group has been doing, urged keeping the focus on Mississippi by getting good press coverage, and proposed a delegation of parents (from all over the U.S.), to Mississippi "NOW". After discussion, the majority favored sending a delegation at the end of the Mississippi Summer Project, extending their tour to Atlantic City and appearing at the Democratic National Convention there. Mrs. Judy Newman, Mrs. Martha Hard and Mrs. Richard Wilson volunteered to go. It was moved by Mrs. Bessie Gogol, seconded by Mr. Edwin Wilson and carried that at least one Negro parent would be sent, whether financially able to go or not.

Treasurer Harold Johnson reported a \$25.00 deficit in the general fund for mailing and running expenses. Parents who had not yet contributed were asked to give the original \$5.00 requested, and an additional \$5.00 assessment was made on all parents.

Mrs. Richard Wilson, Social Chairman, announced three parties planned in August by various groups to raise money, including the affair by our group, on August 2nd, at the Louis Light home, 1500 Old Oak Road, from 3 to 6 PM. There will be music, and a program at 4 or 4:30, and Margie Albert, Californians for Liberal Representation, co-sponsors, 1) announced that Congressman Phil Burton, who toured Mississippi, will speak; 2) requested personal letters from our sons and daughters, which will be displayed on a bulletin board at the party; 3) invited helpers to an envelope-addressing session to get out over 4,000 invitations, this to be done on Wednesday, at the home of Lenore Wax, 541 N. Poinsettia, WE 6-2094.

The Edwin Wilsons of Long Beach announced they are giving a benefit party in their area for 200 people. Other community social affairs reported, include a program of ethnic dances by Alta Shepherd at Ebony Showcase, on Thursday evening, July 30. This is sponsored by Women for Legislative Action and tickets will be priced at \$2.50.

Dr. Carstens, Publicity Chairman, announced that Mrs. Judy Newman will serve as coordinator with the Press, and Miss Jo Ann Sitzer will serve as radio and television coordinator. Mrs. Newman asked for biographies of students in Mississippi, giving age, school, where they are in Miss., and their fall plans. Photos and stories were also requested.

Mrs. Adele Siegel requested excerpts from letters from our student workers, to be used in a skit, ~~on K-R-H-M~~, in an American Civil Liberties Union program, also on a continuing weekly program on KRHM.

Dupl.

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Mr. Klaus Brill reported progress being made on the Art Show and Auction, which his committee is working on.

Mr. Bob Newbery, a student just returned from Clarksdale, Miss., urged that we write our legislative leaders to support the seating challenge of the Mississippi delegation, and recognize the Freedom Democratic Party. He spoke on voting practices as they now exist in Mississippi. Additional facts were offered by Marion Berry of SNCC.

Mrs. Martha Hard read a resolution, written for presentation to the Platform Committee of the Democratic Convention in time to make the agenda. This urges the continuation of Federal protection of the Civil Rights program in the south, both now and after the Summer Project ends; that this work be tied in with President Johnson's program against poverty; and that the Freedom delegates be seated at the convention, as requested by our sons and daughters working in Mississippi. The group voted unanimous approval after certain minor revisions are made. Dr. Carstens will contact the City Council and County Board of Supervisors to enlist support on a local level.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Owen reported on their letters to Gov. Brown of Calif. (copies being distributed to parents present), urging rejection of the official Mississippi delegation at the Democratic Convention. The motion by Mrs. Hard that we as a group support the seating of the Freedom Democratic delegation and the ousting of the official Miss. delegation, was amended on recommendation of Mr. Owen, that this be done "not as a group" but as individuals (in letters to Gov. Brown). This carried by majority vote.

Mrs. Carstens announced that bail contributions should be sent to Harry C. Fischer & Co., (Certified Public Accountants), 1515 N. Vermont, Los Angeles 27.

Mr. Brill brought up the question of financial support for two specific Miss. student workers, whose funds are running out, in order to make it possible for them to remain. Mrs. Newman's motion, seconded by Mrs. Hard, that "honorary adopted memberships" be set up, was carried, with Mr. Johnson, Treasurer, being designated to receive these contributions.

Mrs. Siegel reported the telegram sent to Rep. James Roosevelt in behalf of the James Dann case, and read from a letter from Dann thanking the Parents group for their interest and efforts to effect his release from jail.

It was agreed to continue weekly meetings of the group, and to hold Steering Committee meetings only when needed, upon suggestion by Mr. Robert Hunn, Steering Committee Chairman.

The next group meeting will be held on Monday, July 30th, ^{again} at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Graham, and Mrs. Graham was thanked for her generosity.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Hunn
Recording Secy. Pro Tem