

The first meeting of the newly organized PARENTS MISSISSIPPI FREEDOM COMMITTEE was held at Mrs. Judy Newman's home on Wednesday, September 30th, 1964, at 7:30 PM, Mr. Arthur Carstens presiding. Others present were: Mr. & Mrs. Siegel, Mr. & Mrs. Harris, Mr. & Mrs. Hunn, Mrs. Brill, Mrs. Gogol, Mrs. Bridgeforth, Mrs. Edwin Wilson, and Mrs. Newman. Volunteers present were: Betty Carstens, Katy Newman, Ron Ridenour, and Jimmy Garrett. Donna Leslie, representing the Student Coordinating Committee, was also present. New parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Zirker, were welcomed.

Minutes of the Organizational Committee ^{35 meeting} on Sept. 22nd were read and approved.

Mrs. Siegel presented the Nominating Committee's slate of officers as follows: Chairman, Arthur Carstens, 1st Vice-chairman, Mrs. Brill, 2nd Vice-Chairman, Mr. Hunn, Cor. Secretary, Adele Siegel, Recording Secretary, Mrs. Dorothy Hunn, Treasurer, Dr. Johnson. Before calling for a vote on each individual office, Mr. Carstens announced that he would be away until January.

Mr. Carstens and Mrs. Brill were unanimously elected Chairman and 1st Vice-chairman, respectively. Mrs. Edwin Wilson nominated Mrs. Judy Newman from the floor. Mrs. Newman declined the nomination. Mr. Robert Hunn was unanimously elected to serve as 2nd Vice-chairman. Election of Adele Siegel as Corresponding Secretary and Dorothy Hunn as Recording Secretary, and Dr. Harold Johnson as Treasurer, was unanimous.

The following appointments to the Executive Board were accepted: Mr. Edwin Wilson - Legal Counsel and Bail Fund Chairman, Judy Newman - Public Relations, Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Harris - Membership, Mrs. Bridgeforth - Editor, Betty Carstens - Student Group Representative, Mrs. Ben Graham - Phone Chairman, Mrs. Martha Hard - Legislative Action Chairman.

Motion by Mr. Harris was seconded and carried that the proposed new name, Parents Mississippi Freedom Committee, be adopted.

Jimmy Garrett of the SNCC office in Los Angeles reported that a national bail fund, now established in New York, was being expanded to three areas, including Chicago and Los Angeles, with bail contributions being tax deductible. The Parents Committee at this point agreed that Mr. Edwin Wilson would be consulted before any bail money is sent in.

Jimmy also stated the formal name for the program is now "the Mississippi Freedom Project", and that requests for speakers on the subject will be coordinated through the Student Non-violent Coordinating Council (SNCC) office.

Betty Carstens presented several matters for the Parents Committee's consideration and action. She suggested calling Congressman Gus Hawkins to ask how we can be most effective, and what demands we can make on the House Committee on Education and Labor. Mrs. Bridgeforth volunteered to contact Congressman Hawkins, and Mrs. Newman will handle any resultant publicity.

Betty also suggested that the Parents Committee and SNCC co-sponsor a party, being considered for December, at the home of Sam Booth (?).

Dupl.

Mr. Harris proposed that the Executive Committee discuss and digest all ideas submitted, so that the group may select only those projects we can best do. Mr. Carstens asked Mrs. Brill to be responsible for presenting a list of fund-raising projects, with recommendations, at our next regular meeting.

Donna Leslie reported on the Sponsoring Parent Program, stating that letter and pledge cards were prepared, and that money was needed for mailing. Press and radio releases and cost of mailing, not to exceed \$50.00, was authorized in connection with this program, on motion by Mr. Harris, seconded by Ron Ridenour and carried.

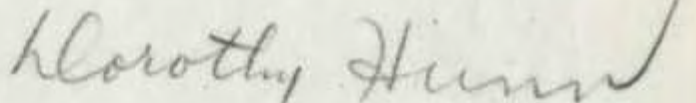
Proposed dues of \$12.00 per family per year were agreed upon.

Mrs. Siegel reported that telegrams had been sent to The President, Congressmen and the Justice Dept. asking their intervention regarding the bombings in McComb and arrests of COFO workers in Indianola, Miss.

Judy Newman suggested that another press conference be arranged, after the program for the winter is set, as this would be very effective.

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Recording Secretary

COPY to Judy Newman - October 7, 1964