

The Parents Mississippi Freedom Association met in the home of the Arthur Carstens, on Wednesday, December 9, 1964, at 8 PM, Mr. Robert Hunn, presiding. Guests were Mr. & Mrs. Hal Light, of the San Francisco area parents group, and Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Weiss, of the Southern California area, whose son, Mark, is now in Mississippi.

Minutes of the November 18th meeting were read and approved.

In the absence of the Treasurer, the October 28th treasury report was read from the minutes of that date.

Secretary Adele Siegel reported receipt of a communication from the SNCC office in Atlanta; ~~regarding~~ in the absence of Mrs. Owen, Legislative Action Chairman, Mrs. Siegel read the letter to the Association, regarding procedure for challenging, in support of the Freedom Democratic Party, so that action can be taken by members, without delay.

Lacking direct reports from Mississippi, it was suggested by Mrs. Harris that we ask SNCC to give us a newsletter to keep us informed of events occurring there.

Mrs. Siegel reported that so far she has been unsuccessful in finding someone to handle Judy Newman's chairmanship of Public Relations.

Mrs. Weiss announced a fund-raising appeal being made at a meeting on December 11th, in San Fernando, at which there will be speakers from SNCC and other civil rights groups. Members were asked to attend, and Mrs. Weiss offered to attend a follow-up meeting, on Dec. 14th, regarding distribution of the funds raised at the benefit.

Mrs. Siegel reported phone contact with Mrs. Bridgeforth, who has been investigating all possibilities of finding trucks to take loads of food and clothing into Mississippi. Problems were described of securing drivers, and ways things must be loaded in order to make successful deliveries in hostile areas. A motion by Adele Siegel, was seconded and carried that \$50.00 from our treasury be given to the fund for this transportation, subject to the fact that we may take further action to increase this amount. (suggested by Mr. Siegel)

Mr. Edwin Wilson reported that the Articles of Incorporation had been sent to the Secretary of State, and should be completed in about a week. Tax exemption questions were discussed, and in part, answered by Mr. Wilson, as regards tax exempt organizations and exemptions for individual donors.

Mr. Sidney Harris reported on the meeting of the Bail Committee, and outlined proposed procedure for evaluating and answering appeals for bail, as worked out by Mr. Harris and his committee. Mr. Wilson supplied information on using the services of a professional bonding company, and will continue looking into this method. In concluding his report, Mr. Harris asked the group to consider for possible future action, the question of assisting Mrs. Bridgeforth, who had to pay a hardship amount of bail for her son, Ron. Discussion followed, regarding the services of a bonding company, and its advantages and disadvantages. Mrs. Carstens suggested that it would be helpful to have Mr. Richard Wilson attend an Association meeting and give a ~~financial~~ report on the original bail fund and its distribution. A motion was made by Mrs. Martha Hard as follows:

Dupl.

- That we 1) accept the Bail Chairman's report,  
2) investigate further the bonding company idea,  
3) also refer back to last summer's action through Dick Wilson,  
and 4) based on the result of the above investigation, that we use  
professional bail bondsmen.

The motion was seconded by Mrs. Carstens and carried.

Miss Betty Carstens reported on the Scholarship Program, and its progress in securing medical, dental and hospital care. She asked that anyone who could, help find suitable homes for the Mississippi students attending California schools on this scholarship program. She announced that a benefit party is scheduled for Dec. 12th for this project. She was congratulated on her committee's work to date.

Mrs. Clara Harris, Membership Chairman, asked that membership application forms be turned in promptly.

The following proposal by Mrs. Harris was received favorably (and she was asked to head a committee to work on her idea):- that we plan some large activity to take place, coinciding with the 100th anniversary of the assassination of President Lincoln, in April 1965.

Mr. Hal Light reported on the re-activation of the San Francisco Area Parents Committee. He described recent success in gathering contributions for a bus, to be used in voter registration in Mississippi. Also efforts are being made to get 20 new cars for the use of workers in the freedom movement. He expressed the need for continuing focus on Mississippi, and sounded out the group regarding sending a parent delegation there at Christmastime.

The Association's next meeting will be held in January, members to be informed by mail of the place and date.

The meeting adjourned at 11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Dorothy Hunn*  
Recording Secretary