

March 3, 1965

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The Parents Mississippi Freedom Association met at the Ray Owen's home on Wednesday, March 3, 1965, at 8 PM, Mr. Robert Hunn presiding.

Minutes of the February 3rd meeting were read and tentatively approved with the addition of the following business:

Report by Miss Betty Carstens on the Scholarship Program to date, (1) stated that the resources had been put in the hands of Mississippi students, who will put them together in the program that they feel most valuable; (2) since the students are not arriving until September, the Scholarship committee are developing a Freedom School in Los Angeles, made up of High School students (representing all kinds of high schools), who will work with the Mississippi students.

Secretary Adele Siegel read the following communications: (1) letters from Senators Kuchel and Murphy in response to our appeals regarding the arrest of Ron Bridgeforth; (2) reported receipt of newsletter from the Parents Mississippi Association of Northern California; (3) Atlanta SNCC office report on the death of Jimmie Lee Jackson in Marion, Ala. on February 18th; (4) a letter written by the Siegels in the name of our Association to Attorney General Nicholas Katzenbach, protesting brutality to Negroes in Selma, Ala.; (5) reported receiving SNCC projected program for the next year.

The Siegel's action in the Selma protest was approved and acknowledged with thanks on motion by Mrs. Owen, seconded by Mrs. Sue Davidson and carried.

Copies of the SNCC report will be distributed so that members may act in various ways to memorialize Jimmie Jackson and publicize such incidents of brutality to Negroes in the south.

Mrs. Ray Owen, Legislative Chairman, advised members to write and have friends write Congressmen regarding the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party challenge to seating the Mississippi delegation. She also moved that a resolution be wired to President Lyndon B. Johnson, urging that he act to secure the right to register to vote, without insult or harassment, especially for Negroes. This was seconded by Mrs. Davidson and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Owen moved that we also send a second resolution urging that "in filling current vacancy in 5th Circuit in the South, that the President appoint a judge concerned with maintenance of Federal law and protection of Constitutional rights of individuals". This was seconded by Mr. Harold Johnson and carried unanimously, in view of the decision by Federal Judge Cox to dismiss felony charges against 17 men involved in the murder of three civil rights workers in Philadelphia, Miss. in June 1964.

Harold Johnson gave the Treasurer's report. On motion by Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Mrs. Siegel this was approved and copy filed herewith as part of the minutes.

A motion was made by Harold Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Rose and carried that the Treasurer be authorized to sell certain stock received as a donation. See letter also attached herewith.

Adele Siegel announced that the total bill for the Bob Moses dinner was \$66.68, - \$3.00 being the cost per person, - checks to be sent to

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Parents Mississippi Freedom Association, marked "Bob Moses dinner". The Treasurer will reimburse the Ed Wilsons.

In the absence of Mr. Sidney Harris, Bail Committee Chairman, Adele Siegel reported on action toward a mass mailing appeal for the establishment of a bail fund. Discussion followed as to whether or not to include funds for legal defense purposes. She read the proposed letter for mass mailing and also the covering letter to be sent to selected prospective sponsors. A motion by Mr. Schwartz was carried unanimously that this action of the Bail Committee be approved, with minor changes in the wording of the letter of appeal.

Mr. Hal Light of the San Francisco Parents Association stated on behalf of his group that they would like to join our group under the Articles of Incorporation. He pointed out for our consideration that the Northern Association was open to people other than parents of volunteers, contrary to provisions of our By-Laws. No legal answer was available, the Legal Chairman, Mr. Wilson, being absent.

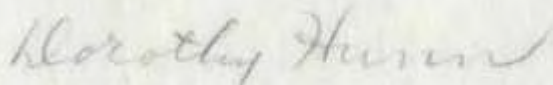
Ideas and suggestions were exchanged. Mr. Light proposed some sort of memorial next June on the anniversary of the deaths of the three civil rights workers, possibly a trip to Philadelphia, Miss. where the tragedy occurred.

Mrs. Martha Hard suggested that we ask SNCC to inform us of their program, so we can coordinate efforts. Mrs. Siegel will write to Betty Gorman in the Atlanta office for this information.

Mr. Johnson reported on the work of the Methodist Church in Mississippi - the "Delta Ministry" - a project of the Dept. of Religion and Race of the National Council of Churches, in order to increase awareness of other groups working in this area.

The meeting adjourned at 11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Dorothy Hunn, Recording Secretary