

• MOTIONS
RECOMMENDATIONS
MANDATES
of
STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE
CENTRAL COMMITTEE

(In open session Saturday, May 14, 1966 until Tuesday, May 17, 1966.)

MOTIONS:

I. In terms of the Southwest Georgia staff position, as opposed to the position of Charles Sherrod (see discussion, p) the Central Committee votes to support the Southwest Georgia staff position.

In favor: 10
opposed: 0
abstaining: 0

II. The Central Committee supports Marion Barry as director of the Washington, D.C. office and as director of the Free D.C. movement. An administrative assistant to Marion Barry will be appointed to work in the area of fund raising, to work under the direction of Marion Barry.

In favor: 5
opposed: 0
abstaining: 5

III. Ruby Doris Robinson has over-all responsibility for the fundraising--support program. (She will work with the northern coordinators in developing programs, be concerned with northern personnel policy, and assume final responsibility for the fundraising--support program.)

In favor: 7
opposed: 0
abstaining: 2

IV. The Central Committee affirms the northern staff's recommendation that 3 people (two working out of the north and one in Atlanta--Bobbi Jones, Joanne Grant, Cathy Archibald) assume responsibility for coordinating the support operation under the leadership of the appropriate member of the secretariat. (details of the coordinating job are outlined in the northern staff report)

In favor: 8
opposed: 0
abstaining: 1

V. The head of each office has the responsibility for hiring and firing personnel within the office. (This is the present policy.) There will be written personnel policy which will be presented to all newly hired persons. A person who's fired has automatic appeal to the executive secretary and the Central Committee.

In favor: 6
opposed: 3
abstaining: 1

VI. The executive secretary has the authority to hire a director of a northern support office when vacancies occur, with the approval of the Central Committee. The executive secretary can fire the head of an office if he (or she) is not functioning. The person has the right to appeal to the Central Committee.

In favor: 7
opposed: 2
abstaining: 1

VII. The Central Committee recommends to the executive secretary that she appoints Ivanhoe Donaldson to direct the New York office and that Donaldson and Robinson go to New York and talk to the staff.

In favor: 8
opposed: 0
abstaining: 1

VIII. Ivanho Donaldson and Ruby Doris Robinson will go to New York to talk to the staff within the next two weeks.

In favor: 7
opposed: 0
abstaining: 2

IX. Urban organizing should be a programatic matter and the urban organizaer should be responsible to the program director (Cleveland Sellers is currently program direcor. He will talk with Janet Jamot, who is developing an African project and he will talk with Bill Hall who is working in Harlem, but is currently traveling in Tanzania.).

In favor: 8
opposed: 0
abstaining: 1

X. The Central Committee will table a motion to approve a program against apartheid in LSouth Africa and Cleveland Sellers is to bring suggestions to the Central Committee on a South Africa program.

In favor: 7
opposed: 0
abstaining: 2

XI. Larry Fox will be fowarded \$200 (two hundred dollars) to open an office in North Carolina. This will be done by Monday morning.

In favor: 8 9
opposed: 0
abstaining: 0

XII. When the Centrl Committee decides, or the staff as a whole decides, on a budget item, the officers of the Central Committee can write and send out a check immediately without clearance from another committee.

In favor: 9
opposed: 0
abstaining: 0

XIII. A statement of finances will be on hand at Central Committee meetings. The executive secretary must be able to carry the financial matters.

In favor: 9
opposed: 0
abstaining: 0

XIV. Persons on the SNCC staff are those paid by the Atlanta SNCC office.

In favor: 6
opposed: 0
abstaining: 0

XV. All staff meetings will be no more than 100 miles from Negro campuses.

defeated

XVI. The Central Committee will hold an educational workshop to which will be invited the Central Committee members and the following educators: Charles Puryear, Chuck Hamilton, Sinclair Drake, Howard Dinn and Ella Baker. This meeting will be called by the program secretary.

In favor: 7
opposed: 0
abstaining: 0

XVII. Until the educational workshop is called, the area of education is within the jurisdiction of the program secretary.

In favor: 9
opposed: 0
abstaining: 0

XVIII. James Forman has been delegated to find sites for land. Forman will seek sites and the body will choose from among the site selections he makes. The place chosen ought to house 300 people in compartmental accommodations.

In favor: 9
against: 0
abstaining: 0

XIX. Concerning the educational building. A list of persons that will attend the workshop should be given to Mrs. Sellers so the house will be ready for those persons; the house will accommodate no more than 50 people; the house will not be used for anything else except workshops, if desired sleeping of those persons who will attend the workshop and out of town staff if on business. No one will come to Atlanta and expect to be put up without an approval from the proper authority. (This is now William Porter.) All people who work in the Atlanta project in the Atlanta office or part time workers there will not be allowed to stay at the house. No one will come in drunk or drinking. If a party is given by the sponsor of the workshop or meeting, it will only be given in a sociable and peaceful manner. If no other place can be found and if a party is given at the house, only persons who are attending the workshop will be able to attend. If the staff would like someone else to take over this house, a 30 day notice must be given to Mrs. Nettie Sellers who is in charge of the house. If Mrs. Sellers and family decide to give up the house, they will also give a 30 day notice. Mrs. Sellers will take the house and be in charge of it if these rules are agreed to. If there are objections, we, the Sellers will not accept the responsibility. Mrs. Sellers hopes the house will be kept clean by those persons who will be staying in it.

In favor: 9
opposed: 0
abstaining: 0

XX. Executive secretary, Ruby Doris Robinson will write a check Monday, May 16 to recompense Mr. Sellers for his conference expenses.

In favor: 7
opposed: 0
abstaining: 2

XXI. The Central Committee will hold a closed session.

In favor: Stanley Wise (an alternate sitting in place of Bob Mants) Bob Smith, Fred Meely, James Forman, John Lewis, Ralph Featherstone, Ivanhoe Donaldson, Jack Minnis
opposed: Courtland Cox
abstaining: Charles Cobb

XXII. Field personnel are responsible to the program secretary; Atlanta office personnel are responsible to the Atlanta office administrator; the northern staff and Sojourner fleet staff are responsible to the executive secretary.

In favor: 8
opposed: 0
abstaining: 1

XXIII. A Finance Committee will be organized, composed of the secretariat, the Atlanta office administrator, the assistant administrator, the bookkeeper, assistant bookkeeper, and the assistant to the program director. A letter will be written informing the staff that request for funds will go thru the program director or his assistant if they are from the field; they will be directed to the executive secretary if they are from the north or the Sojourner Motor Fleet; they will be directed to the Administrator or the Assistant Administrator of the Atlanta office if the fund requests are from the Atlanta office. The letter will go out no later than Wednesday.

The internal workings of the body will be reported back to the next Central Committee meeting. The finance committee will review and recommend certain financial procedures for the next Central Committee meeting. The finance committee will meet with the bookkeeping department the morning of Wednesday, May 18, 1966.

In favor: 6
opposed: 0
abstaining: 1

XXIV. A list of personnel will be established indicating priority in hiring and the program director will establish such list.

In favor: 7
opposed: 0
abstaining: 1

(In the absence of Ralph Featherstone, Jack Minnis, and Courtland Cox, alternates Shirley Wright, Stanley Wise and John Buffington will vote.)

XXV. Mrs. Buffington and Miss Harris are given the support of this body in their fund raising activities in the state of Georgia.

In favor: consensus

XXVI. There is no director of the research department. SNCC should fill the vacancy and the department should be organized in the future to unite research and education.

In favor: consensus

XXVII. Julian Bond, Joanne Grant and Bill Mahoney will write and release a statement on the change of officers; there will be a closed meeting to deal with John Lewis' ideas about the change of power; the role of the information officer will be discussed and the necessity of keeping the information officer abreast of the news.

In favor: 8
opposed: 0
abstaining: 0

XXVIII. The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee will release a statement on the White House Conference, "To Secure These Rights."*

In favor: The statement was accepted.

XXIX. The statement will be released at a press conference on Monday, May 24, 1966. There will be an attempt to cultivate the Negro press. Professional press men like Mike Merrick in New York will be contacted. John Lewis and James Forman will be at the Atlanta press conference to avoid any interpretation of there being a split in the organization.

In favor: consensus

XXX. The "Where As" letter will not be sent by the Central Committee to the White House.

In favor: consensus

*The statement is attached. See infra.

Recommendations and mandates of the SNCC Central Committee to members of the secretariat and other staff members.

Chairman, Stokely Carmichael

Mandate, The chairman will prepare a letter to emphasize to staff the importance of the Atlanta operation and the importance of centralization. It will give the Central Committee's view of the Atlanta office. The problems of the office will be discussed including attitudes and inefficiency.

Executive Secretary, Ruby Doris Robinson

Mandate; The executive secretary will sit down with those responsible for cars and work out the problems such as location of the cars, the type of insurance, servicing, etc. The staff must understand that SNCC and Sojourner are responsible for the cars and can pull them in and send them to other areas. No one except staff are to drive the cars. Sojourner is to consider leasing cars, trading them in before the fall, deciding upon the number of cars SNCC should own, whether we should accept additional cars, fund raising independently for the Sojourner fleet, how to exploit the stamp program (stamps have brought us \$10000 during the past year and \$5000 this year), whether cars should be automatic rather than standard shift, how to convince SNCC workers to collect stamps when they buy gas.

Resources should be seen as instruments for social change. We must develop a revolutionary morality. Resources, such as cars, should not be abused. Cars are just one of the many subsidies SNCC gives people in the organization. SNCC must remember that 1/8 of the SNCC budget is for transportation.

Every year SNCC raises 20 to 39 thousand dollars for car insurance. We must remember that money wasted on a car is money away from a program. Everyone should encourage his personal contacts to join in the stamp drive. Mrs. Robinson should get a list of 20 persons from each staff person to contact on this matter.

Program Director, Cleveland Sellers

Mandate, The staff mailing list will be brought up to date.

Mandate, Guidelines for the Campus Traveler program. Each Campus Traveler will be assigned a state for the summer. Each traveler will find a partner who will be recruited from the state he's working in. The Campus Traveler will write up a programmatic approach to college campuses. The Travelers will consider their base to be campuses within a state and they will remain in that state. The campus coordinator will channel funds, support and supplies to the campus traveler in each state.

A campus traveler is responsible to the project director of a state and the program director of SNCC. Campus travelers will be sent into Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, Arkansas, Louisiana, Florida and Texas.

Administrator Atlanta Office, James Foreman

Recommendation; James Foreman will go to New York and talk to the white students who plan to go to Southwest Georgia to work.

Recommendation, The communications department should write a pamphlet on "What is SNCC."

Recommendation, The communications department will develop a magazine geared to campuses and emphasizing Negro culture. It will cover dress, art and the SNCC political view. The magazine will cost about \$300 to publish.

Recommendation; the executive secretary will appoint a publicity director and communications department co-directors from among the following persons -- Julian Bond, James Forman, Charles Cobb, Worth Long, Mike Thelwell, Isiah Sellers. The immediate job of those directors would be to outline, with the assistance of the research department, the cultural program and African program sections, what newspapers, leaflets and other types of materials will have to be developed. The directors should find what materials will be needed for southern campus organizing and southern fund raising and northern support. The directors should become aware of the needs of the field staff for materials, especially in relation to the primary and general elections coming up in most states.

By the next staff meeting the directors must have priorities worked out and the department running based upon the limitations of the department and the program desired by SNCC. This means the press is not used for \$500 material when SNCC material must be printed. This means there is a decision made of whether on a given day or week the live press is covered or the staff resources are used in other ways, such as writing up reports, or transcribing tapes.

The directors should work out a 3 month budget to be approved by SNCC, based upon last years budget and a projection of this years program.

Courtland Cox and Charlie Cobb, along with production department chief, Dwight Williams, will investigate the possibility of a SNCC newspaper and magazine and a supliment to the "Movement" and that they be financially supported.

The director will immediately recruit a secretary who will handle mail, files and office organization.

A person will be found to work full time with Mr. Sellers in the audio department who has a knowledge of communications equipment.

A person will be hired to be trained in the operation of the photo copy machine and in layout.

Another printer should be hired to work with Wilson Brown.

A person operate the Wats line.

A staff person will operate the typesetting equipment full time.

Recomendation; Ivanhoe Doanldson's speech will be typed and distributed to the staff to help SNCC staff understand the import of the meeting.

Staff Member, Courtland Cox;

Mandate: Courtland Cox will work with the educational-research committee. Cox says, "We must break open the chains in the minds of people in black communities. We must question hos people can develope confidence that they can carry out simple research and educational programs." Cox has presented the Central Committee with t the concept of a Five Year Plan. Cox says, "In the next five years, SNCC should find 300 acres of land to build a black arts center. Funds should be raised from Negro campuses. The project will have need for architcture committees, electornics committees, etc. to build the center. The campus travelers should start throwing out this idea. In September we should start a bank account. African and West Indian groups should be asked to contribute to the center.

"We need to broaden the research department. The research and education department needs to understand economics and there must be educational programs developed along with the political programs..

"Our staff, in essence, must be walking encyclopedias--one man shows. A group might take this summer off and study.. Three good people for the research department are Bob Paris, Stanely Wise and Muriel Tillinghast. We should start building a library in the research department. People sho we help educate, must understand that they are going to come back to the group to serve after learning certain technical skills.

"The director of a research program should be an educator who's able to pull other professionals in his field into the department."

Charles McLauren, executive assistant

Mandate; Assistants to the chair going into project areas will be responsible for checking on the status -of cars in the area.