

## OUTLINE OF COMMITTEE WORK

Madison County Movement

June, 1964

### General Ideas

Each committee is responsible for all its work. That means that if the work doesn't get done, the chairman and members of the committee are at fault.

The chairman of each committee is responsible to Rev. McRee (executive director of the Madison County Movement). The chairman must report to him regularly and expect to be blamed for any mistakes that are made by their committee members or anyone else doing the work of their committee.

Stick to your own job and do it well. Often it will seem that others aren't doing their jobs as well as you. Do not do their work for them. Mention to them or to Rev. McRee that you think they are not carrying out their responsibilities. If they are not doing their job, they should and will be replaced, but you have work of your own to do. Do your own job well, and then help others if you have time.

COFO staff members are here as advisors and teachers, not to do all the work or to order anyone else to do it. All over the state COFO is trying to develop a political organization that is made up of Mississippi people supporting and directing themselves. If a staff member asks you to do something and you have other responsibilities which will take all the time you have, then say no to the staff person.

At the beginning, one of the largest jobs of each committee is finding out what has already been done or planned. Often poor records or notecords have been kept. Each committee will have to do its best by asking COFO staff members, Rev. McRee, or other persons who have been deeply involved in the work.

Committee chairmen are urged to find others to work with them on their committees.

### Brief outline of each Committee's Work

#### I. Political Programs and Voter Registration Committee

Basic Responsibility: To build a political organization that will get people, registered and challenge the regular Democratic Party's leadership in the precinct and county meetings.

#### Specific Duties

- A. Prepare groups of registered voters to go to the precinct meetings at 10:00 AM on June 16. (particularly in the West Ward of the First Beat)
- B. After June 16, have precinct meetings for all interested people, registered or not, and elect delegates to a county convention of our own.
- C. Have a county convention and send delegates to the Fourth District Congressional Convention.
- D. Organize a block captain system in Canton. That means find people to be personally responsible for seeing that people in their area go down to try to register.

## II. Special Projects Committee

Basic Responsibility: To plan, organize, and carry out special projects. The project being worked on right now is the blackout on downtown Canton.

### Specific Duties

- A. Put out leaflets, start a telephone chain, and in other ways publicize the blackout.
- B. Study and recommend future action about the blackout and the selective buying campaign.

## III. Legal Work Committee

Basic Responsibility: To get correct information on all jailings and harrassments, write it up to report to the Justice Department and the Jackson office, and find as much help as possible for each of those persons.

### Specific Duties

- A. Keep up to date record of people in jail.
- B. Try to raise bond money for people in jail.
- C. Recommend payment of fines of people whose cases are obvious harrassment.
- D. See that people in jail have proper legal help.

## IV. Summer Projects

Basic Responsibility: To plan and prepare for the work which 40 additional workers will do while in Madison County during the summer.

### Specific Duties

- A. Be sure that there is enough housing and make lists with names and addresses.
- B. Examine the needs for the Freedom Schools and plan and find the places where we will hold them.
- C. Find a place for a community center.
- D. Prepare the freedom schools and community center for use. (Some particular things are putting up shelves for a library in the community center and finding desks or tables and chairs for the freedom schools.
- E. Get the lists of students who have registered for freedom schools from Jackson COFO office and find out what students in addition to these will want to attend the schools.
- F. Suggest to the executive committee other activities for the workers coming in.

## V. Finance Committee

Basic Responsibilities : Plan and carry out ways of collecting, recording, and spending money.

### Specific Duties

- A. Plan ways to raise money.
- B. Plan a record keeping system.
- C. Get approval for these plans.
- D. Raise money as planned.
- E. Keep records of all money as planned.

## VI. Welfare and Operation Freedom

Basic Responsibility: To distribute the welfare food and clothing to those who ought to receive it, and examine individual cases to see if they qualify for Operation Freedom loans.

### Specific Duties

- A. Store food and clothing when it comes in.
- B. Investigate and make lists of people who qualify for food and clothing.
- C. Distribute food and clothing.
- D. Investigate people who may qualify for Operation Freedom loans.

## VII. Special Committee on Ministerial Affairs

Basic Responsibility: To get more help from all of the ministers and their congregations.

### Specific Duties

- A. Talk regularly with each of the ministers in the area about what they should contribute to the movement.
- B. Work with each minister to set up an organization in his church to spread the ideas of the movement and recruit new people.