

10SE0507

says Wallace wants to work in Virginia with students. Chair-what are we going to do about the campus program. Tom-needs new ideas concerning campus programs. Stokely and Foreman-feel that no one else can think up new programs for them. They have to get in and feel their way around, then work, Jim Jones (Arkansas) -the campus traveler programs and problems that could be solved by them should be done.

Discussion: Research Dept.

Jack Minnis reports problem of not getting black people to work in the Research Dept. Doesn't understand why. Jack says Research Dept. is not used to its full capabilities. Jack-a number of things we are prepared to do is not acceptable by a lot of people in the dept. because most of them are middle class whites, I (Jack) am not and therefore, need blacks who aren't so that we can get our programs off the ground. Jack- need more people. Jack-people who have been hired for the Research Dept. and decide suddenly that they don't like this department move out and float everywhere. Cox (Alabama) - Sat. and Sun. they have meetings to discuss this area, what has been done and why. How it can be changed, etc. It would be a type of education and there would be more interest, because you work there. Foreman-suggests that Cox's idea is good and should be instigated in every project. Foreman-suggests going to a university and getting a Research Dept. Minnis-needs people full-time to file, clip newspapers. Minnis-we have stuff lying around from last summer which needs filing. Cox-doesn't like the use of graduate students because their ideas aren't like ours. Minnis-Betty Gorman is working on trying to get books for the Research Library. Lee-suggests that people in the field be sent ideas on how to do research, etc. to build up interest in the field and in this way try to recruit these people. Foreman-Communications Dept. has grown out of proportion to the organization. Need more than 2 people, also have people to perform duties as writers only. Need these people badly. People stopping in Atlanta should be put to work. Minnis-everyone in Research Dept. wants to write but can't and that we would run into problems if people came in to work for a week or three days. Tom Brown- we've asked professors in Southern schools to have their students write term papers or research in their areas and after they've been graded, SNCC is to be sent a copy. Pay-why can SNCC hire, but can't fire. Why is it that Minnis asks for help and we can't even answer yes or no but only offer suggestions. Of what use is the Personnel Committee, etc?

Communications: Julian Bond
Bond-the Dept. consists of two people Wilson Brown and Clifford Robinson. The other two, Bond and Suckle put out press releases and the Student Voice. They plan to have Student Voice out every 2 weeks. Need Marion Berry, should be in in March. Jack and Eric Morton are coming in. Jack will handle all layouts. Eric can take some of the pressure off Mark. Need to have office open from 9 to 1:00 a.m. each day.

Minnis-Demuth has been very successful in getting an average of 2 dozen articles in magazines.
Bond-will need a secretary when press arrives.

Photography Dept:

Bob Fletcher, Mary King, Joffrey, Cliff Vaughns is leaving, Doug Harris is on his way down, Casey Haden. Need people to man the darkroom at all times. Bond-Mary and Casey plan to bring people into Atlanta to teach people how to use photography equipment. Bond was asked where Francis Mitchell is. He doesn't know-no one seems to know. E.C.*wants to know why he is not available without having to be looked for. Equipment-Mitchell had his equipment busted in Selma. He was given a loan of about \$1000 and his equipment is now insured. Cliff Vaughns refuses to turn in his equipment now in possession which belongs to SNCC.

* Executive Committee

Silas and Foremon: We should know what he's doing at all times and any other individual.

Bill Hansen: I make a motion that Ivanhoe work as Campaign Manager, take a rest and that his assignment be the responsibility of the Personnel Committee. (after the rest)

Muriel: I would like to request that Ivanhoe come back to Mississippi.
Jesse Harrison: He doesn't want to return.

Cleve Sellers - Program Secretary - worked in South West, Ga., Ala, and Miss. Setting up programs for conferences and also in Cambridge, Md. I need help in all these places. One problem is that most of the field people do not come to me with their problems.

Bill Hall: I suggest that when a new person is elected into office, that the old officer remain in office for maybe 6 months to help the newly elected official over the hurdles.

Ruby: There should be one person in the Atlanta office at all times who can work with you directly and can handle some of the problems people want to discuss when you're not there. I just have too much to do to handle this along with all the other problems.

Bill Hansen: I agree with Ruby that this extra person in the office is necessary.

Tom Brown: This person could be a lot of help in keeping up with the conference dates and to take this unnecessary load off Ruby.

Foremon: The Chairman, at the last staff was put in charge of the office. Cleve was not assigned to be the head of the office.

Arlene: Cleve, did you find that the places you visited, that the problems are any closer to being solved because they talked to you.

Cleve: Ruby is a bureaucratic hang-up in the office because she authorizes people to:

1. Receive money
2. Deal with cars
3. Deal with personnel

Ben Grinage takes chair

John Lewis - I've spent over 1/2 of my time in Ala., mostly in Selma (on the march and outside on speaking engagements. Made a trip to N.Y., West Coast, S.W., G a., Chicago, Detroit, Baltimore. I haven't been in Atlanta 2 or 3 days. When there, I would call a n office staff meeting to find out what was going on.
In South West, G a., they were having a few problems, but they were very resentful about Cleve and I coming down.

Chair: Any questions?

John Lewis: One of the things I was responsible for is the Atlanta office but of got hung up in Ala. One of the problems is that half of the office personnel is in the new building and half in the old building.

Bill Ha: If the chairs responsibility is to run the Atlanta office why was it necessary for the chair to travel to all these other places?

OFFICE IN ATLANTA, BE CAUSE IT IS UNREASONABLE TO THINK YOU WOULD LEAVE W.L.B. TODAY
there all the time.

Also, there is no reason that the 3 Secretaries be stationed in Atlanta. They can be based in other places and still be responsible to and for the Atlanta office.

Betty: I'm not against Jim's being in the south. This is important because to interpret to the north what is going on in the south you have to have contact. But my problem is that I need help in handling the northern offices and frustrations.

Silas: What should there relationship be in terms of projects and also what is their role as Executives (chiefs)? Should I question this now?

Chair: Proceed.

Silas: First I had written the Mont. thing off because I didn't know what was going on and it had no connection with anything we were doing in Ala. Ivenko became Marshall of the march even though he was against it.

Lafayette became a spokesman for SNCC in Ala. Horn being a chief executive of SNCC can do as he pleases. What is their role and do we have anything to do with it.

Silas and I disagree on a few things but I thought I was following the line and the role the E.C. outlined at the last staff meeting.

Chair: We should proceed as outlined at the beginning of the meeting and then go from there.

Tom: Jim, just answer yes or no -- Do you feel it was necessary for you to be in Ala and play the role you did in Montgomery.

Jim: I can't answer yes or no to that, but I'll answer you and clarify it later.

Stokeley: You can't isolate Ala. This concerns Cleve's role, Cynthia's role Silas' and my role, etc. It should be the concern of the E.C. to make sure that this doesn't happen again. What happened is that when a crisis arose 15 strong people (strong in SNCC) came in and took over.

Tom: That march hurt the people of Selma. Since Silas was against what was going on, these strong people came in, were recognized and proceeded to take over.

Mrs. Palmer (FDP): I'd like to talk about Selma and Miss. I was sent a telegram by M.L.King. I went to represent the MFDP. When I saw what was going on, I couldn't participate. I heard local people saying "we should have gone across that bridge." What should Foreman and Lewis have done, wait and sit down with a committee what they should do each step of the way?

2:00 P.M.

Stokeley: What is a floater? Why do we call people floaters who want to work and have no jobs assigned to them? Why does Casey feel she has to try photo, then want to work in the area of the white citizens project.

Tom: There are many programs we can have, such as stop lights, or paved roads, or how much money is spent in Viet Nam. The FDP should be broader and encompass all of the states.

Muriel: I think the FDP was a radical idea but not a radical party.

John Lewis: Mr. Chairman, this is an important discussion but we should table

about our work. Set up meetings, FDP and other programs should be discussed. Silas-We need people, cars to work in the counties. Nothing more, nothing less. Foreman-1. Is there any validity of organizing around the right to vote in Alabama? 2. Is organizing around the vote advancing the speed of the movement? 3. Having made the commitment, should we say we are not in agreement with this march on the right to vote? or continuing working with SCLC? 4. What kind of programs are we going to advance in Alabama? Who's going to carry out these programs? Silas-for a program in Alabama independent of SCLC. We ought to be working for the FDP. We have to get out and start talking with people. We need help with ward meetings. We need people coming in to work with students. We should organize ourselves into a unit.

Discussion of Foreman's questions above: Organizing around the right to vote some good can come out of this. We should take the fight to Washington. We are committed to the march because of our work in Selma and there have been verbal commitments. We don't have to send off staff on the march. If we only send two or three, they can represent SNCC. Other staff can go on about their work. Tactical advantages of being on the march-King's only going halfway but Lewis is going all the way. Long Range Plans*Program from here on out. We should go along on our programs without feeling apologetic just as SCLC does. They do not let us worry them so we should do the same. Regarding the march, we will give medical aid, include cars to those who want to participate. Silas cont'd-A letter drafted to SCLC about the way things have been happening in Selma, also have a meeting set up with them. People come to Ala. at 9:00 on Thursday. Motion passed. A friendly amendment-mandate the program secretary to move people into Alabama as swiftly as possible. Attendees included Silas, Lee, Foreman, Jim Jones, Cleve, Bufington and James Jones. Abstaines included John Lewis, and Roy Shields because of not enough knowledge of the situation. Ivanhoe and Silas Norman will draft a letter to SCLC. It should be ready in the morning, Saturday March 6, 1965. Break.

9:30: Friday evening

Discussion of SNCC Programs for 1965. Courtland Cox discussed his program--student involvement in the Challenge". Courtland wants the executive committee to take his proposal back to the individual projects and to think over and discuss it. Then to reconsider it at the next executive meeting. Carmichael feels that certain parts of Cox's proposal are good and could possibly be incorporated into the '65 SNCC Programs. Cox feels that if we have students to lobby in Wash. for three weeks, it will cause a flood of individual freedom fighters to come into the South. He wants to avoid this.

Chair read "Plan of Operations" to the committee and staff present. This plan concerns SNCC's support of the Mississippi Challenge. Discussion on this subject was forthcoming so a letter from Frank Smith was read, "Tell them what we want". Frank suggests we start discussions in ward meetings of local people writing their own voting bills. Foreman-feels that this is irrelevant to the discussion already in progress.

Motion proposed by Foreman that Executive Committee sanction Ralph Featherstone to go to D.O. to begin organizational work to implement this plan of operation. Consensus.

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