

MINUTES
ALLIANCE LEADERSHIP GROUP
JANUARY 11, 1973

PRESENT: Dave Semplicity, Frank Joyce, Bob Erickson, Ann Mellon, Larry Kane, Donna Bish, Jim Johnson, Jim Cheydleur, Brenda Reeber, Erika Johnson, Mike Sweeney, George Reeber, Valerie Snook, Mary White

REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The survey of the membership, begun six weeks ago, indicates 77 current members of the Alliance (19 of whom are also members of MCLL).

Twenty people were of undetermined status. (Either they were unreachable or did not choose to be active in the Alliance at this time, but also did not want to resign.)

Seventeen people attended the November orientation, but have not been getting mailings.

Twenty-six people have resigned around the split or closely related issues. They are: George Colman, Lisa Lenzo, Peg Posa, Eleanor Palubin, Kathy Schultz, Nancy Slater, Gordon Grozdanoff, Berna Freidman, Becky and Jesse Christman, Ann Bruetsch, Ann and Tom Breznau, Rita and Norm Buber, Dave and Sandy Buist, Brian Flanigan, Sam Dino, Marj Borys, Julie Ann Colman, John and Virginia Forsyth, Jim Campbell, and Jim and Cindy Rice (some names included where resignations were subsequent to this meeting.jc)

The membership committee reported that over the course of the last few months seventeen other people are no longer actively participating in the Alliance - for reasons other than the split.

Orientation

It was approved that because of the small number of nominees and the necessity for reevaluation of the orientation structure that no orientation would be held for one month.

Nomination

Due to the impersonalness and workability problems of the present orientation process; and the losses of people resulting thereof, it was agreed that the responsibility for getting the nominee to an orientation and the responsibility for the followup after the orientation will now rest on the Alliance member who makes the nomination.

TASK FORCE REPORTS

Each task force made reports about the effect of the resignations on the task force efforts.

A request by the schools task force for \$13 for xeroxing was approved.

ALLIANCE INTERNAL EDUCATION

Discussion was had about the very definite need for the Alliance to establish an internal process of education around socialism and also about the historical growth of the Alliance. Frank Joyce requested on the behalf of MCLL formal participation in that process.

It was felt that people not at the Fall weekend were not communicated with adequately as to the conclusions and commitments coming from the weekend. Without this communication the changes and accelerating pace of the Alliance after the weekend were disturbing and not as comprehensible.

A committee of Les Beiderman, Mike Sweeney, and Gwen Roberts was formed to bring a proposal, including the content and format of an internal education process, to the general membership on Sunday, for its approval.

CITY CHARTER

Only one of possibly two members of the City Charter Task Force remain. A motion to dissolve the task force was tabled for one week, to gain a clearer determination of the remaining membership of the task force.

ELECTIONS

After discussion a proposal was approved to be given to the general membership for approval; that the elections should be complete for all ten positions, including the five that would normally have not ended until June. Persons affected would be George Reeber, Frank Joyce, Valerie Snook, Mary White, and Donna Bish. It was felt that total elections would serve to assure a sense of full confidence by the general membership in the leadership group.

Brief discussion was held and then tabled for a later date, around the possibility of reducing the size of the general representatives to COR. It was also approved that the general membership should have the chance to reaffirm the election schedule as established; that being nominations closing on February 2, and elections being on the 16th.

Sunday Meeting

Agenda to include membership report, trinity proposal, elections, educational proposal, communications task force, and indo-china task force.

INDO-CHINA TASK FORCE

The task force stressed the need for people to go to Washington, and requested time on Sunday's agenda.

FINANCIAL REPORT

We now have \$420, without having paid the last payment on the generator, and some back salaries.

Staff Report

Valarie Snook indicated that she thought that the staff positions should be suspended until after the elections, in part, so that more people would take on the tasks that have to be done. This was agreed upon and reluctantly adopted after brief discussion.

MINUTES
ALLIANCE LEADERSHIP GROUP
JANUARY 18, 1973

PRESENT: Les Beiderman, Gwen Roberts, Betty Johnson, Jim Cheydleur, Val Brannis, Mike Sweeney, Frank Joyce, Bob Erickson, Mary White, George and Brenda Reeber, Phil Ringo

LEADERSHIP GROUP AND GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MINUTES

Discussion around the need and method of providing minutes to the general membership to improve communications. It was agreed that after a review of the minutes by the leadership group that the major proposals and recommendations of each general membership meeting would be published in the newsletter. It was also agreed that the minutes of the leadership group would be mailed to the general membership.

Although distribution of the minutes was viewed as a means of improving communication, it was felt that the responsibility for improving communication rests primarily upon the new COR.

FINANCIAL REPORT

It was reported that because two of the official check signers had resigned from the Alliance that two new people were needed. George Reeber and Jim Cheydleur volunteered and were agreed upon. Presently, there is \$270 in the bank.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The committee presented a series of proposals:

1. There is a need to push the Alliance externally in the form of public events. Such as- movies, speakers, dinners (like the War-Price dinners); public presentation of task force accomplishments -- in general a more public projection of Alliance activities.
2. The internal education process should be open by invitation to non Alliance members. The internal education process should be a process which develops new people capable of leading other, future, educationals.
3. Alliance mailings and the newsletter should include more news about the activities of the Alliance.
4. In the orientation process, the member who sponsors an individual should be responsible for seeing that the person gets to an orientation. In the orientation process the attending people would be asked to fill out a "statement of intent". At the same time they could indicate what task forces they find of interest - so that this could be followed up upon.

In discussion it was expressed that the committee needed to do work around the definition of the supporter category. "How do we have a category less than membership, and still have a membership?" Also, what method of "enforcement" can be used for those not fulfilling a membership commitment.

INTERNAL EDUCATION

Mike Sweeney expressed disappointment about the lack of response to the proposal in the general membership meeting of January 14. People in the leadership group expressed feeling that the general membership is very pleased with the program. Mike also expressed the need for more people to be home discussion leaders. The committee requested the assistance of DARG in searching out appropriate materials for the educationals. Discussion was also held around the possibility of including other socialist people, with differing perspectives, in the educationals. It was suggested that it might be good to make one of the concluding sessions of the educationals a session around a re-examination of the goals process.

BROCHURE

Previously the brochure was held up because there were not the appropriate pictures for it. (It has been incorrectly stated that it was held up for lack of money.) The brochure was also held up during discussion about acquiring an office - feeling that if we had an office that the address should be on the brochure. Val Brannis agreed to do some more work on the brochure.

NEWSLETTER

Bob Erickson reported that the task force had been unable to meet. Discussion was held around the importance of getting the newsletter out before the January 26th general membership meeting. Responsibilities for articles were outlined.

SIZE OF COR

It was proposed and approved for recommendation to the general membership that the number of generally elected representatives to COR should be reduced from ten to six.

FOOD COOP

It was briefly reported that Alliance participation in the food coop is very low right now. In that the Alliance relationship to the food coop is somewhat unclear it was felt that a reexamination of the relationship is in order. It was suggested that the food coop might be moving away from the perspective of the Alliance, and thereby Alliance access to the food coop community might be more limited.

ALLIANCE INTERNAL EDUCATION SCHEDULE

1. Locations:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>A. Sweeney's
15770 Vaughan
Detroit 48223
255-5074</p> <p>C. Moss House
180 Moss
Highland Park 48202
861-6991</p> <p>E. St. Gregory Rectory*
15031 Dexter
Detroit 48238
861-0363</p> | <p>B. Bob Erickson
20026 Derby
Detroit 48203
893-9625</p> <p>D. Palmer House
63 E. Palmer
Detroit 48202
873-1929</p> <p>F. Trinity Methodist
13100 Woodward
Highland Park 48203
T05-3440</p> |
|--|--|

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
2-20-73	1:00 PM	E	Home Study Group
2-21-73	8:00 PM	A,B,C,D	" " "
3- 6-73	1:00 PM	E	" " "
3- 7-73	8:00 PM	A,B,C,D	" " "
3-16-73	7:30 PM	F	General Session
3-20-73	1:00 PM	E	Home Study Group
3-21-73	8:00 PM	A,B,C,D	" " "
4- 3-73	1:00 PM	E	" " "
4- 4-73	8:00 PM	A,B,C,D	" " "
4-13-73	7:30 PM	F	General Session
4-17-73	1:00 PM	E	Home Study Group
4-18-73	8:00 PM	A,B,C,D	" " "
5- 1-73	1:00 PM	E	" " "
5- 2-73	8:00 PM	A,B,C,D	" " "
5-11-73	7:00 PM	F	General Session
5-15-73	1:00 PM	E	Home Study Group
5-16-73	8:00 PM	A,B,C,D	" " "

* E is a daytime Alternative to evening meetings.

Please register as soon as possible with Mike Sweeney (255-5074) or Moss House (861-6991).

SUGGESTED REVISIONS TO THE REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

3. Alliance Supporters.

a) A category of persons unable to commit themselves to active participation in the Alliance but supportive of its goals and programs. It includes:

1. Inactive members
2. Potential members
3. Friends of the Alliance

b) They will receive regular Alliance mailings.

c) They will be welcome to participate in open meetings.

d) They will support as possible the programs of the Alliance.

e) They will be expected to contribute at least \$10000 annually to serve as a contribution and to cover mailing costs.

f) Educational events should be presented regularly to attract both these and other potential members, as well as to build progressive political attitudes in the area. These should include:

(for both Alliance members and supporters)

1. Major Public events - on the model of the War Price Dinners or educational conferences.

---these should be planned for the present and for 6 months ahead. In the immediate future a workshop on imperialism presented by DARG in mid-February, and an event with a major national speaker presented by MIA and the IndoChina Task Force in early March are contemplated.

---similar events should be scheduled around trips made by various Alliance members, e.g., Montreal.

---Task Forces would also be encouraged to present workshops as they complete a project. Events should be scheduled at places with public recognition such as community colleges, churches, etc.

---it is essential that these events occur regularly, so that a wide audience becomes aware of the organization.

2. Internal-External Education Programs

---such events as General Sessions part of the upcoming educational program

---an expanded newsletter that would contain general political developments, especially on Control. Conflict and Change, Medical Aid to Indochina, and the Peace Treaty-Indochina Peace Campaign.

(for Alliance members, particularly new members)

3. On-going educational in the order of the upcoming internal education program.

---the aim here is to help new members catch up with those older members who have more background.

4. SUGGESTED AMENDMENT. "... and can request that their letter of resignation be published in the newsletter. COR WILL DECIDE WHETHER THAT SHOULD BE DONE OR WHETHER THE ISSUES INVOLVED ARE IMPORTANT ENOUGH FOR THE MEMBERSHIP TO DISCUSS AT A MEETING. Likewise"

5. ACCOUNTABILITY

a) New Members

1. Sponsors of new members are considered to have primary responsibility for the integration of the new members until the latter becomes an acting regular member, supporter, or decides not to relate to the organization.
2. After COR approves recommendations potential member is invited to an orientation meeting. At the conclusion of that meeting, potential members are asked to fill out an evaluation form, which among other things will request them to indicate their intention of relating to the Alliance as a regular member, a supporter, or not at all. If a regular member, the person is asked to indicate the task force in which they have interest.
3. Decisions are transmitted to the sponsor, to COR and to appropriate Task force. The contact person on the task force has the responsibility to invite the person to the next meeting, and to notify the sponsor. If the person does not come, COR is to be notified, as well as the sponsor, and that person is to be notified about the next meeting.
4. Once the new member has begun to attend Task Force and General Membership meetings, the following applies.

b) Old Members

1. Every member of the Alliance should belong to a Task Force of working committee, and attend that body's meetings regularly.
2. All regular members have the responsibility to notify the Task Force contact person any time he or she cannot make a Task Force or general membership meeting. The Task Force contact person should explain to other members the reason for the absence.
3. When Task Force members see that a person is not relating to the Task Force, the contact person should discuss the situation with that individual, and if there is to be a change in membership status, the COR representative should bring this proposal to COR.
4. It is a basic responsibility of a member to support the organization. This financial commitment is a priority.

- a. The finance committee should initiate a collection method.
- b. A monthly financial report should be made to the General Membership.
- c. Any problem with the payment of dues that the Finance Committee is unable to resolve, should be brought to COR with a procedural recommendation.

OPTIONS: The finance committee could determine how to follow up on delinquent dues

- through the finance committee
- through the Task Forces
- and bring the proposal to the general membership.



WE THINK QUESTIONS HAVE ANSWERS

There are reasons why there are hall passes, guards, and tests.

There are reasons why most people can't "succeed" like Henry Ford.

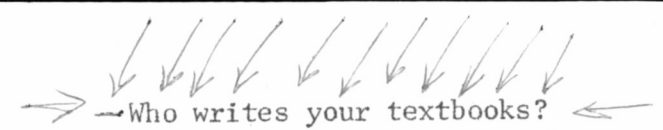
WE THINK THE REASONS ARE RELATED.

Come and help us explore the questions and answers you never get in school. (For a REASON)

WE ARE PEOPLE INTERESTED IN
LOOKING FOR THE CAUSES OF THE
PROBLEMS YOU FACE EVERY DAY
IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

SPONSORED BY

THE ALLIANCE
SCHOOLS TASK FORCE



Who writes your textbooks?

Do you choose your "career"?

Can anyone be president of GM?

Who should make our houses,
cars, roads, and food?

WHY TARDY SLIPS
HALL PASSES
REPORT CARDS
HALL GUARDS
MEMORIZING



Do your teachers ever want to learn from you?

When you flunk a test, does that mean you're dumb?

What does learning about the 14th President have to do with your future?

Whose "standards" are tests based on?



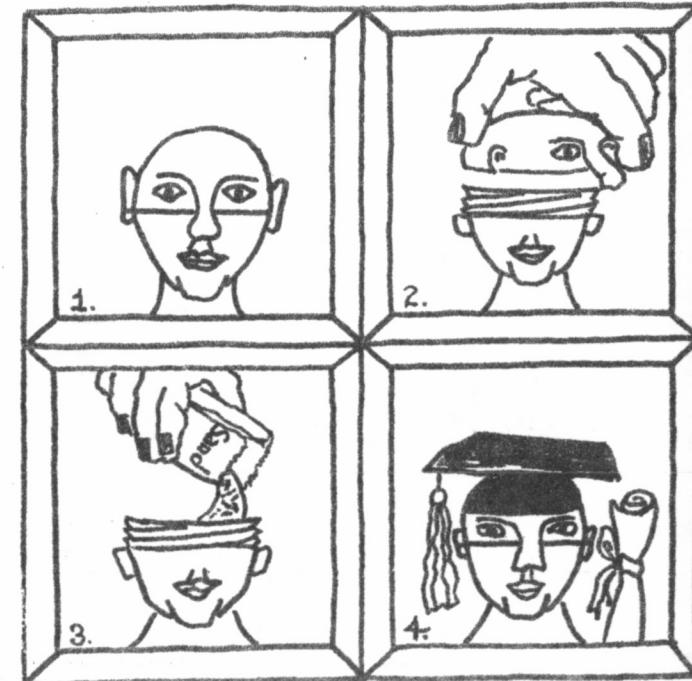
WHY ASSEMBLY LINES

TIME CLOCKS

DISCRIMINATION

WAR

POVERTY



FIRST SESSION: Will be held in
three separate locations on -

Monday, January 29, 1973
at 3:30 P.M.

Redford Union:
16515 Delaware, Redford

Henry Ford, Redford (Detroit):
19379 Grandville, Detroit

Southfield:
18897 Jeanette, Southfield

Following this first session,
we will select a location for
the program which is convenient
for the largest number of
students from all four schools.

We will be meeting as one group,
once every two weeks, on a day
which best suits the group.

For further information call:
Erika, 533-4180

There will be at least 8 sessions.

No cost for the program.



PRISON ?
TO
PRISON

ALLIANCE REPORT TO CC MARCH 23,1974

I will first run through the statistics of the Alliance concerning membership participation, finances and study groups.

At this time there are 30 active Alliance members. My definition ~~of an active member~~ of an active member is someone who in on the active membership list, has come to some Alliance mtgs. in the last three months and/or is active in a taskforce. There are about 16 supporters whom I have seen at least once in the past three months relating to an Alliance function.

As of Feb. 26 the Alliance had \$248 in the bank. Henry's salary (\$50) and rent(\$50) for the office has not been paid in 3 months. When gettig this information from Mike S. I was informed that to his knowledge no MCLL Supporter has ever paid their deus.

The following people are relating to the study groups who have little or no preevious relationship to the Alliance or MCLL: Pat Winterfield (a contact at BrE.POW),Lyn Middleton, Mau Geary, Karen Des Rosiers, Lee Keenan, Bill Keenan, Betty Brooks, Rick Ross.Theses people have a closer relationship with the Alliance. Sue Arnold, Beth Bannister, Ann Barbour, Bob Beatty, Rory Bolger, Jim Cheydleur, Mary Kay Belvitch, Judy Dingas, Bob Dinges, Ginny Fairbanks, Marilyn Farber, Henry Hirsch, Larry Kane, David Pearl, Annette Ran, Phil Ringo, Barb Ringo, Sue Riter, Gwen Roberts, Charlie Rooney, Jean Rooney, Renee Siegan, Julie Smith, Mike and Peggy Sweeney, Nancy Barbour, Meta Bett, C.J., Mary Jane Hoch, Eileen J~~off~~, Dick Lobenthal,Anne Thibodeau.

My ~~analysis~~ analysis as to where the Alliance is at this time and how it does and does not fit into our political line.

The expansion will destroy the Alliance if the Alliance members accept. There would be only 2 non-Mcll cadre on COR. Out of the 30 active members 11 would be cadre. This is positive because the Alliance is dying. The only task force that is functioning is the Latin American Task Force.The last thing the Alliance did that attracted some new people was the child care presentation which I think was in November.

I don't think that the Alliance is the best form for developing people for the party. It has no POW focus even though months ago it passed a resolution to make it a priority in the org. The leadership in the Alliance has realized for some time that you can't organize people from mass programs yet it has not been able to chang the Allince to an organization that develops advanced~~workers~~ workers.

COR realizes that the Alliance is dying and some of the membership does. The members who have a longer history with the Alliance are more aware of it.

The biggest question that MCLL has to answer around the Alliance is what happens to the study groups. The study groups are positive for Alliance members. The Alliance was fairly receptive to the idea of studv. COR understands that although the Alliance is dying

until CoR has a theoretical background they cannot make the decision that the Alliance should no longer exist. Nor can they change it to be an effective organization.

The following are questions that need to be answered around the study groups immediately:

- Can everyone in the study groups relate to some type of ^{our} external study group?
- Can and should the study groups exist without the expanded MCLL?
- If there are some people who can't relate to our external study groups what do they do?

I need more clarification on the external study groups because J.L. and ~~LAE~~ LAE have different definitions of them. I would like to see all the ~~alliance~~ people in the study groups to be able to relate to our external study groups but have a hard time giving a political rationale for this without knowing ~~what they~~ the qualifications for people relating to them.