

# **DETROIT REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT RECORDS**

**BOX 11 OF 16**

**FOLDER 15**

**WUPES BACKGROUND AND  
BYLAWS 1974**

DOUBLE  
STANDARDS  
AT  
CHRYSLER  
THE  
BIG 3-

# wupes

WORKERS UNITED FOR POLITICAL  
AND ECONOMIC SURVIVAL/P.O.Box 1182-A  
Detroit/Michigan/48233



FROM: Planning Committee

TO: Membership

## BACKGROUND

Formerly WUPES was CCC/Control, Conflick & Change. CCC developed in 1970 at the initiation of Motor City Labor League/MCLL as a book club & discussion forum around political issues and with national & local speakers. Its overall orientation was "socialist" although it wasn't until the 4th year (1974) that it developed a clear political line. It attracted the "Left", skilled workers, professionals & students and a few advanced workers whos national composition was largely Anglo-American. At first its development was close to & influenced by the League of Revolutionary Black Workers & later by the Communist League. The style of the CCC forums was that of a table group discussion after listening to a national or local speakers. Organized with the most active participants making up the Planning Committee & volunteers making up the General Staff or table discussion leaders. Some times action campaigns were developed, like the James Johnson Case, by the P.C. with volunteers solicited from the G.S. & membership. Early in 1973 the struggle deepen in the sponsors of CCC over the type of political line which came to a split with part of MCLL uniting with the National Continuations Committee & the other somewhere in the movement. Hence CCC was started again by members on the old P.C., workers & a more composite multi-national appearance and corressponding to the aim & style of "grounding ourselves within the working class."

## CURRENT SITUATION & TASKS

As a result of becoming a more solid working class organization CCC must change its character(aim& style) to that of meeting the needs of the class & educating it to the ideals of socialism.

In analyzing the history of CCC we must analyze its strengths and weaknesses in order to "retain the good, and discard the bad." The following are positive that we can learn form:

- 1.) CCC provided regular discussion and education on topical issues of interest to the advanced.
- 2.) CCC was a legal form that could put out legal literature, enter into coalition with community groups, and hold legal meetings to discuss their views and rally support.
- 3.) CCC had a system of membership that allowed for political direction(P.C.) to be united with the most active members (G.S.) and through them, to the membership (contacts).

- 1.) It's lack of concrete connection to the industrial proletariat.
- 2.) It's physical isolation from the working class communities.
- 3.) It's style of work which placed emphasis on the educational abilities (reading public presentations) that is, more on self education and less on taking the information and analysis to the class in a popular form.
- 4.) It's name, which does not indicate any connection with the community or the struggle of the working class. Thus be changed.

OUR PRESENT TASKS THEN ARE AS FOLLOWS.

- 1.) We must aim our work at the industrial proletariat and the national minorities
- 2.) Must go to the working class. We must hold the sessions in places (church, community center, halls) easily accessible to the working class, including the older workers, those in housing projects and youth.
- 3.) Must provide topical education on a popular and regular basis, that minimally this must include:
  - a) a concrete exposure of the situation (presentation of facts, as well as hand out material.)
  - b) our analysis of the situation and the need for the United Front Against Fascism.
- 4.) Must make contact with the organizations of the class (ex; block clubs, Caucus', community centers)
- 5.) Must organize and filter workers into our campaigns and into WUPES.
- 6.) Must change name to reflect an active organization of the working class.

PROPOSAL

Thus, we propose that WUPES take the form and style of an OPEN FORUM.

It's functions should be:

1. It must have at least one monthly forum to base its work on (ex; to kick off a particular topic).
2. Research and prepare materials.
3. It must present timely and lively popular exposures.
4. Develop a speakers Bureau to send WUPES speakers to clubs, organizations, etc. who could not make the monthly session.
5. A new brochure must be developed to be sent out to the community.
6. The November session be changed to cover a general membership meeting.

Think of the cultural aspects of the program.

① org / aspects of CCC.

- Work by everyone.
- Way to spread out feelings
- Consistent forums.
- Forum for political struggle.

② Use of our history - ppl who know where we came from -

③ Unfront ag. fascism - talk about peace.





WORKERS UNITED FOR POLITICAL & ECONOMIC SURVIVAL  
AT  
CITY CENTER  
THE  
BIG 3

# WUPEES

WORKERS UNITED FOR POLITICAL & ECONOMIC SURVIVAL  
P.O. Box 1182-A/Detroit/Michigan/48233

DECEMBER 26, 1974

Dear Workers and Friends,



Starting this past October, we spearheaded a petition drive protesting unemployment and inflation. We successfully gathered over 20,000 signatures. During this drive the WORKERS ACTION COALITION FOR JOBS was formed to give organizational form to this drive.

On Wednesday, December 18, 1974, this coalition presented the petition to the Detroit Common Council. In addition the coalition demanded that the Common Council fully implement the present Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1973 (CETA) funds in Detroit to provide the full 700 jobs allocated. That the Common Council call on the US Congress to provide additional funds to the Detroit area, and expand the present funding of CETA at the expense of the military budget so that each and every unemployed worker (male and female) is provided with a decent job at a decent income, and that these jobs create quality schools, better housing, and better health facilities for all workers in the Detroit area. Finally, the coalition demanded that Common Council hold an open hearing on unemployment.

The Detroit Common Council agreed to these demands, including the open hearing. This Open Hearing on Unemployment will be held on January 17, 1975 at 2 PM in the 13th floor auditorium located in the City-County Building on Woodward Ave at Jefferson Ave.

The WORKERS ACTION COALITION FOR JOBS will hold a meeting on Friday, January 3, 1975 at 8 PM at the North End Family Center, 150 Belmont at John. The purpose of this meeting is to expand the number of organizations in the coalition. We believe that a step forward has been taken in getting the Common Council to hold open hearings. We do not believe that we should stop now.

The current overproduction crisis is causing a depression. Billions of workers are being thrown into the streets to face evictions, repossessions, and starvation. Housing is rapidly deteriorating and new housing starts have all but stopped. Almost 2 million new cars are sitting in storage lots. Cattle are being slaughtered and buried in trenches. Unemployment has never led to more sales, it has only led to more unemployment.

This situation is not restricted to this country, but exists in 70% of the world. The newspapers have blamed this crisis on the Middle-East and world-wide overpopulation. The oil rich deserts of the Middle-East have become an international bone of contention not because there is too little oil, but because there are gigantic profits to be made from oil. The newspapers scream out that there are too many people in the world. What they are really saying is that the unemployed are becoming a danger. What solution is being hammered home to us? War in the Middle-East will give the profits to the winner and at the same time reduce the number of unemployed by the millions that will be killed. This is why the coalition is so important. Please attend the WORKERS ACTION COALITION FOR JOBS on January 17, 1975.

With love and solidarity,  
The Workers Action Coalition for Jobs



BY-LAWS  
OF  
WORKERS UNITED FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SURVIVAL

ARTICLE I NAME AND PURPOSE

1. The name of this organization is Workers United for Political and Economic Survival which may be abbreviated to WUPES.
2. The purpose of WUPES shall be to serve as an organization of civic minded people fighting for the economic and political survival of working people. In fulfilling this purpose, WUPES will:
  - a. Conduct a monthly forum for the discussion of issues of vital interest to working people;
  - b. Provide speakers to social clubs, block clubs and other organizations to discuss issues that are affecting the lives of working people;
  - c. Establish study groups and educational for more detailed study in selected areas such as political corruption in government, unions and the communities and to fight to better understand the functions of the government and how it affects our daily lives;
  - d. Serve as an outlet for literature important to working people; and
  - e. Generally support activities and provide services which increase the unity of all working people and show that all our struggles are not isolated.

ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

1. Any person who subscribes to the purposes of WUPES will become a member of WUPES upon payment of membership dues to the organization.
2. Membership dues are \$ 3.00 per year per family unit plus \$ .50 per month for each individual in the family unit over the age of 12. There will be no \$ 3.00 yearly charge for family units having no employed members.
3. Membership shall entitle the member to free admission to all WUPES forums, study groups and educational and to special literature discounts.
4. Membership may be terminated by two-thirds vote of the Planning Committee. The grounds for such termination are conduct by a member which is harmful to the best interest of WUPES and/or its members.
5. A member may resign from WUPES by giving written notice to the Planning Committee.

ARTICLE III PLANNING COMMITTEE

1. The Planning Committee will be responsible for the management of the affairs of WUPES.

2. The Planning Committee shall be comprised of not less than three nor more than eleven members in good standing of WUPES.
3. Vacancies on the Planning Committee shall be filled by two-thirds vote of all members of the Planning Committee subject to the approval of a majority of the members present at a general membership meeting.
4. A member of the Planning Committee may be expelled from the Planning Committee by a two-thirds vote of all Planning Committee members for conduct inconsistent with the By-Laws of WUPES or harmful to the best interest of the organization and/or its members. Such an expulsion is subject to the approval of a majority of the members present at a general membership meeting.

#### ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

1. The Planning Committee will elect a chairperson, co-chairperson, and secretary-treasurer by majority vote of all Planning Committee members. Additional officers may be appointed by the Planning Committee as it finds necessary. All officer selections are subject to the approval of a majority of the members present at a general membership meeting.
2. Officers shall serve one year terms beginning October 1, except that a new election may be held at any time for any office upon consent of not less than two-thirds of all Planning Committee members.
3. The chairperson shall preside at all WUPES general membership and Planning Committee meetings and shall perform the tasks normally associated with this position.
4. The co-chairperson shall serve as chairperson in the chairperson's absence.
5. The secretary-treasurer shall handle correspondence of the organization; maintain membership, mailing, and financial records; and keep such records of meetings as the Planning Committee deems necessary.
6. Additional duties and responsibilities may be assigned to the officers as the Planning Committee sees fit.
7. Any officer may be recalled by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the entire membership.

#### ARTICLE V MEETINGS

1. The monthly forums will be open to the general public. An admission fee will be charged to non members who are employed. Known disrupters may be barred from attending monthly forums at the Planning Committee's direction.
2. There shall be at least one general membership meeting each year, which will be called by the Planning Committee.
3. The Planning Committee will meet at least once a month. Any three Planning Committee members may call a special meeting of the Planning Committee to

be scheduled not less than three days after receipt of notice of said meeting by two-thirds of the Planning Committee members. A simple majority of Planning Committee members shall constitute a quorum for the consideration of business.

ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES

1. The Planning Committee may appoint standing committees to advance the work of WUPES.
2. The Planning Committee may appoint special committees to aid it in particular matters of a temporary nature.

ARTICLE VII AMENDMENTS

1. These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of all Planning Committee members subject to the approval of a majority of the members present at a general membership meeting.
2. Notice of a proposed amendment must be given to the membership of WUPES at least two weeks prior to its adoption by the Planning Committee.

ARTICLE VIII DISSOLUTION

1. WUPES may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than three-fourths of the membership. After payment of all debts of the organization, its property and assets shall be divided equally among all members.

ARTICLE IX ADOPTION

1. These By-Laws shall go into effect upon ratification by not less than two-thirds of the Planning Committee members subject to the approval of a majority of the members present at a general membership meeting.

**wupes**

WORKERS UNITED FOR POLITICAL  
AND ECONOMIC SURVIVAL/P.O.Box 1182-A  
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11/19/74