

NEGOTIATION TEAM MEETING

D.P.

February 6, 1969 - 4:30 P.M.
Hotel Granada - Room 602

Present: Messrs. Albert Vann, Chairman
Robert Carson
Jack L. Pannigan
Herman Patterson
Mmes Ella Sease
Isaura Santiago

The Chairman opened the meeting by bringing to the attention of the Team, a copy of a letter sent by Dr. Burkhardt to Professor Belle Zeller, Chairman of the Legislative Conference of the City University. This letter was in response to the Conference resolution asking for the removal of Mr. Vann as the Chairman of the Bedford Stuyvesant Coalition. Dr. Burkhardt's letter was in complete support of Mr. Vann.

Mr. Vann stated the purpose of the meeting; to decide on the Team's firm choice for a President for Community College Number Seven and to outline a general Presidential Criteria. He felt any President should have the following qualifications:

- a) education - academic ability
- b) knowledge of the Bedford Stuyvesant Community--communities on par with Bedford Stuyvesant
- c) knowledge of new college structure and goals
- d) personal qualities

In selecting Presidential candidates, Rhody McCoy was the Teams first choice, with Preston Wilcox as the second.

The general consensus of the Team was that Mr. McCoy would be indispensable to the community because of his knowledge of the New York Public School system, his ability to assume leadership, his ability to meet and systematically deal with crisis, and his demonstrated concern for the needs and goals of a Black and Puerto Rican community; also his expertise in the field of Secondary Education and his plans for the new college in relationship to the High School student-community.

In view of the fact that City University favored Drs. Proctor and Westerfield, it was expressed that we should be familiar with the unfavorable aspects of the remaining candidates and be firm on any objections to them. It was agreed that Samuel Proctor would not serve because of his lack of familiarity with the Bedford Stuyvesant community. Messrs. Westerfield and Brown, because of their middle-class backgrounds and areas of experience, would not be capable of dealing with the inner-city problems of Bedford Stuyvesant. The Vice-Chairman felt that some of Preston Wilcox's previous remarks might be construed, by City University, as being anti-semitic.

Professor Patterson was of the opinion that some of the objections to Rhody McCoy would be in the following areas:

- a) he would be acceptable to the Black and Puerto Rican community only;
- b) demonstrated ability in restricted area of Secondary Education;
- c) personal education - standing with the accredited academic community - college level
- d) possible projections of community problems, i.e., Ocean-Hill Brownsville, to the college.

After general discussion, the Chairman said that in the area of Community Control we must clarify the degree of participation and authority the Governing Board will have in policy-making for the college. Other points raised by Mr. Vann pertained to the method in which powers would be given to the Governing Board and the relationship of the President to the Board as versus City University--to which body of authority would be show the most cooperation. The Team opinion was that the President might be most responsive to the source of his income.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

The next meeting of the Negotiation Team will be held on Thursday, February 13th, 3:30 p.m., in the offices of the Coalition.

Jul' Gilbert
Acting Secretary