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REDFORD-STUYVESANT COALITION ON EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND SERVICES

July 11, 1968

AGENDA

B/S
file → Community College

- I. Minutes
- II. Committee Reports
 - A. Negotiating Team
 - 1. Meeting with consultants
 - 2. Meeting with C.U.'s staff
 - 3. Setting up of Coalition's office and other services
 - 4. Preparation of proposal
 - B. Structure Committee
- III. Old Business
- IV. New Business
- V. "Split"

Al Vann
Chairman

MINUTES
Community Meeting

7/11/68

The meeting was opened by Mr. Vann. The discussion was immediately turned to item IIA on the attached agenda.

The Steering Committee was informed of a meeting of the Negotiating Team with three consultants on Institutions of Higher learning. They were Drs. Berkman, Russell, and Watkins.

As a result of that meeting the Drs. were asked to compile a draft for a paper stating the position of the Bedford-Stuyvesant Community on:

1. The kind of institution we need and want (4 yr vs. 2 yr.)
2. Why we need a 4 year college.
- 3/ A course of action towards obtaining a 4 year school.

Dr. Berkman and Russell each came up with a paper. The two papers were, as stated by Dr. Berkman, essentially the same. However Mr. Vann felt that they should first be compiled into one paper to be presented to the Steering Committee. It was suggested that Dr. Berkman (The only consultant present) at least summarize the contents of the papers.

The summary brought out the fact that there was a need for a more clearly defined course of action towards achieving the 4 year school. The general thinking was that the documents be completed and brought back for further discussion.

At this point. Judge T.R. Jones stated that he wanted to go on record as having strongly warned against any further delay. He stated that the consultants had been met 2 weeks prior to this meeting and this was the first he had come in contact with the papers. He strongly emphasized the fact that the "powers that be" will not sit around and wait for us to drag our feet making a decision. He said that if making a decision took all night, he was willing and we should all be willing to sacrifice whatever time it takes to get the job done. He said, " Whatever it takes we must have a finished position paper within 48 hours.

It was then suggested that we have the paper finished (compile the two) and ready for final discussion at an emergency meeting to be called for the following Sunday. The ensuing discussion centered around having the finished paper reproduced and mailed to Steering Committee members prior to this Sunday meeting. It was decided that the Committee members would be sufficiently prepared for the Sunday discussion if Dr. Berkman read the draft he had written, which he said the other consultants agreed contained all of the necessary points.

The paper was read. It went in detail into the inability of a 2 year college to meet the needs of Bedford-Stuyvesant because, by definition, a 2 year college is inferior.

It also stated that if we must begin with a 2 year school, that the plans be laid out in such a way that after the initial 2 years the curriculum continue on into the 4 year Baccalaureate granting stages. Also that all credits obtained in the Bedford-Stuyvesant College be automatically transferable to any other 4 year school in the City University.

Following the reading, the discussion centered around the urgent need to submit a statement of our position to the Board of Higher Education. Dr. Lee stated that the Board is waiting for us to make a move.

He was reminded that the Negotiating Team has submitted a statement of what we want to the Board, to which the members of the Board have made verbal commitments. At their last meeting with the Board they were promised a written confirmation of those commitments. It would be difficult to make any logical move until we get the commitments already made in writing.

Judge Jones again stressed the fact that we could not stand still because schools planned after ours are already in progress and the 34 million ear-marked for Bedford-Stuyvesant is in demand.

Jack Pannigan then reminded the Steering Committee of its responsibility of informing the community of impending decisions.

Mr. Vann suggested that we send registered letters to all organizations announcing the coming meeting.

Rudy Bryyant volunteered to compile a list of all Bed-Stuy organizations. CBCC reaffirmed its commitment to getting out mailings.

It was moved that a committee be formed to finalize the position drafts for distribution to the community. The motion was amended to read That the Negotiating Team finalize the drafts to be presented to the Steering Committee for discussion at the next regular meeting. The amended motion was unanimously passed:

The other points discussed were:

1. The Board would set up office facilities for the Negotiating Team only on a month-to-month basis, and it would set up a revolving fund to pay for supplies.
2. Their position on consultants is still hazy.

Respectfully submitted
DeeDee Minott; Secretary

DEM/fm