

POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING No. 23, June 8, 1978

Present: Blackstock, Breitman, Britton, Clark, Dixon, Garza, Hawkins, Horowitz, Jaquith, D. Jenness, L. Jenness, Kramer, LaMont, Levine, Lovell (for first two points), Morell, Petrin, Reid, Seigle, Stapleton, Stone, White

Guests: Barnes, Feldman, Prince

Chair: Britton

AGENDA: 1. Socialist Labor Party Convention
2. National Committee Assignment
3. Ethiopia-Somalia War
4. YSA Plenum
5. Bay Area District

1. SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY CONVENTION

Stapleton reported on SLP convention held the weekend of May 27-28 in Philadelphia. The convention marked a step forward for the SLP in reevaluating and rejecting previous policy of abstention from class-struggle activities. The convention decisions on SLP relations with our party appear to open the door to continued and possibly stepped-up collaboration and political discussions.

We should invite the SLP to attend the Oberlin conference, offer their leadership the opportunity to present a class on the SLP at the conference, and encourage SLP activists we are in touch with around the country to attend the conference.

Discussion

Motion: To approve.

Carried.

2. NATIONAL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT

Barnes reported that, for personal reasons, Judy White will be moving to Mexico. Catarino Garza has agreed to assume responsibility as interim editor of Perspectiva Mundial until a permanent assignment can be made.

Barnes proposed that White be granted a six-month leave of absence. A transfer would imply that she intends to be active in the Mexican section, which is not the case. Resignation could be interpreted as reflecting disagreements with the party, but this is not the case either. Therefore, a six-month leave of absence is proposed. At the end of this time, the situation would, of course, be reviewed.

(over)

Motion: To approve.

Carried.

3. ETHIOPIA-SOMALIA WAR

(Baumann, Foley, Frankel, Hansen, Harsch, Hart, Musa, and Seidman invited for this point.)

Frankel outlined proposed roundup article. (See Political Committee minutes of June 2.)

Discussion continued from previous meeting.

Proposal by Barnes to approve correction of previous evaluation of Ethiopia-Somalia war. Analysis will be presented in major roundup feature in the Militant.

Moved.

Against: Kramer, Levine

Abstention: Breitman

For: All others

Carried.

4. YSA PLENUM

(Farley and Sedwick invited for this point.)

Petrin reported on YSA National Committee plenum, June 1-4, 1978.

Discussion

5. NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BAY AREA DISTRICT

Stone reported on the following proposals as recommended by Bay Area comrades:

That the Political Committee call a convention June 17 of the San Jose, San Francisco, Berkeley, and Oakland branches to establish a Northern California Bay Area District.

That the delegate ratio be 1 delegate for every 3 members.

That the proposed agenda be the following:

1. Report on Political Committee proposal to establish a Northern California Bay Area District
2. Election of District Committee
3. Adoption of District bylaws

Motion: To approve.

Carried.

Meeting adjourned.