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Events - TERC  
1984-1987

Tompkins-Cortland Joint Labor Coalition, minutes of April 5 meeting

Meeting called to order by Acting Chair Susan Schlaepfer. We restated our proposed objectives for the benefit of new members. There followed a discussion of the proposed structure, during which some opposition was voiced to having members of the "labor community" present at general meetings if they were not union members, including representatives of Unemployed Councils. Question of membership for Unemployed Councils was tabled until a representative could be present at a general meeting to answer questions and be approved for membership by the body. The proposed structure for the organization was read off and discussed, and approved by these present unanimously.

The subject of rotating meeting dates was again discussed, pro and con, and left in place to avoid continually conflicting with any member union's regular meeting date. The July meeting was shifted from the first Wednesday of the month to the second, July 11, to avoid the Fourth of July holiday. It was proposed that the body agree on two meeting places, one in Ithaca, and one in Cortland.

Al Davidoff, UAW #2300, gave a proxy report for the absent Jean McPheeters on the upcoming Political Action Workshop. To her three topics of 1) Voter registration; 2) Reagan's record; and 3) How to talk to union members about political action; it was decided to add a fourth topic, on how to work together through our unions and our labor coalition. It was suggested at the general meeting that, in order to further our goal of voter registration, members of different unions should get together to go over records at the Board of Elections to determine total member registration.

Dues for the organization were proposed at an initial assessment of five dollars per union, with this fee subject to change as need arises. Mailings were to be made for each meeting, with each union responsible for notifying its membership.

Jonathan Rosenblum, of the Ithaca Journal Employees Union, asked for support from the coalition for his union in their contract troubles, in the form of postcard mailings, telephone calls, cancelled subscriptions, etc., to bring public opinion to bear on their problems. Members present decided to bring this problem to the attention of their memberships, and to send a fact sheet from the Ithaca Journal Employees Union along with the next mailing.

Jean Perih, Groton Faculty Association, also gave an update on her union's recently settled contract.

Ideas for projects to be undertaken by the coalition were given, including workshops, support actions, concerted attendance of hearings on local concerns such as the Route 96 project, flyers for members on subjects such as workers' compensation, press releases, solidarity events including a summer party and a Labor Day picnic, compilation of a directory, health and safety sub-committee, etc.. Press releases were put on hold until the group has a more complete structure including elected officers and a media contact person.

Meeting adjourned, 9:00 p.m.