

TOMPKINS-CORTELAND JOINT LABOR COALITION

Minutes from May 7, 1984, meeting, 7:00 p.m., Plumbers and Pipefitters Hall, Ithaca.

Meeting called to order 7:15 p.m. The meeting was addressed by Steve Jackson of the Democratic Socialists of America, speaking on the anti-union climate of the country, and the American Solidarity group, a movement of people not necessarily affiliated with unions who wish to express their support of and broad solidarity with the union movement in its time of trial. The local chapter of this group wishes to place an ad in the Ithaca Journal including signatures of a broad cross-section of the public similar to an ad which appeared in the New York Times recently. Copies of the support pledge were circulated. Jackson is also a member of the local Planning Board and wishes to receive notes from our members concerning the proposed Route 96 project, which would include tearing down the Plumbers and Pipefitters Hall.

Sue Schlaepfer, acting chair, reminded members to pay their dues so that they are eligible to vote, and read over the approved structure for the organization. Nominations and elections for a steering committee followed. The nominations were: Henry Baker, IBEW #241; Jim Morrisette, CUSEU; Jim Nichols, TCC3 Faculty Association; Sue Schlaepfer, ITA; Skye Milliman, Painters' Local #178; Al Davidoff, UAW #2300; and Kay Aletras, Clever Hans Workers Association. During the ballot count, the meeting was addressed by Michael Cohen of the Unemployed Council, concerning his group's activities and goals. Charles French, IBEW #241, gave a report on a national Building Trades Council meeting, at which Secretary of Labor Donovan did a remarkable job of clearing the hall. A report was also given by Al Davidoff and Kurt Edelman on unionization efforts at Franklin Printing, and they asked that member-unions support the fledgling group by sending their printing work there. The results of the elections were: five people elected outright, two tied. Since there were two more positions on the committee yet to be filled, both persons who were tied were placed on the committee. Of the two positions left, the newly-elected group appointed Tom Keane, CSEA-Groton, to one spot, leaving the other to be filled later. Appointment of Tom Keane approved unanimously by the body.

Negotiation Updates: Haralyn Kuckes told of the Ithaca Teachers Association's effect on the recent School Board Elections; Del Borden requested support for the Trumansburg Teachers in their struggles; Kay Aletras of the Clever Hans Workers Association said that complaints have been filed concerning the requirement of female employees to lift one-hundred pound bags; and Jon Rosenblum reported that the Ithaca Journal Employees had had a successful bakesale and received an additional contribution from IBEW #241.

Kurt Edelman gave a report on our Political Action Workshop, attended by nearly twenty people. He also spoke about a group called Human Serve, which is running a nationwide campaign to register people who receive various government services to vote. They would like to get enough volunteers to cover registration efforts in the Unemployment Office through one two-week period.

The Coalition then passed a resolution to patronize union businesses wherever possible. Suggestions for projects were made, including a Labor Day bash, fundraising such as raffles and T-shirt sales, a coordinating committee for political action and one for disseminating information, a health and safety committee, and a ~~wait~~ation committee. Finally, a press release prepared by Jonathan Rosenblum was approved, with amendments, for release the following day. Meeting adjourned 9:23 p.m.

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