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Resist Board Meeting Minutes

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### Resist Board Meeting, July 11, 1976

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## MINUTES OF JULY 11 MEETING

### RESIST

Present: Carol, Paul, Louie, Madge, Eileen, Mary-Loise, Hank, Ken.

I. Financial Report. Put off Radical historian mailing till Sept. Wayne and Louie will draft a letter to Rad Caucus of Eng and Mod Lg people to be sent out this summer. Granting this month should be kept down to 1000-1500, since income for next two months not terribly secure.

A list should be prepared of fundraising activities we have engaged in and could still do; we should keep on top of them to make sure they are actually done, and on time. Paul will write Marxist Literary Group about exchanging lists. Dan Stern says Peoples Law Office list not productive. Madge will write (Nancy?) Stearns of Center for Constitutional Rights. Attempts will be made to get in touch with person who did the Ellsberg mailing for suggestions and so forth on the possible uses for the Call. Office people will check out the Monthly Review and Guardian lists. Louie points out no use trying to do anything (ad or party) around the New Call until after the elections.

We should attempt to use the remainder of the Ferry ~~3000~~ 3000 to 'refinance' our organization and get us back on a sound fiscal basis.

II. Office Report. (1) When something happens in the office, e.g., Jose's leaving etc., the minutes should explain it so that other board members are kept abreast of what is happening. Another example, is the recent interviewing of staff people. If inappropriate time-wise for the minutes to do it, then a memo should be sent out. (2) Visitors-- (a) interviewees, (b) representatives of Ganienkeh Indians; they received an emergency grant for putting in their crop, (c) several people came in to enquire about Counterspy, their address etc., Madge wondered why; perhaps people want to learn how to deal with FBI probes around recent bombings, etc. (3) Newsletter -- Wayne and Madge are working on this month's; has South Africa piece, UFW initiative piece, cont. of DR piece, and Madge's commentary on July 4th in Philadelphia, plus appeal on back page for funds for Resist. For next newsletter, perhaps there should be something on electoral politics -- e.g., Frank on CLP, Doug Doud (Louie will ask) on Tom Hayden campaign, and Liberty Union (Eileen will inquire). Someone will look into getting an article about San Quentin. The next newsletter will also carry an initial version of the new call (see below). There was criticism by Louie of the DR piece, primarily around the fact that it was too rhetorical to be useful -- in future, we should present our own versions based on material from group. Hank suggested we return to the practice of soliciting comments from board members about 'guttsy' pieces. Paul suggested we might ask research groups to submit brief articles, like Merrit on Leobenon (in Monthly Review). (4) Hank will prepare an ad for movement newspapers as soon as the call is finished. (5) Madge and Carol reported on July 4th; about 45,000 people with 1500 from Boston. Strongest aspect was PR independence issue; PSP extremely well organized; very well received in the neighborhoods. Groups in NY and Boston are meeting to work on continuing and criticism. (6) Madge will be on vacation from July 30 to Aug 14 approx; she will be in SF in case people want her to look into anything there.

III. New Office Person. Carol Smith described her work with NASC, the New England Film Library, and her 'money' job with the Alcohol Education Program, and her earlier involvement in Oregon. An extremely interesting discussion followed in which Carol asked boardmembers questions, as well as answering questions put to her. This was helpful for all of us. It was stressed several times that Resist is really a full-time job. While it does not of course preclude political work outside the office, the job at Resist should itself be viewed as a major political commitment, not merely a job. This should be made clear in all future hiring. We need people who will bring their political minds to the office, not merely their skills. It was decided that Carol would be hired. Welcome to Resist, Carol!

IV. Recruitment. (a) Madge will get in touch with people from Radical America about someone coming to Sept. meeting; (b) Donna Fenn will be approached about coming; she is from Family and Friends of Prisoners, in Dorchester; (c) we had about 15 luke-to-negative responses from our initial invitation; others will be followed up on; (d) Hank will ask George Vickers to write up a short political autobiography to be discussed in connection with his joining the board; Ken will ask the same of Carlos Otero; (e) Mary-Louise talked of her work with AWARE and her interest in Resist, etc. She was invited on the board and will do work in the office, etc., like other Boston people. Welcome to Resist, Mary-Louise!

There was discussion of board members we have not heard from for some time. They will be written to clarify their status; they include Claudette Piper, Michelle Russell, Norm Fruchter, Susan Sonntag, Bob Rosenthal, and Doug McCay.

V. Requests. (1) NSCAR - they are applying to Haymarket, we will await results; (2) SUBS - postpone; (3) Liberation News Service - we made a grant for their move, we will keep in touch in re possible future granting; (4) Pacific News Service - they have not answered Ken's letter, we'll take no action unless they reapply; (5) Midwest Committee for Military Counseling - \$238, Wayne will write about possible future projects we might be interested in; (6) NASC - Carol should write asking them to submit a request in relation to the book on Native American Women, or, perhaps, slide show; (7) Black Economic Development Conference - postpone, Frank will get in touch with them; (8) People's Health Center - up to \$200 contingent, Madge will call Grace; (9) ICDP - \$100 to cover our membership and a token support grant; (NOTE: our relationship with the Peacemaker Fund should be reestablished, Hank will write); (10) United Farm Workers, New England - \$100 X 4, till they can apply to Haymarket; (11) Neighborhood Coalition of Jamaica Plain - denied due to seeming lack of political direction and purpose, Madge will write them; (12) GI Project Alliance - \$70 now, and \$70 when next issue comes out; (13) Community Information Project, LA - postpone, Madge will write people mentioned in application, or Ken Cloak; (14) Casa de Teatro, Santo Domingo - postpone, Grace will check; (15) Community Church of Boston, -Prison Conference - loan of \$300; (16) RECON - \$150; (17) Jamaica Plains TAG - postpone, some will visit from Boston Resist people; (18) Boston Bail Project - \$150; (19) The Incredible Shrinking American Dream - denied, weak political thrust;

(20) Guernica Film Collective - put in touch with Deirdre English who worked on "The Year of the Tiger". Also Dan Talbot could advise on political use of film. They might also seek a list from the Indochina Research Center. Our list would probably not be too useful for them. (21) World Wide Military Newspaper - postpone; (22) Ella Ellison Support Committee - too little politics, denied; seems like a good case for ACLU; (23) Workers Rights Project - \$1,000 Z money; also Eileen's brother will visit them.

VI. New Call. After a lengthy discussion on the possible effects of this call, it was decided that the best procedure would be to put a version, to be worked up by Wayne, into the next newsletter together with an appeal for discussion and criticism from our constituency -- this should enable us to determine the reaction to our attempts to articulate clearly what we see as the goals of the sort of work we have supported for the past eight years. Wayne will revise the first paragraph indicating therein that this document has resulted from a careful assessment of our relationship to movement groups over the 8-year period, or words to that effect; the closing paragraph will also be recast as an appeal to our constituents to send in their reactions, pointing out that a final version will be drawn up to be sent around for signatures, as was the case with the first and second calls. The initial paragraph will also state why we feel that it is time for a new call.

There was also a discussion of how to use the call, how to 'push' it; suggestions were (a) ask for signers; (b) send out with fundraising letters; (c) ads; (d) send 50 or so to contacts around the country; (e) discuss with and pass around to colleagues.

VII. Resist's future. After some discussion of Bob Zevins' criticisms of the Resist concept at the present time, it was suggested that we should perhaps invite someone working with a populist organizing group to a meeting in the near future.

VIII. Next two meetings:

(1) August 22, at Grace's in Vermont

(2) September 26 at Paul's new place in NY (27D 30 Waterside Plaza).

*Enclosed: Paul's feelings, analyses about Resist  
(if you didn't already receive it) & Frank's  
comments on Resist.*

(continued)

FINANCIAL REPORT - JULY 11th MEETING

Balance as of May 21st	\$1830.69
Income for the month	
Pledges	1985.75
Contributions <sup>1</sup>	4950.88
Subscriptions	20.00
Misc.	5.00
TOTAL	\$6961.48
Outgo for the month	
Taxes	200.56
Payroll	840.38
Grants	1675.00
Postage	360.00
Travel	235.00
Print & Copy	314.57
Office Maintenance ( a very high phone bill)	655.59
Subscriptions	42.00
Mailing House	68.00
Misc.	30.00
TOTAL	\$4421.10
Current Balance	\$4371.32
Projected Expenses for Next month (approx. 5 weeks)	
Rent and Utilities	185.00
Telephone	125.00
Grants Cont.	----
Payroll	1040.10
Taxes	550.00
Travel	180.00
Mailing House	136.00
Supplies	<del>32.75</del> 90.00
Health Plan	32.75
Printing	170.00
Postage	350.00
TOTAL	\$2858.85
Projected Income <sup>2</sup>	
Pledges	1400.00
Contributions	1000.00
TOTAL	\$2400.00

Our current balance plus projected income minus projected expenses leaves us with \$3912.47 for grants this month---although we shouldn't spend much of this to be careful

<sup>1</sup>The Ferry's gave \$3,000 in response to our letter. So far the Anthro., Linguists mailing has yielded insig. returns although the letter recently went out. The special contributors mailing to 23 persons who also had the draft of the Call sent to them has so far given us \$750 from 4 people.

We postponed the Radical Historians mailing --summer maybe isn't the best time and it will cost to do it. We have to wait until URPE gets its computer list together.

<sup>2</sup>I projected low--it's very hard to know what ~~August~~ and July and August will look like.. we should be very conservative with grants, if we give out any.