

Minutes of Plenum of the National Committee, September 2, 1965

Present: Regular: Dobbs, Kerry, Chester, Lavan, Feingold, Ring, Torres, Shaw, DeBruce, Weinstein, Sheppard, Halstead, J. Hansen, Alvin, Simon, Charon, F. Lovell, Turner, Warde, G. Breitman, Kirk, Coover, Himmel, Reed.

Alternates: J. Barnes, Johnson, Jones, S. Lovell, Vernon, Leonard, Pete C., Stevens, Forbes, Graham.

Advisory: Dunne, Swabeck, Wood.

Chairman: Himmel

AGENDA

1. Roll Call
2. Organization of Convention

1. ROLL CALL

See attendance as listed above for roll call.

2. ORGANIZATION OF CONVENTION

Shaw reporting.

Motion: That in case of procedural dsiputes, discussion be limited to two speakers, one for and one against, and that each speaker be limited to 2 minutes.

Carried.

Motion: That the Agenda be as follows:

1. Organization of convention
2. World Movement
3. Political Resolution
4. Negro Struggle
5. Youth Report
6. Resolution on Organizational Character of the SWP
7. Organization Report
8. Election of National Committee

Carried.

Motion: That PC reporter on World Movement receive 1½ hours with ½ hour summary and that Swabeck receive 10 minute extension of discussion time to present motion on Chinese regime.

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Counter-motion by Swabeck: That he be accorded 45 minutes under international report.

Discussion: Dobbs -- 2 minutes against; Swabeck -- 2 minutes for.

Amendment to Swabeck motion by Kirk: 30 rather than 45 minutes. Swabeck did not accept amendment.

VOTE on Swabeck motion:

Defeated

VOTE on PC motion:

Carried.

Motion: That PC reporter on Political Resolution receive 1 hour with $\frac{1}{2}$ hour summary, and that reporter for Kirk-Kaye tendency receive equal reporting and summary time, and that Swabeck receive 10 minute extension of discussion time to present motion on PLP.

Discussion: Swabeck.

Carried.

Motion: That PC reporter on Negro Struggle receive 1 hour with $\frac{1}{2}$ hour summary and that Comrade Boulton receive equal reporting and summary time.

Counter-motion by Kirk: That minority time on Negro Resolution be divided equally between Comrades Boulton and Phillips.

Discussion: Dobbs -- 2 minutes against; Kirk -- 2 minutes for.

VOTE on Kirk motion:

Defeated.

VOTE on PC motion:

Carried.

Motion: That PC reporter on Organizational Character of the SWP receive 1 hour with $\frac{1}{2}$ hour summary.

Carried.

Motion: That reporter for Youth Report receive 1 hour with $\frac{1}{2}$ hour summary.

Carried.

Motion: That PC reporter on Organization Report receive 1 hour with 15 minute summary.

Carried.

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Motion: To take up Robertson and Mazelis appeals of expulsions under agenda point on the Organizational Character of the SWP.

Discussion: Lavan, Swabeck, Kirk, Turner, Kerry.

Counter-motion by Lavan: That the plenum authorize a party representative to contact Mazelis and Robertson and ask them to submit their appeals in writing to be distributed to the delegates, said appeals to be limited to 10 pages each.

Discussion: Dobbs, Stevens, Alvin, Turner, Swabeck.

VOTE on Lavan motion:

Defeated.

Statement by Turner: That he will appeal this to the convention.

VOTE on PC motion:

Carried.

Motion: To accept the proposed convention schedule as a whole.

Carried.

Motion: That there be two panels 1) Trade Union Work and 2) Press and Literature and that there be a workshop on legal defense chaired by Warde.

Discussion: Stevens, Torres (requested that if possible & desirable there be a panel on anti-Vietnam War committees.)

Carried.

Motion: That Connie, Sherry and Ellen be convention secretaries.

Carried.

Motion: To elect a credentials committee consisting of five delegates.

Carried.

Motion: To elect a constitution committee consisting of five delegates.

Carried.

Motion: To elect a nominating commission consisting of 20 delegates as follows: New York 4, California 4, Illinois 2, Minnesota 2, Colorado 1, Massachusetts 1, Michigan 1, New Jersey 1, Ohio 1, Pennsylvania 1, Washington 1 and Wisconsin 1.

Carried.

Motion: To seat as fraternal delegates the following categories 1) members of NC, 2) members of National Control Commission, 3) heads of National Office departments (Press business management, Literature business management and National Financial director), and 4) special guests.

Carried.

Motion: That the convention be open to party members and sympathizers vouched for by the branches.

Carried.

Motion: That the Presiding Committee consist of the following: Barnes, DeBruce, Dobbs, Graham, Hansen, Halstead, Kerry, Shaw, Warde.

Carried.

Convention rules proposed:

1. Discussion from the floor shall be limited to 10 minutes per speaker.
2. A speaker may have the floor only once in a given discussion until all those who wish the floor have had opportunity to speak.
3. All voting, except for election of National Committee and National Control Commission, will be done by voice vote unless a division of the house is called for; then the vote will be taken by a show of delegate cards. Election of National Committee and National Control Commission shall take place by secret ballot.
4. Only delegates have voice and vote. Fraternal delegates have voice and consultative vote.
5. Alternate delegates have voice and vote only when acting in place of a regularly elected delegate.
6. In all other cases Roberts Rules of Order shall apply.

Motion by Swabeck: To return to point on Presiding committee.

Carried.

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Discussion: Swabeck, Kirk, Shaw, Stevens, Dobbs.

Motion: To adjourn.

Carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED