

Minutes of the National Committee Plenum

Young Socialist Alliance

New York, July 5-7, 1968

First Session, Friday, July 5, 1968, convened at 10:15 AM

Present: Full: Charlie B., Kipp D., Carl F., Jan G., Lew J.,
Marilyn L., Carol L., Caroline L., Robin M.,
Derrick M., Derrel M., Wendy R., Dan R.,
Larry S., Melissa S., Syd S., Peer V.,
Mary-Alice W., Judy W.

Alternates: Peggy B., Linda S., Nelson B., Richard H.,
Bob S., Paul M., Peter S., Howard P.,
Walter L., Jim K., Tony T., Fred F., David T.,
Evelyn K., Phil P., Steve S.

Fraternal: Ellis B., Terrill B., Bob W., David W.,
Tom F., Paul L., Carol F., Don C., Russell B.,
Carol C., George N., Allen, Connie, Jack B.,
Paul L.

Observer: John S.

I. ORGANIZATION OF THE PLENUM

Motions presented for the NEC by Kipp D.

- (1) That the Presiding Committee be the National Office staff:
Mary-Alice W., Carol L., Larry S., Kipp D., Charlie B.,
Derrick M., Lew J.
- (2) That procedural motions be decided by majority vote with
one speaker for and one against, each with one minute.
- (3) To approve the agenda and schedule.
- (4) To adopt the following rules:
 - a. Fraternal delegates have voice and consultative vote.
 - b. Discussion presentations be limited to ten minutes.
 - c. That in a discussion period no one may speak a second
time before each person desiring the floor has had a
chance to speak.

- (5) That fraternal delegates be the following: local organizers, Ellis B., Barbara G., Terrill B., Bob W., David W., Michael S., Paul L., Tom F., Russell B., Roy I., Mike H.; representatives from at-large areas, Carol F., Mike M., Toby R., Don C.; representatives from the SWP, George N., Jack B., Vincent D.; representatives from Canada, Allen, Connie.
- (6) That Dave T. and Evelyn K. be designated as plenum secretaries.

Motions Carried

Recommendation from the Presiding Committee that Wendy P. chair the first session.

Motion: to approve.

Motion Carried

II. INTERNATIONAL REPORT

Reporter - Mary-Alice W.

Discussion: Jan G., Ellis B., Robin M., Phil P., David T., Marilyn L.

Summary of International Report - Mary-Alice W.

Motion from the Presiding Committee: to send the following message to the JCR:

To the Jeunesse Communiste Revolutionnaire:

Dear Comrades,

The National Committee of the YSA, meeting in New York July 5-7, salutes you in your continuing revolutionary struggle. We pledge to carry out an international campaign in defense of the victims of de Gaulle's repression, and in defense of the democratic rights of all French revolutionaries.

Similarly, we pledge ourselves to extend and deepen the revolutionary movement here in the United States and carry the lessons of the French struggles to the thousands of radicalizing American youth.

Inspired by your example, thousands of Berkeley students defied the city and its cops to rally in your support, building massive actions which compelled the city to give in and admit their right to demonstrate.

The fight against capitalism and against reformism has been advanced immeasurably by your actions in France. We will win!

Motion Carried

Motion from the Presiding Committee: to approve the general line of the International Report.

Vote on the motion:

NCers: 34 for, none opposed, no abstentions; Consultative: 9 for, none opposed, no abstentions.

Motion Carried

III. BERKELEY REPORT

Reporter - Derrel M.

First session recessed at 1:05 PM

Second Session, Friday, July 5, 1968, convened at 2:35 PM

Recommendation from the Presiding Committee that Tony T. chair the session.

Motion: to approve.

Motion Carried

I. POLITICAL REPORT

Reporter - Charlie B.

Discussion: Caroline L., Robin M., Steve S., Richard H., Carl F., Tom F., Dave W., Derrel M., Russell B., Carol F., Dan R., Jan G., Melissa S., Phil P., Mary-Alice W., Lew J., Steve S.

Summary of Political Report - Charlie B.

Motion from the Presiding Committee: to accept the general line of the Political Report.

Vote on the motion:

NCers: 34 for, none opposed, no abstentions; Consultative: 9 for, none opposed, no abstentions.

Motion Carried

Second session adjourned at 6:30 PM

Third Session, Saturday, July 6, 1968 convened at 10:10 AM

Recommendation from the Presiding Committee that Nelson B. chair this session.

Motion: to approve.

Motion Carried

I. AFRO-AMERICAN REPORT

Reporter - Derrick M.

Discussion: Phil P., Judy W., Robin M., Tony T., Carol F., Bob S., Derrel M., Dave W.

Summary of Afro-American Report - Derrick M.

Motion from the Presiding Committee: to approve the general line of the Afro-American report.

Vote on the motion:

NCers: 34 for, none opposed, no abstentions; Consultative: 9 for, none opposed, no abstentions.

Motion Carried

Motion from the Presiding Committee: that the following message be sent to the Huey Newton Defense Committee, with copies to the Black Panther Party and Huey Newton:

To the Huey Newton Defense Committee:

The National Committee Plenum of the Young Socialist Alliance, meeting in New York July 5-7, reaffirms our full solidarity in the campaign to free Huey Newton and in the defense of the rights of the Black Panther Party.

Attempts to destroy the Black Panther Party and to victimize its members will be met by strong resistance from revolutionary youth across the country and throughout the world.

We offer our full help in building solidarity actions during Newton's trial and in the continuing defense of the Black Panther Party.

Motion Carried

Third Session recessed at 12:40 PM.

Fourth Session, Saturday, July 6, convened at 2:20 PM

Recommendation from the Presiding Committee that Paul M. chair this session.

Motion: to approve.

Motion Carried

II. ANTIWAR REPORT

Reporter - Lew J.

Discussion: Robin M., Syd S., Peter S., Derrel M., Steve S., Carol F., Bob W., Bob S.

Summary of Antiwar Report - Lew J.

Motion from the Presiding Committee: to approve the general line of the Antiwar report.

Vote on the motion:

NCers: 34 for, none opposed, no abstentions; Consultative: 9 for, none opposed, no abstentions.

Motion Carried

Fourth Session adjourned at 4:20 PM.

Fifth Session, Sunday, July 7, 1968, convened at 10:30 AM

Recommendation from the Presiding Committee that Fred F. chair this session.

Motion: to approve.

Motion Carried

I. ORGANIZATION REPORT

Reporter - Carol L.

Discussion: Russel B., Marilyn L., Ellis B., Robin M., Jim K., Charlie B., Dan R., Phil P., George N., Tom F., Peter S., Syd S., Judy W., Howie P., Linda S.

Fifth Session recessed at 1:20 PM.

Session reconvened at 2:00 PM.

Motion from the NEC: that the current sub campaign with a national quota of 2100 combination subs be fulfilled by September 15, and that the YSA participate in a planned sub drive for the Militant from September 15 through November 30 with a national quota of 4,000. We would take responsibility for getting 2,500 combination subs as part of this 4,000 quota.

Motion Carried

Motion from the Presiding Committee: to approve the general line of the Organization report.

Vote on the motion:

NCers: 33 for, none opposed, no abstentions; Consultative: 9 for, none opposed, no abstentions.

Motion Carried

Motion from the Presiding Committee: that the following message be sent to James P. Cannon:

From Paris, to Vietnam, to Warsaw, to Berkeley, a new generation of revolutionary youth is emerging with great force and enthusiasm. As an integral part of this revolutionary upsurge, the YSA faces a period of increased growth in size and influence for our movement.

As we prepare to take an important step forward in the coming months, we recognize that our current expansion would not have been possible without the contributions and efforts of those who have gone before us, particularly yourself.

The YSA National Committee Plenum sends warm greetings and looks forward to your next contribution which will be an additional valuable aid in recruiting and educating the new generation of revolutionary youth.

Motion Carried

II. CONVENTION CALL

Reporter - Kipp

Motion from the NEC: that there be a National Convention of the YSA on or around Thanksgiving and that the NEC be authorized to organize it.

Motion Carried

III. ELECTION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS

Motion by Mary-Alice: that the plenum elect two national officers, a National Chairman and National Secretary, and that the NEC be authorized to name one or more Field Secretaries between now and the November Convention.

Motion Carried

Motion by Mary-Alice: that Mary-Alice W. be National Chairman and Charlie B. be National Secretary.

Motion Carried

Motion by Charlie B.: that the NEC consist of Melissa S., Larry S., Mary-Alice W., Kipp D., Dan R., Charlie B., Carol L., Derrick M., Caroline L., Syd S.

Motion Carried

Plenum Adjourned 2:25 PM