

U.A.W. WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL

M I N U T E S

205 Placer Court
North York-Willowdale, Ontario

May 8, 1981

OPENING

Meeting called to order by acting chairperson Edith Johnston
at 10:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

S. Davidson, Georgina Kirk, Flo Shields, Linda Wood
Theresa Messier

Staff Edith Johnston

Edith - explained that Wanda Hawley had been laid off from her plant
and is now working at the G.M. Trim plant and could not attend
the meeting but had sent a letter which Edith read and copies enclosed
with minutes.

AGENDA Discuss Womens Conference at Black Lake
Canadian Council Women's Committee
Disbanding of Women's Advisory
Women's Conference in Port Elgin (September)

M/ Flo Shields "to continued meeting until completion of business"
S/ Linda Wood

CARRIED

Bob White and Bob Nickerson joined the meeting to discuss the disbanding
of the Women's Advisory Council.

Bob White - The Canadian Council Women's Committee was set up to
encourage the women's movement, bring women's issues to
the forefront of our union which is at Canadian Council the parliament
of our Union. It is necessary to disband the advisory council not
to have two functioning bodies.

Flo Shields - expressed her disappointment, in the fact that not only
have we lost Wanda Hawley but we are loosing May Partridge
because she would not have a chance of getting elected in her local as
a Canadian Council delegate. The small shops just can't afford to send
delegates to Council.

Bob White - explained that in looking at the interest and how much the
women's conference has expanded last year he could see that
it was necessary to change the structure and bring these women's concerns
to the Parliament of our Union and we have now reached a point for direct
action. Which will force us to address the issues.

May 8/81 minutes continued.....

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Bob Nickerson - explained part of the O.F.L. committee we have a policy that each local union set up womens committees and we need to set an example.

Flo Shields - not apposed to the Canadian Council Woemn's Committee but felt that their should be a co-operative effort with the advisory council.

Edith Johnston - the role of the advisory different, that seminars had to be planned through the locals in the area. Recognizing the Advisory Council made a contribution but their role is outlived and is time to go forward. The committee will be making reports to the Canadian Council and the women on the Advisory can communicate ideas through this committee.

Linda Wood asked how does one get on the committee.

Bob White explained the Council executive and his office select members of the committee from the elected delegates to Canadian Council. The normal size of committees is 5 to 6 members and they are reviewed annually in looking at the elections from the local unions.

John Bettes from the Council executive is working with the committee.

(Bob White and Bob Nickerson left the meeting).

Edith the council committee has met once and talked about the womens conference. Minutes of the meeting were read, areas that were covered were, International Women's Day, Child Care Forums, (the UAW brief on child care to be handed out at the June Canadian Council meeting) Locals sending resolutions, Tribute Women's Advisory - scroll presented. Agenda Women's Conference, Affirmative action programs in areas such as -women non-traditional jobs, local union discussion leaders, Paid Education Leave, Leadership programs, further staff appointments, hiring practises in the Aerospace industry.

Flo Shields - discussed a dream she has always had to have the UAW emblem chain of men to be alternated with women. That the Toronto Labour day parade we could have our own emblem.

Edith - explained that the womens committee had discussed having a banner for UAW women to be used in such parages and at International Women's day.

Womens Conference - Black Lake

24 Canadian women attended which were all first timers.

Linda Wood - a delegate, expressed that it helped us to realize we are part of an International Union and gave a wider scope on issues.

May 8/81 minutes continued...

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Womens Conference - Port Elgin

Bank account had the balance of what was left over from registrations. Jackets are still outstanding which can be sold at the conference. Registration this year is \$94. which we'll probably break even.

There will be some problems with accomodations because P.E.L. is still on Thursday and some delegates will be housed outside the centre. This should be explained to delegates before coming.

Quebec locals do not participate in Canadian Council, although they have formed a women's committee in Quebec.

Theresa Messier is on the womens committee, Retirees, Health and Security government womens political committee. Reported that Bob Dean has been appointed Assistant Ministry of Labour.

Womens Conference - with two days lost time this may cause a decrease in registrations.

- Canadian Council Women's Committee will be functioning at the conference.

Program

Thursday - registration 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Introductions

Keynote speaker, Pat Schultz - Child Care

Odessa Komer - Director Womens Department

Friday - Workshops (7 to 7 1/2 hours)

Subjects are dependent on availability of workshop leaders.

- Assertiveness Training
- Public Speaking
- Parliamentary Procedure
- How to make your Union work for you
(Legislation and work wise)
- Women & Pensions

Saturday - Bob White address conference

- Plenary Session - Child Care
- Paid Education Leave - Gord Wilson
- tribute to Advisory

- Film Festival (Laura Sky)

- Moving Mountains
- Shut Down
- Workplace Huddle

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Sunday - Labour Relations Act Bill 89

Lorna Moses

Political Speaker

Evaluation

New Business

Closing

Edith - explained that Laura Sky had suggested a film festival to invite Jean Aubin as she was instrumental in the production of film "Shutdown"

- to determine workshop allocation, upon registration delegates select first and second choice. Allocation of workshops would then be posted in dining hall Friday morning.
- workshop leaders be women where possible.

OTHER SUGGESTIONS

- nutrition information - brief cases
Consumer Affairs.

Thursday night after Plenary session have sound system available.

Flo Shields - asked if a letter could be sent to the locals to ensure the Advisory Council members could attend conference as delegates are elected.

Edith - suggested if there was a problem, should call her office.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 1 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Susan Davidson, Secretary
UAW Women's Advisory Council