

POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING No. 26, June 20, 1975

Present: Barnes, Breitman, Clark, Jenness, Shaw, Sheppard,  
Thomas

Chair: Barnes

AGENDA: 1. New York Jobs Actions  
2. World Movement  
3. Membership

1. NEW YORK JOBS ACTIONS

(Boehm, Rose invited for this point.)

Boehm reported.

The June 18 meeting of New York unions and community organizations, and the call for a June 28 march on city hall against layoffs and budget cuts are reported in June 27 Militant. The meeting was known throughout New York labor movement, and about 500 people came including many official observers from unions and community groups. The New York Coalition to Fight Inflation and Unemployment (Stalinists) sent an official representative who pledged support. Up to 100 delegates were there from AFSCME Local 371, a major local in AFSCME's District 37, whose leadership is apparently willing to throw its forces into this demonstration. The action is being organized out of the headquarters of Local 371 and AFSCME Local 1930.

The New York SWP is mobilizing to build the demonstration, with the perspective of pressing for much broader union involvement. Already comrades in unions have made many valuable contacts and developed a reputation as advocates of unity and action. The present round of layoffs and protests is a stage in a long-term crisis, and our activities now will help prepare us for a big role in future upsurges.

Discussion

2. WORLD MOVEMENT REPORT

(Foley invited for this point)

Shaw reported.

Discussion

3. MEMBERSHIP

Sheppard reported on recommendation of Upper West Side branch to readmit J.S. into membership in the party (see attached).

Discussion

Motion: To concur with recommendation of the Upper West Side branch to readmit J.S. into membership in the party.

Carried.

Meeting Adjourned.

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June 17, 1975

Political Committee  
Socialist Workers Party  
14 Charles Lane  
New York, New York 10014

Dear Comrades,

On June 16th the Upper Westside Branch voted unanimously to request of the Political Committee that John Singleterry be readmitted to the Party. This request is based on the experience of working with Comrade Singleterry over the last period.

John was removed from the membership rolls of the Party when the membership was re-registered following the July 4th split of the Internationalist Tendency. He remained in the IT until February of this year when he resigned. According to Singleterry his main reason for joining the IT was to "formalize" his differences with the SWP majority, he felt that there was a lack of a serious orientation to GIs and the trade unions by the Party and that by forming a tendency those who held the same view as he could better influence the leadership of the Party.

After joining the IT he says it became clear to him that a split course was developing in the IT and that he and others had tried to slow it down but could not.

Up until the split John was an active member of the Brooklyn Branch. Unlike most IT members around the country he carried out regular Party activities and assignments. He paid a weekly sustainer, put out the forum mailing each week and delivered The Militant to newsstands. Subsequently he has maintained The Militant delivery.

At the end of March of this year, John requested a meeting with me to discuss working with the Upper Westside Branch with the perspective of rejoining the Party.

Prior to our meeting John had been attending forums and participated in the subscription mobilization this spring. At the April 26th demonstration in Washington he sold The Militant and on May 17th he was a NYSCAR marshall and stayed for the steering committee meeting following the march. John contributed \$50 each to the fall and spring campaign rallies. Since April 7th he has been making a weekly contribution of \$15 to the UWS Branch. He also collaborates closely with the Party leadership in carrying out work in his union.

At the time of my first meeting with John, in February, he asked to set up a meeting with someone from the national office and myself to discuss his joining. Later he cancelled

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the meeting, saying he wanted to wait until after the Party Plenum. He said the reason he wanted to wait was that Hedda Garza telephoned him and advised him not to apply. At that point I asked him if there was any motion regarding the IT that might come from the plenum that would have any bearing on his desire to rejoin the SWP. He said no.

After the plenum I again met with John and discussed with him the split in the IT (what little we know) and the plenum motions regarding the July 4th motion and the IT. He feels that those motions are correct. At that meeting he formally asked to join, said that he understands that any political collaboration with people outside the Party is conducted only under the direction of the EC and that this includes the IT. Several times during my meeting with him he made a point of the fact that he has had no contact with the IT since Hedda's call.

We hope the PC will act quickly on this so that Comrade John can participate in the pre-convention discussion.

Comradely,  
s/Bitsy Myers  
Organizer  
Upper Westside Branch

cc: city office