Chic 0 Co lition on Soutn er - Minutes - May 23, 1 78

Present: FR (Cabral Collective); DB (Chicago Comm. on African Liberation) 
RD (Illinois Prisoners Orgn.); EM (Workers World Party); CC 
(Coalition for the Lib'n of Southern Africa); SK(Chgo Peace Cour 

1. Discussion of Building the Coalition (see enclosed outline used to focus discussion)

Questioned our direction beyond June 16th, whether we were duplicatin 
the work of other groups, whether our work was as significant as it should be. Discussion of CCSA importance as a forum where groups cd 
come together, exchange ideas; it never recovered, however, from 
failure to fully address critical problems, including racial dynamics 
and veteranism permeating southern Africa work, raised earlier.

Origins of problem: Discussed historical development of CCSA, its 
current racial and class composition and why many groups(originally 
numbering 30) less active than during the Angola crisis. (Partly 
because Angola was such an immediate crisis, but more because of un-
resolved racial tensions in doing southern Africa work.) Discussed 
possible solutions (e.g. affirmative action re putting resources 
in hands of black community) and the need to develop a more long-term 
strategy for organizational development and fund-raising as well as 
resolving above problems. Noted that several groups/individuals saw 
the work of CCSA as primarily or exclusively the Bank Loan Campaign. 
If for various reasons HC wasn't their focus, they didn't see CCSA 
as useful to work with, as a resource. Discussed other activities 
of the CCSA and need to develop a more multi-faceted and multi-targeted 
program, perhaps with a legislative component among others.

Commitment: All present expressed commitment to CCSA as something 
needed in Chicago. CFC expressed its decision to more fully partici-
pate on regular basis (also invited CCSA to include 120 copies of 
CCSA statement on investments/loans to So. Africa and of announce-
ment of June 16th demo in packets of those attending disarmament confer-
cen and demo in NYC--done by CC). Commitment to CCSA expressed by NAIMSAL 
via FR. Decision: to make contacts with other groups and assess reac-
tions to/diagnosis of CCSA and need to build and change it to do 
southern Africa work more effectively.

Lack of visibility & media: Felt CCSA suffered from lack of media 
exposure and general visibility for what it had been doing. Also, 
not enough member groups connecting people directly to Coalition 
when they do outreach around the city. Decisions: (1) discuss 
critically with CALC how work with media has been done in the past 
and how shortcomings in the media work can best be overcome; 
(2) development of a brochure describing CCSA analysis and activities 
to be available for general distribution, help with outreach (DB and 
FR to draft; to be available for June 16th demo).

Finances: need to develop a permanent funding base, esp. as we explore 
possibility of part-time staff person (preferably from black commu-

Decision: Continue discussion at next meeting, focusing on current and potential constituencies (Nos.3 & 4 on outline enclosed), esp. in relation to setting political priorities and program (1 hour)
2. June 16th Action

Progress reports on delegations: initial contacts made by all; BM had draft cover letter for trade unionists and draft letter/statement from TUs to State Dept. (to be shared with others as a model). To be pursued at next meeting.

Route of March: given SA consulate's move to 444 So. Michigan, raised discussion of rerouting march through Loop, getting maximum exposure, esp. where working-class shoppers congregate (So. State). March should end up at Federal Building, so letters, petitions can be presented to State Dept. Question of whether to swing by banks. Decision will be made next week.

Leaflet announcing demo: needed ASAP after next meeting; DB to draft by next meeting, when final changes will be made.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, June 1 5:00 - 7:45 PM
8th Day Center, 22 East Van Buren

Tentative agenda

1. Continuation of outreach discussion, building the Coalition (1 hr)

2. June 16th (1-7/4 hrs.)
   Reports on delegations
   Leaflet - review and arrange printing
   March route
   Logistics - any leaflet for day?
      format for demo signs
      slogans/chants
      theatre
      mobilization generally
   Discussion of media work with CCSA/CALC