

AUCE LOCAL ONE

Merger Committee Meeting  
Thurs. Aug. 23, 1984  
Minutes

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Present: Shirley Irvine, Richard Melanson, Ted Byrne, Kitty Byrne, Joy Korman, Jet Blake, Mary Forkin, (Pat House)

There was general discussion regarding the various options for merger, followed by specific discussion of the options and formal motions.

BCGEU: Kitty gave a report on her discussions with the BCGEU, and her research. In her opinion the BCGEU is the least democratic of the unions we've discussed, and its structure is the least compatible with ours. Ted also argued against the BCGEU since it would involve too great a change from what AUCE is now. Jet remarked on some of the strengths of the BCGEU, but agreed that it would not be a reasonable choice for us.

Motion: that we not consider the BCGEU. Kitty, Jet. MSC.

Kitty made a motion that Pat and Fairleigh be included in any future discussions and have a vote on the committee. Joy seconded. Richard said that they could join the committee anyway if they wanted. Pat pointed out that the Executive limited participation in the committee to six + the Union Coordinator. Jet amended the motion to allow Pat and Fairleigh voice but no vote. The amendment was accepted as friendly. The question was raised as to whether or not this committee reports to the Executive or directly to the membership. It was decided that, since we are an ad hoc committee, we would have to report to the Executive and get their endorsement. Therefore, Pat and Fairleigh would have a vote at the Executive level anyway. The motion as amended was carried.

CUPE: Ted, Kitty and Pat reported on their discussions with CUPE. An important point about CUPE is that they would allow us a two-year service agreement, at the end of which time we could opt out.

Motion: that we arrange a formal negotiating meeting with CUPE. Ted, Mary. MSC (Richard abstained).

OTEU: There was not a lot of enthusiasm for OTEU. However, it was pointed out that OTEU is the only other CLC option open to us. While OTEU does not offer the services CUPE offers, it would also not cost us very much to affiliate, and would therefore allow us a large degree of independence, together with affiliation to the CLC. It should be kept open

as an option.

Motion: that we arrange a formal negotiating meeting with the OTEU. Ted, Mary. MSC (Richard voted against).

VMREU: Richard made a motion that we not have formal discussions with the VMREU. Jet seconded. Shirley argued in favour of keeping this option open. She argued that the VMREU is independent, flexible, that they are anxious to have us, and we could get pretty much the kind of agreement we want from them. They have good education facilities. They are independent, but not cut off from the CLC, and are active in several levels of that organization. Their principles are compatible with ours, especially in the area of women's issues, equal work for work of equal value. The dues are not high (3/4% of gross). She also pointed to the recent VCC settlement, and added that VCC is most conservative group in the VMREU. We could also retain our structure as is. Mary also argued in favour of considering the VMREU. Jet said that she was disturbed by the number of staff reps the VMREU hired from outside their own rank and file. Shirley said it was a mix of rank and file and external candidates. Ted argued against the VMREU because it would not allow affiliation to the CLC. He said that their participation in the CLC and other labour bodies resulted from their participation in Solidarity, just as ours does. The motion was carried with 3 for and 2 against (Kitty had left by this point).

HEU: Richard argued in favour of our considering the HEU. There was some discussion for and against. Then the question of whether or not we have formal talks with them was debated. Most felt that we should have informal talks first, since that is the procedure we followed with the other unions. A motion was made that we have formal discussions with the HEU (Richard, Jet), and then amended to informal discussions (Ted, Jet). The amendment was passed. The motion itself was carried (Ted voted against).