

Minutes of General Meeting, Monday, February 2/76

Present: Claire, Mike C., Doug R., Murray, Jane, Ken, Rosco, Gary, Steve,  
Brenda, Mike R.

Agenda:

1) Infiltrating the fascists- Brenda described the visit of a representative of a confederation of small businesses who encouraged us to join at a fee of \$100. Each month a newsletter is issued on parliamentary bills that are relevant to the small business world and the pros and cons of the legislature are listed. A poll is taken on support for the bills and lobbying is carried out for the organization on the basis of the results of the polls (each member gets one vote). The confederation also sponsors conferences.

Besides a number of people questioning the politics of us joining such a group, general consensus seemed to have it that the money involved was not worth knowing what small businesses are doing or thinking.

2) Food money- Jane feels we are spending too much money on food. It was suggested that we change our food purchasing procedures and that we return to buying in bulk whenever possible. The idea of Dumont rejoining the Food Co-op was bandied about but generally considered not to be worth it. Some resentment was registered at outside groups and people enlarging our food bill by consuming abnormally large quantities of coffee and the like. (Stories of people sneaking in when no one from the shop was looking, drinking cup after cup of coffee, and then literally bursting and leaving one hell of a mess for people to clean up. Much tearing of hair and gnashing of teeth.) Outside groups will thus be encouraged to cough up for their culinary benefits.

At this point concern was also registered about the inconvenience of outside groups using the shop on heavy production nights, in particular the Other Voices mob and the Resource Centre people. Phil and Richard Elsworthy are also upset with people using their machines uninvited and crowds scurrying through their shop. Henceforth, groups will be encouraged to use the front door to get to their meetings and work in the shop by those groups will be done at times when things are not hectic.

Back to food- since milk and bread seem to be our biggest expense, the food committee will co-ordinate the purchase of bread in bulk, and milk will be limited to those recently born.

3) Security- Gary was concerned about the number of cops coming into the shop at odd hours. The hypothesis was that the local crime rate is rising and so the area is crawling with nosy flatfeet. Steve suggested rigging up an outside buzzer but the more sane members of the group thought the effort involved was not worth it.

Doors can always be locked by people on evening shifts.

- 4) Lease- George Evans phoned about the new lease. A number of things should be pointed out to him when this is done, such as laneway plowing, the broken elevator and his goddam dog. Murray volunteered to bargain with the man.
- 5) Work- Steve wants the Spanish Revolution book to be scheduled into production next week. If this is to be done the Hogtown plays should be finished this week, and Greg Kealey's journal put off for a while after it comes in especially since it's late already. Mike R. suggested the possibility of going back to 9 shifts in two weeks but after people threatened to tear off his schmuckel the suggestion was withdrawn.
- 6) Production fuck-ups- A Cord dilly this week. Shape up folks.
- 7) Henry Crapo's share payments- We owe Henry for 3 months at \$35 per month. Ken claimed he would make the payment this week.
- 8) OHIP- Bob and Sue's OHIP has been paid for a period past the time they are actually working here. Carol's is now due - should hers be paid as well? Past precedents seem to go against it. Bob and Sue will be encouraged to pay back their overpayment if they get a refund from their present jobs.
- 9) Brenda's holiday- Brenda is still owed three weeks holiday and she would like to take some of that as one day a week for a month or so. She will not start doing so until the new people are hired. No one panicked.
- 10) Union- We have been suspended from the CNTU, so do we want to go out of our way to maintain our ties and stay in? Most people thought not. We are still certified as an independent union, so dues can still be collected for whatever purpose. We should probably stop using the CNTU union label.

The Hiring Meeting will be at the shop at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, Feb 15th.