

SOCIALIST DISABILITY ACTION GROUP.

Minutes of a meeting of the National Committee of the S.D.A.G held on Sunday July 8th, 1984 at the County Hall, York Road, London SW1.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Karen Buck, Mike Silvers and Mike Tatch.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 29th April, having been circulated, it was agreed that they be taken as read.

- (a) as a correct record, it was agreed that the second paragraph of Item 5, regarding the role of affiliated CLPs should be corrected to read, "That the contact through affiliated CLPs would be, to reach disabled people who are members of their Constituency Party, and to reach other persons with disabilities within their Constituences, who would be interested in the activities of S.D.A.G. and to encourage these persons to set up local branches"

3. The main purpose of the meeting was to discuss final arrangements for the Annual General Meeting to be held on Saturday 21st July, 1984 in Manchester. The Agenda and general information sent out by the Secretary was endorsed and a comprehensive look at the programme was then carried out.

It was agreed that the general format of the programme was acceptable, and that B.Taylor would act as Minutes Secretary. M.Tatch, Treasurer would be asked to carry out the registration of delegates to the meeting if he was in attendance. Other arrangements were agreed to and then the Group discussed the paper presented by K.Hyett for the afternoon session. Everybody welcomed the paper and considered it was comprehensive and provocative and should stimulate a good discussion.

The Group were then informed that unfortunately neither the Labour Party or the TUC were forthcoming with a nominee for a National Speaker to address the AGM and whilst this was disappointing, it was felt that we had obviously given very short notice to find suitable candidates.

4. B. Taylor then gave a report on the meeting of the London Regional Committee held on the 21st June at which there had been a very good attendance with at least 6 new faces. The Group quickly got down to business and wished to draw up



several leaflets and to produce a Video on what SDAG is all about. These points were discussed by the National Committee and it was noted that in Manchester there was a Group that had produced Videos on the activities on people with disabilities, and that K.Hyett had contacts with this Group. It was agreed that maybe London and Manchester branches could get together and pool their ideas and resources. On the leaflets it was felt that they should be National one side, leaving the other side to advertise local activities and action. The report from B.Taylor was very welcomed and it was noted that the next meeting was to take place on 19th August. Also arising out of the report, the London Regional Branch had submitted a Motion for discussion at the AGM of SDAG. After discussion, it was agreed that this along with the other 4 Resolutions sent out by the National Committee to all CLPs, should all be taken at the AGM for endorsement or otherwise.

5. Motions to CLPs for Labour Party Conference.

The Secretary reported that he had circulated 4 Motions to every CLP in the Country, and just kept his fingers crossed that some of them would reach the Labour Party Conference Agenda. During discussion it was agreed that when the Agenda was available that we should get together and look to where we could recommend amendments to be added in a further effort to bolster our chances of getting a debate.

6. K.Hyett drew attention to a letter that was in the Labour Weekly, referring to a debate on a Black section within the Labour Party. He stated that the disabled were being pulled into this debate and yet were not being consulted for their views. He felt that we should respond to the letter in Labour Weekly if only to register our intent to participate in this debate to express the views of people with disabilities within the Labour Movement. It was agreed after discussion that the Secretary would endeavour to draw up a letter to be sent to Labour Weekly on this matter.

There being no other business, the meeting closed, with the Secretary stating that he would inform all members of the next meeting as soon as the Agenda for the Labour Party Conference was available. (This has now been set for Sunday July 29th, 1984 at the County Hall, York Road, London SW1 commencing at 2 p.m.)

Signed.....
M.A.Barrett. Secretary of the Group.

