

Citizens League
545 Mobil Oil Building
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

Minutes of Meeting

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wednesday, September 27, 1967

Normandy Hotel - 12:00

PRESENT: John W. Windhorst, President, Raymond D. Black, Bruce W. Blackburn, Francis M. Boddy, Fred Cady, Earl F. Colborn, Jr., Mrs. Nicholas Duff, Harold D. Field, Jr., Richard J. FitzGerald, Mrs. Ralph Forester, Glen F. Galles, E. Peter Gillette, Jr., David Graven, Roger Hale, William Hempel, James Martineau, John W. Mooty, Wallace E. Neal, Jr., Leslie C. Park, John W. Pulver, Mrs. Joseph Richardson, John C. Savage, Willis F. Shaw, Archibald Spencer, Ted Kolderie (staff) and Paul Gilje (staff).

1. The meeting was called to order at 12:37 p.m. by President Windhorst. Minutes of the meeting of August 1 were approved as mailed.
2. The Executive Director presented the treasurer's report for August. It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the report.
3. The Executive Director presented the following staff reports:
 - A. Neill Carter has been selected as our Membership and Finance Director. He is a sales representative with Northwestern Bell Telephone Company. We also have a good line on a man for the research post and hope to have him named very soon.
 - B. We are starting our series of Community Leadership Breakfasts in Saint Paul at the YMCA.
 - C. The Public Officials directory will be published very soon.
4. The Executive Director said that we have been invited to sponsor a conference at St. Thomas College along with the Upper Midwest Research and Development Council and the Chambers of Commerce of Minneapolis and St. Paul. This conference would deal with the financial problems facing government in the Twin Cities area. It would be run generally along the same format as was a conference last November on the question of organization of government in the Twin Cities area. Top business, political, educational and labor leaders in the Twin Cities area will be invited to the conference. It was moved, seconded and carried that the Citizens League co-sponsor this event.
5. The members proceeded to a discussion of the research and action program for 1967-68. It was moved, seconded and carried that:
 - A. The study on legislative procedurea be completed on schedule, probably in November;



- B. That the study of parks and open space needs in the metropolitan area be reviewed, revised only as necessary in the light of developments since the committee suspended last spring, and completed by February;
- C. That the committee reviewing problems in the development of highway systems in the metropolitan area be reorganized, that the study assignment be substantially re-focused, and that an essentially new project be programmed to occupy probably the full study year.
- D. That no commitment be made to complete the law enforcement study, but that this project be put back into the pool on an equal basis with the other projects for the new year.

The next proposal from the Executive Committee was that a special subcommittee of about eight members appointed by the President be named to review informally what role the Citizens League might play in changes or improvements in public services in the inner city. There was considerable discussion as to whether this subject would be confined to public services as against getting into the private sector. Some Board members pointed out that the Citizens League is chartered to discuss only those items of a governmental nature. Others said that at this initial stage the subcommittee should not be limited by any arbitrary limitations. It was noted that this will not be a research committee, but merely to recommend back to the Board what type of a study we might want to undertake. At length it was moved, seconded and carried that the subcommittee be named to review what type of a study the Citizens League could get into in connection with the problems of the urban poor.

Questions were asked whether this subcommittee would include any Negroes. Some Board members felt that it definitely should, while others pointed out that this is essentially a committee of the Executive Committee and we are not at this point undertaking any major research program. It was moved, seconded and carried that the sense of the Board of Directors is that it is desirable, though not necessary, that a Negro be represented on this subcommittee.

The next proposed study project for the year was a research committee dealing with the Metropolitan Development Guide. It was moved, seconded and carried that a project be approved which would review the proposed Metropolitan Development Guide prepared by the former Metropolitan Planning Commission and now before the Metropolitan Council; assess its implications for public agencies, private businesses and other groups in the area; determine whether existing powers and practices are adequate to carry out the Guide; develop a Citizens League position to be presented to the Metropolitan Council at public hearings expected to be scheduled in the spring of 1968.

The next proposal concerned the Minneapolis city development program. It was explained that this project would include a review of the various governmental agencies in Minneapolis city government which are concerned with city development so see if the relationships between them might be improved. It was made clear that this was a project limited to the city of Minneapolis. There was some discussion about whether we should also have a project devoted exclusively to the city of Saint Paul, but we have not yet arrived at that point in the minds of many persons. The Minneapolis city development project would be the only one restricted to the city of Minneapolis in this year's

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research program. At length it was moved, seconded and carried that a project be approved which would review the proposals since 1957 for the organization of the planning and development function in the city government; make recommendations for a more effective working relationship among the planning, capital budgeting and public works activities of the city; make recommendations for more effective relationships between the city government and the independent agencies also carrying on development programs in Minneapolis.

The next proposed project was one dealing with strengthening the public service. This project gets to a way to increase the quality of public employees and officials at all levels of government in the Twin Cities area. There was considerable discussion about the wording of the proposal as presented to the Board. Amendments were adopted which made it clear that we would look into the recruitment of candidates both within and outside the metropolitan area and that the assignment would not make any reference to any institute or agency which would be assigned the overall responsibility of finding good candidates for public office in the metropolitan area. At length it was moved, seconded and carried that the project be approved as follows: Determine the feasibility and desirability of a continuing mechanism within the Twin Cities area working centrally on four pressing problems in public employment: The recruitment of candidates including those from outside the metropolitan area; the in-service training of public officials; the resolution of disputes involving basic issues of representation and bargaining; and the resolution of disputes involving the principles of compensation including current salaries and pensions.

The next project proposed to the Board was one dealing with metropolitan financial disparities. It was noted that this project as worded does not include any reference to a review of tax exempt properties. It was moved, seconded and carried that this be included in the assignment. At length it was moved, seconded and carried that with this addition the proposal be approved. It would involve a consideration of measures to remove the inequities among various parts of the metropolitan area and the changes in the system of local finance required by any effort consciously to guide development on the metropolitan level. The 1967 tax law would be reviewed; the current method of taxing electric generating plants would be reviewed; the feasibility and desirability of placing the resources of the area as a whole behind borrowings of local units will be included; and also the matter of tax-exempt property.

6. At this point the hour of adjournment arrived. There were still other projects included that were not discussed. It was felt that we should delay action until the next meeting on any further additions to the research program. It was moved, seconded and carried that the further matters be laid over. The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

I have read the above minutes and find them to be in the form approved by the Board of Directors on November 1, 1967.


John W. Windhorst, President

Paul A. Gilje
Staff