

Madeline

ENDORSEMENT POLICY QUESTIONS/OPTIONS

(Transcript of discussion of Citizenship Participation Department Organizational Conference - August 19-21, 1976 - North Unit, LaPas)

Cesar: Crosby, what do you mean by endorsing policy and procedures?

Crosby: I don't know what the policy is going to be; one of the policies is that you either endorse people or you don't endorse them. There's at least a minimum amount of policy that has to be set before anyone can sit down and write it because procedure is a way of carrying out policy.

If the policy is that you don't endorse anybody, then the procedure is very simple.

Dianna: The reason we brought it up is that we are getting all these responses from people like the Peace and Freedom candidates who are from the third party or sometimes even the fourth party in some cases. And then these people will come and are we going to endorse the people who are there or say some Democrat who doesn't come and stands for certain things? Or are we going to make a wise political decision and figure out a way to avoid that?

Crosby: You could have, for example, one option would be a policy that we're not going to endorse anybody who doesn't endorse Prop 1A; or you could say we're not going to endorse anybody who doesn't ask for an endorsement; you can say we're not going to endorse anybody who doesn't show up; or we're only going to accept requests for endorsement from the two major political parties; or we're going to accept and consider for endorsement anybody who wants to ask for one. So, there are some policies that you set down and within those policies it isn't too hard to sit down and write procedures.

Cesar: Could you just write down some of those policies right now so we could bring them to the Board?

Mack: Do we endorse Peace and Freedom candidates?

Michael: Or, more generally, the people who stand with you but don't stand a hell of a chance of getting elected?

Mack: Do we endorse Republicans?

Dianna: What we want to do is draw the tightrope.

Mack: Do we endorse people who are not at the convention? Do we endorse people who don't endorse Prop 1A?

Alex: Only the viable candidates. . .

Diana: Do you endorse candidates COPE has not endorsed--if COPE has endorsed your opponent?

Cesar: Can we have double endorsements? open endorsements?

Mack: Do we have a majority? or 2/3 or 3/4? Those with a loud cheer? Is it the majority voting - quorum?

Cesar: Who makes the recommendations to the convention?

Crosby: Who makes recommendations to the convention?

Cesar: The workers, the endorsing committee

Mack: The endorsement committee? Right.

Dolores: Does that help with the tightrope?

Mack: Ok, we have to have some policies in the committee, too. Within committees, how do you - how does the committee at large deal with endorsements?

Crosby: This is the committee policies; district caucus. . .re the convention endorsement committee - what do you call it?

Cesar: It's the whole convention, right? There'll be a committee headed by Mack or a few people and this endorsement committee makes recommendations to the floor. Subcommittees or caucuses of districts are ones who meet with candidates.

Crosby: You're talking about the sub-committees, then.

Mack: We're talking about the district; the way it's broken down, the delegates from those districts will be meeting with the candidates from those districts.

Dolores: What if we have a candidate and no place?

Crosby: This is policy coming out of the convention structure involving the endorsement committee, the endorsement subcommittee by district and what else?

Something that has to do with who presents what to whom?

Mack: Endorsement subcommittees by district--we just need to know how that process is going to work in terms of the endorsement committee.

Crosby: Okay, if I got this and split off from that, who makes up the endorsement committee?

Mack: Members from each endorsement subcommittee by district. I don't know how many, but somebody from each one of those.