

Zam/033/0006/7

15/08/90

MINUTES OF THE HEALTH SECRETARIAT MEETING

Date; 15.08.90

Time; 09.20hrs

Present: Ma Nkobi, Ma Maleka Drs Haggar and Ralph

Absent: Dr Pren, Ma Nzo out of the country

AGENDA:

1. Matters arising from the minutes

2. UNDP -RHT for discussion

Departmental meeting - RHT

Comrades It was revealed that in the meeting that comrade Ralph had not as yet written to comrade Stawart for him to assist with funds, he, however promised to do so later in the day. He then suggested that before the East Africa R.H.T should be written to we should first be sure about the availability of funds. Another suggestion was that they should be written to and they should start now preparing tentatively for the department meeting since we do not have much time.

The UNICEF meeting will be held late September which means the departmental meeting could be held sometime in October.

Meeting at the Clinic:

Issues that were raised in that meeting was - care of patients not only at the clinic or hospital but also at home, in answering the question the clinic staff said they were unable to attend to home visits due to the lack of transport and that they do not have enough staff, the present nursing staff is poor. What came up in that meeting was that doctors working at the U.T.H be involved during weekends. The meeting also touched on the question of the doctors at U.T.H receiving meat money, but Ma Nkobi from her experience defended them. Dr Thabo wanted to know why the drivers were not invited in that meeting? the reply given was that this was a professional meeting dealing with patients. Tempers were raised during that discussion. Finally members of the H.S felt that Dr Thabo be spoken to.

Dr Ralph in his comments felt that there was no confidentiality according to the minutes. The problem stems from the fact that the clinic has never held their meetings for a long time now. Meetings are held for the purpose of assisting in the smooth running of the clinic, but we cannot as the H.H impose on them anything. If they feel that then drivers should attend meetings it is entirely up to them.

Further more, it was revealed that the R.H.T is not functional it was said it is our responsibility, because they cannot organise themselves from the minutes it is clear that they need their own meeting to thrash out the problems highlighted in the minutes, but the professionals can have their own meeting to discuss individual patients. Comrade Edith was to have drawn up the clinic programme one week ago, to be submitted to comrade Awolo, since their argument is that comrade Joel gets ¹¹one and half stamps while comrade Negro gets three(3).

The blame is to be put squarely on us we do not monitor and neither are we receiving reports, ever since we came into office there existed a R.H Committee which died a natural death, it was tried to revive it but comrades never attended the meetings. Comrade Mzwai in his comment mentioned that the D.O.H has not started furnishing.

Comrade Ralph accepted the fact that we take the blame for what is happening though we have tried, though now we need concrete guidance to remedy the disease.

The mandate of the H.S is to receive ~~one~~ quarter reports from the regions and a format was distributed to all on how to report. Ma Maleka gave a very short background on her activities whilst she was based in Mozambique and Ma Nkobi added by saying that several meetings were held with the administration of the clinic to do what Ma Flo had been doing.

At one stage Ma Nzo came back from the clinic disappointed. There is a need to visit other regions to sort out problems. Other Secretariats do not have the same problem as that of the D.O.B.

There are no percularities in the department. We should look at the nature of problems, we are faced with.

SUGGESTIONS:

Dr Ralph - that Sis Flo draw up a skeleton programme for presentation to the H.S after which it will be discussed after discussion, but Sis Flo said that she will not do so but rather wait for the programme from the clinic then improve on it and promise to see comrade Edith in the afternoon the minutes were adopted as a true reflection of the meeting.

Reports from comrades on meetings held

AOD

Report:

Three delegates left Lusaka to attend the graduation ceremony in Luanda. On the occassion the main speaker was the Chir Rep followed by the NPA Rep then a speaker representing students, after wich three students were emulated, informal discussions followed after that Dr Towo (SWAPO) gave an undertaking that they are going to contuniu with the school.

Ma Nokwe was off side, though it was elaborated and Ma Nzo had the same experience. The Chief Rep in his comments, mentioned that they will not allow such a type of behaviour for such meetings in future. Comrade Ralph revealed that the NPA wanted to be billed on the plane tickets. In answering Ma Flo mentioned that she have done so on several occassions. She went on to say that the school was badly hit by a shortage of staff, the clinic inclusive. The principal of the school has been deployed in another department without consultation. Some time back the education department was requested to scout for the teachers and administration but they responded by saying that they had no teachers. It would be approrpiate if NAT be written to protest letter.

NPA:

Comrade Ralph had a meeting with Laila who promised to send more money to Alladin in Botswana. The proforma for the office equipment ~~was Botswana~~ and probably buying them. The NPA however are more interested in opening an office at home but they need to be explained to on repatriation before they do so. One to the lack of time comrade Ralph was unable to have raised certain issues. The NPA is prepared to find two nurses to be full time at the sick bay in Harare. So many messages have sent but there has been no response. It is either the administration Secretary goes down there or comrade Zweli and Alice be spoken to so that that they can scout around.

WHO REP:

Dr Manekosso was met by Dr Haggard and comrade V. Matton. The main issue that he raised was the question of the AIDS epidemic in S.A as raised by Health government officials for him to make an input. Before this meeting comrade Ralph met Van Brak who said that Dr Manekosso wanted to pay a courtesy call. Though Van Brak has all the latest information from PPHC on AIDS.

WHO has its people working with the ANC on AIDS.

The WHO Regional Conference will be held in September in Brazaville. Comrade Ralph was of the feeling that one cannot invite NAMDA and leaving out SAHWC and vice versa.

The PPHC will be attending a conference in Nigeria and we have been invited. They might make it an issue if we will not extend an invitation to them. A Fax message to be sent to them for them to delegate the second person to attend the conference.

Going back to the WHO Rep who was awaiting a response from the A.N.C comrade Ralph saw nothing wrong in the WHO taking up the challenge with organisations on the ground like the PPHC rather than with the S. African ~~government~~ rather than with the

Because later is not interested in consulting with the progressive organisations. The last time they wanted to be invited in Maputo people viewed it as giving them the platform there was rejected.

Nigeria Conference:

NAMDA is expecting somebody from the department to discuss PHC in South Africa in 2 weeks time. Sis Flo though going that direction will visit four countries but will have the programme in the afternoon from the Women's Section.

Comrade Castro could attend the meeting but she has not responded to all our telexes or maybe Dr Sizwe, though he was supposed to have attended an IDASA meeting in August. The H.S has to get somebody to attend the meeting. There will be many meetings but we have no staff to attend. These in Harare are employed.

A.O.B:

Problem of Dr Mfeleng having not left for treatment. Comrade Haggard promised to visit the Swedish Embassy that afternoon. The issue of the cars was discussed. Though it was mentioned that Mphakamisi's car was there to assist. Comrade Mphakamisi did not report whenever they leave the office for errands.

The sponsors are putting a lot of pressure to open the laboratory and the dental units. A letter was written to UTH Dental unit but there has not been any response. A question was raised on who was understating comrade Lungile who was out of the country by then the reply was that there was nobody but we need somebody to understudy her. When comrade Daisy was approached about the offer, she replied negatively.

Comrade Lungile lost the keys to the AIDS vehicle and as such might be stolen at any time. The fitting of new locks would cost about K4000.

Ma Nkobi commented saying that she was not happy the way she has been treated about the arrival of the two cars, up to date she still does not have the particulars. Ma Maleka added by saying that everything that comes to the office has to go through the administrative Secretary. When comrade Lungile requisitions for AIDS projects funds she does that through Ma Ngwane but she has never accounted ever since.

Comrade Ralph stressed that comrade Lungile is much accountable to the H.S and she must be called to account for any funds requisitioned. Up till now she has only reported on AIDS projects progress. Comrade Lungile was supposed to have attended an AIDS seminar in Angola. The PTA arrived late and comrade Mphakamisi had to attend. And was given 20US\$ by comrade Lungile as airport tax a question was posed on whether should the ANC pay the airport tax? When the AIDS projects have got its own funds? It was finally agreed that the AIDS vehicle will need a steering lock which was to be requisitioned for.

The delegation of three from East Africa should have arrived on Saturday though the Ministry of health is responsible for their schooling and we provide the transport to Kabwe. A telex was to be sent to find out what happened. Comrade Cindy visited one of the houses at the clinic and look almost everything with him. He has been problematic ever since he arrived there, though he was not deployed by us. Something has to be done about him, he steals medicines and sells them. It was agreed that MHO be seen about him. Ma Ngwabe to get a proforma for the filing cabinet and it should be sent to Laila.

On Social Work comrade Ralph cannot finish the project because he has no access to the files, he has written the motivation but he is short of the actual numbers. Comrade Ralph promised to go to the clinic for the information. The insurance meeting was attended by comrade Lungile but there is no report presently.

One company is prepared to employ her and she has accepted the offer without informing anybody though we still need her services. AIDS material like the videos are being kept at Mphakamisi's place for fear of it being stolen. It was agreed that we wait for a few weeks before action is taken.

We will need an inventory of all AIDS projects material and equipment. The fridge from the Swedish Embassy is with comrade Bethuel. Meeting ended at 11.50hrs.