

CAM/034/0035/23

AMSCO

Minutes of Meeting
August 12, 1992
292-A Danforth Avenue
Toronto, Ontario

Present:

Wendy Dawes
Ian George
Mike Revow
Valence Kalima
Rosemary Herrell

Nita Sheffit
Kevin Hoggart
Lynda Lemberg-Pelly
Jordana

Lynda Lemberg-Pelly chaired the meeting which began at 7:15 p.m.

It was decided by consensus that the agenda should comprise mainly of an assessment and financial accounting of the Womens Day event held at Lionheart Studio on Friday, August 7, 1992. New business and announcements would be dealt with at the end of the meeting.

The Chair asked those present to provide their evaluation of the Womens Day event.

It was generally agreed that the event was successful, particularly with respect to the political and cultural aspects. However, some reservations were voiced with respect to the handling of the door and the perceived financial losses related thereto, as well as the lack of organization for work during the event, and after-event clean-up.

My Children My Africa ("MCMA") representatives indicated that it was their personal experience, reinforced by information received from others that a number of people attending the event had not paid because the AMSCO members working the door were not diligent in asking for payment, others were encouraged to pay the lower price of \$5.00 rather than the general admission price of \$8.00, and that there was no systematic checking of hand-stamps to ensure that people who were re-entering had actually paid.

It was indicated that a number of people were guests of the bands and others had varying reasons why they were not paying.

The MCMA representatives also expressed their interest in knowing how the door work had been organized so that the same situation would not arise at future events, and that perhaps their request to count people as they came, if pursued, would have helped. It was felt that better organization would have meant a larger take at the door, and that the amount of work that MCMA people put into organizing the event would have paid off in a larger way financially, particularly in light of the fact that little help seemed to be forthcoming for set-up and clean-up of the event.

Various suggestions were made with respect to avoiding such situations in the future, including: delegation of specific tasks to specific individuals or teams; learning not to be reticent about asking for help; different organization of work at the door so that one of two people would take money and the other would ensure that no-one who is not a guest entered without paying; trying to avoid confusion which arises with a 'sliding scale' versus 'advance ticket price'; and having known levels of delegation to cope with emergencies as they arise.

It was also suggested and agreed that thank-you letters be sent to those people and organizations which had donated or volunteered to the event, as an important goodwill gesture. Rosemary Herrell volunteered to draft this letter.

Discussion also arose with respect to some difficulties experienced in advertising the event, vis-a-vis its content, the venue and who to target.

The meeting then moved to discussion of payment of bills and splitting the net door proceeds. It was determined that total remaining costs to be paid equally by AMSCO and MCMA were \$297.36 (after payment of \$150.00 for space rental and \$50 for Adrian Miller), as follows:

Paper for Posters	-	\$ 1.20*
Tables and chairs rental	-	85.10*
Garbage pail (for toilet)	-	10.43*
Lime (for toilet)	-	8.50*
Ashtrays	-	6.20*
Themsie's ticket	-	65.00**
Ticket printing	-	10.93***
Holdback re Paki's band	-	100.00~
Holdback re Thandie's possible costs	-	<u>10.00~~</u>
TOTAL		<u>\$ 297.36</u>
Total cost for each of AMSCO and MCMA		<u>\$ 148.68</u>

* To be reimbursed to Kevin

** To be reimbursed to Zeib Jeeva; actual costs of ticket was approximately \$139.00; however, as the initial cost had been quoted in meetings with MCMA as \$65.00, it was decided by those AMSCO members present that AMSCO as a gesture of goodwill should absorb the balance of the ticket price

*** To be reimbursed to Jordana

~ Held pending receipts from Paki re Dilize's expenses

-- Held pending any expenses Thandie might have incurred

The total costs were rounded up to \$300.00 which was taken from the proceeds of the door and divided in half. This netted AMSCO the amount of \$276.00 from the evening's door proceeds. Wendy agreed to take AMSCO's portion and make arrangements with AMSCO's treasurer for deposit of same and to take care of reimbursement by cheque to Zeib Jeeva. Arrangements were made to hold the \$100 for Paki until he provided his receipts.

Other Business

In a brief discussion about the Wednesday night demonstration and march, Nita asked for AMSCO's approval to write to the South African consulate putting forward our position with respect to their early closing and not being available to receive our delegation and statement, and also to write to the church delegates who were part of the event, expressing appreciation and advising them that we were going to write to the consulate.

It was agreed that these letters should be written. Nita volunteered to write them.

Next Meeting

Discussion ensued about the need for a meeting in the very near future to begin planning for Political Prisoners Day, October 11. The next meeting was set for Wednesday, August 19, 7:00 at the ANC office.

Announcements

Rosemary advised of upcoming native issues events.

The meeting ended shortly thereafter at approximately 9:00 p.m.