

2-26-1987

## 5/26/1987 MINUTES, STEERING SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

Second Circuit Steering Committee on the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution

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**MINUTES, STEERING SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 26, 1987**

**MAR 09 1987**

**4:30 P.M., Room 2002**

**J. Pierce, Presiding**

**ROGER J. MINER  
U.S. CIRCUIT JUDGE  
ALBANY, NEW YORK**

**I.     Attendance**

All members of the Steering Subcommittee were present except J. Miner and John Kenney who were unable to attend. J. Haight represented J. Miner. S. Flanders and P. Petruck attended from the Circuit Executive's Office. Also present were representatives of the New York City Commission on the Bicentennial of the Constitution: Peter Kohlman and Ellen Shapiro.

**II.    Meeting with New York City Bicentennial Representatives**

The N.Y.C. representatives briefly discussed New York City's proposed Bicentennial activities and, in turn, our activities were described briefly to them. The N.Y.C. representatives made clear that their activities are taking place exclusively in New York City--the five boroughs. They will be raising funds from private sources. They can contribute some support for our activities if relevant to the New York City area, such as inclusion in their publications concerning coming events. However, actual funding to us is unavailable, although, if we can pay for the paper, they may be able to print copies of the U.S. Constitution.

Specifically as to collaborating with us on the Speaker's Bureau, the City's plans are still developing. They are working on developing a list of speakers and audiences with other organizations including the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. As such, we agreed that it makes sense for the Public Education Subcommittee's Speakers' Bureau to touch base with the New York City Commission's bureau. However, it should be noted that our Public Education Subcommittee's plans for a Speakers' Bureau appear to be at a further point of development than the City's.

We agreed to notify the New York City Commission about our planned events so that they can be included in their bi-monthly calendar, brochures and public relation materials. The New York City Commission presently is on our mailing list and receives our press releases, newsletter bulletins, etc. Also, the Commission is in touch with the Circuit Executive's Office and Phylis Bamberger is conferring with them. After a one-half hour discussion, both representatives left to attend another meeting.

### III. Funding Results

J. Pierce announced the following responses by J. Oakes regarding funding of proposed projects:

#### Commemorative Events

- Project #1 - Midnight Judges: \$500 approved to make mini-exhibits possible within the Second Circuit.
- Project #2 - Banner: Not yet approved. Banner is to be smaller than 8' x 20' and for inside use at Foley Square Courthouse.

Project #3 - Reimbursement to John Gordan for Project 87 display outlay: \$163 approved.  
Project #4 - Expense of Reception in courthouse lobby following Inaugural Lecture: \$400 approved.

#### Public Education

Project #1 - Speakers' Bureau: \$5000 for a 6 month part-time coordinator and \$1000 for miscellaneous Speakers' Bureau expenses approved, as funds become available.  
Project #2 - Forum on States' Constitution: Hold.  
Project #3 - Project 87 posters for 18-20 courthouses in Second Circuit: Approved for up to \$2,200.  
Project #6 - Reimbursement to Legal Aid Society for copying and telephone expenses: 92.29 approved.  
Project #7 - Purchase of Constitution: No outlay sought from us.  
Project #8 - Teach-In for school teachers: No funding presently available.

#### Special Projects

Project #3 - Colonial Era Music Concerts: Hold.  
Project #4 - Panel Discussion on Federal Courts to be held jointly with Association of the Bar of the City of New York: No funding sought.

#### IV. Review of Specific Proposals

The Subcommittee discussed recent submissions, e.g., Public Education Project #8--The Speakers' Bureau, and Project #9--Teach-In. As to Project #8, the Subcommittee recommended and Phylis Bamberger, co-chair of the Public Education Subcommittee, agreed that the organization of the Speaker's Bureau must be a step-by-step project. First, the Speakers' Bureau will secure speakers. Second, once the speakers are in place, the Bureau will solicit audiences to be matched with speakers. The Subcommittee agreed to recommend approval of Project #8 with requested funding. As to Project #9, while the Subcommittee thought the concept of

the project was a good idea, the Committee questioned the expenditure of \$7500. Though project director Phylis Bamberger explained the need for these expenditures, she thought the expenditures for the project might be limited to as little as \$1,000, if need be. Ms. Bamberger also stated that the project possibly could be conducted even without funding, if necessary. The Steering Committee voted to recommend approval of Project #9--the Teach-In--but did not make any recommendation for funding.

Also, Ms. Bamberger submitted additional information on: the specifics for Project #9, Teach-In program and materials, proposed letters for Judge Oakes' signature, the distribution of "The Blessings of Liberty" to 18 courthouses in the circuit, and "The Judges Confer with Students." The Subcommittee offered several suggestions as to the details of the programs. The Subcommittee thanked the Public Education Subcommittee for its considerable effort in the development of the various proposals.

As to the activities of the other subcommittees: The Commemorative Events Subcommittee Chairman, John Gordan, submitted a draft of the introductory panel for the Midnight Judges exhibition and reported receipt of the two written accounts which are to be published and distributed in connection with the exhibit. Mr. Gordan also reported on the progress of another exhibit planned for May/ June, 1988, entitled "The Federalist Papers/Ratification of the Constitution." Professor Harold Fruchtbaum of Columbia University is organizing this exhibit. The

Subcommittee expressed its satisfaction with the development of this project. No funding has been sought thusfar.

The next Steering Subcommittee meeting will be scheduled as circumstances require.