

MEDICAL REFORM GROUP OF ONTARIO

TORONTO CHAPTER

The next meeting of the Toronto Chapter will be:

THURSDAY July 3, 1980

South Riverdale Health Centre

7: 30 P. M.

126 Pape Avenue

AGENDA:

- 1) approval of minutes of previous meeting (enclosed)
- 2) reports of activities since last meeting
- 3) discussion of crisis faced by physicians in El Salvador
- 4) discussion of improvement to Toronto Chapter meetings:
 - alternation of week night to allow some attendance by those with fixed evening commitments
 - refreshments for the meeting: coffee and cherries will be available for this meeting
 - establishment of an educational program for the meetings, at least partially by a rotating commitment among the working groups
 - reduction of business component of the meeting to essentials
 - opportunity for discussion of concerns and support among the members

For any additions to the agenda or for any comments on improving the activities of the Toronto Chapter, contact Brian Gibson : 698 - 4068

(answering service during the day, but I will return the call promptly)

MINUTES
April 22, 1980
Medical Reform Group of Ontario
Toronto Chapter Meeting

Chairman: Brian Gibson
Minutes: John Marshall, Debby Copes

14 Members Present

1. Minutes of Previous chapter meeting read and approved.
2. Paul Weinberg from the Toronto Clarion presented their proposal that our group or individual members of it write a semi-regular column or series on health care, especially political aspects of it. There was agreement that this would be a good forum, though limited to downtown distribution mainly, but few people came forward with definite promises to contribute. Paul can be reached at 363-4404, for any member wishing to get in touch with him about this. Note that anything presented as MRG policy in such an article must be cleared by the steering committee, though ideas presented as personal opinion and then signed by name, "member of MRG" needn't necessarily be.
3. Reports from Working Groups
 - Environment - no member present
 - Health and Underdevelopment - next meeting is April 24. No meeting since last chapter meeting.
 - Occupational Health - met recently with representative from the Hamilton group and will be presenting resolutions at the May meeting.
 - Newsletter Committee - John Marshall presented proposal for expanding the newsletter into a national publication, with articles by members and wider news coverage.
 - Publicity - Michael Rachlis (not present) will head a committee to publicize the May meeting; this will meet Tuesday, April 29, at South Riverdale Community Health Centre.
4. Steering Committee Report - minutes of the March Steering Committee meeting were read (copies available from steering committee members - they're long!). Issues covered were current membership, finances, out-of-province organizing, limits of steering committee mandate, whether we should publicize other groups' activities in our newsletter (and if so, whether it should only be groups whose ends are supported by existing MRG policy), pamphlet progress report, need for MRG position on women's issues.
5. A bequest has been made to the MRG from the family of an associate member who is unhappy with the medical care given to a recently deceased relative. Donations are being made to us in lieu of flowers, producing about \$150 so far. John Marshall will write an immediate note of thanks.
6. Reports from other areas - Quebec has about 35 interested people who want to organize a provincial chapter. Greg Blaney has organized a meeting in Ottawa.

7. Hall Commission Report - John Frank and Ellen Buchman told of their experience, and said they thought the brief was generally well-received. The economics group will meet on May 27 in Dundas to formulate specific resolutions for the May meeting.

8. There was discussion of the format of the May meeting, and a committee was formed to take care of details. This consists of Brian, Jamie, Chris, John M., Paul Rosenberg, and Debby, who will meet on May 5. The chapter as a whole felt opposed to having meetings both Friday and Saturday and asked that the Friday night meeting be merely an open house for new and out of town members. Mechanisms for breaking down into small groups in the May mtng. were also debated, with suggestions given to the steering committee about organizing these as pre-lunch and lunch groups oriented around the areas of interest of the working committees.

9. Discussion was continued from the last meeting on the Toronto chapter organization. Brian Gibson is nominal chair, Chris MacAdam the membership secretary responsible for local mailings, and Jamie Meuser is the treasurer. None of these people is on the provincial steering committee, which is preferred in the constitution where possible. Note that Toronto has one steering committee vacancy, with another coming up soon when John Marshall leaves. A committee was struck to meet with John to find out how he has been doing everything he has been doing and to divide up the required tasks. This consists of Brian, Jamie, Chris, John Frank, and Debby, and will meet May 5. The idea of having a paid secretarial worker has been temporarily shelved.

10. It was proposed to vary the chapter meeting night from time to time as there are people who can never be present on a given night.

11. The next meeting will be Friday June 6 at John Frank's house. There will be a brief business meeting followed by a party.

Debby Copes