

MINUTES

LOCAL EDUCATION COMMISSION

CONFERENCE ROOM - FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

FULTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

JUNE 19, 1964

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The first regular meeting of the Local Education Commission was held in the Conference Room of the Fulton County Board of Education at 2:00 p.m. Mr. W. L. Robinson, President of the Fulton County Board of Education, presided.

Members present were: P. L. Bardin, Oby T. Brewer, Jr., Dr. R. H. Brisbane, Otis M. Jackson, Allen Kiepper, Earl Landers, Dr. John W. Letson, Dr. James L. Miller, Jr., Thomas M. Miller, W. L. Robinson, Wallace H. Stewart, William M. Teem, III, Fred J. Turner, Dr. Paul D. West and James White, Jr.

The minutes of the organizational meeting of May 20, 1964, were read and unanimously approved.

A report of the May 29th and June 5th Steering Committee meetings was given and the minutes read. It was reported that each proposed officer had agreed to serve if elected. Also, Dean Pierce and Dean Johnson agreed to serve if the Commission requested them to do so.

The point was raised and clarified that the adoption of the minutes would not constitute the election of the people suggested.

It was pointed out that Dean Johnson is a member of both the General Assembly and the faculty of the Emory Law School and, therefore, may not have time to direct the legal research required by the Education Commission. The nature of the work desired may require services of a law firm. It was stated that Mr. G. Stanley Joslin had been considered but that the Steering Committee thought Dean Johnson might bring a fresh approach to the study. The suggestion was made that the Commission employ a project coordinator to develop a program of action and identify resources needed before obtaining legal services. Attorneys for the Atlanta and Fulton County School Boards should be asked to advise in the matter of selecting a law firm or a lawyer to conduct the necessary research.

Mr. Teem made the motion that the minutes of the Steering Committee be approved as read. The motion carried.

Mr. Turner made the motion that Mr. P. L. Bardin be elected as Chairman of the Local Education Commission; Mr. Otis M. Jackson be elected as Vice-Chairman; and Mr. W. Kenneth Stringer be elected as Secretary-Treasurer. Mr. White seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The motion was made by Mr. Turner that Dr. Truman Pierce, Dean of School of Education, Auburn, University, be employed as coordinator of the study and that he be paid a fee not to exceed \$3,000 for services rendered from the present time until the beginning of the next regular session of the General Assembly. Mr. White seconded the motion. The question was asked if the \$3,000 fee covered only the period of time from the present until shortly after the first of January--about six months. It was pointed out that this was the intent of the motion and that fees beyond the meeting date of the General Assembly would have to be negotiated with Dean Pierce. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. White moved that the officers be authorized to explore the matter of the legal assistance needed for this study and that they consult with members of the Commission to get their views on the persons or firms to be retained and report their findings to the Commission for further action. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cawthon and carried.

Mr. Brewer stated that the Commission should consider the amount of money appropriated and the amount spent to date. He said that the legal counsel may cost \$25,000 or more. The Commission should have an accurate estimate of the total cost of the study and the amount of money which may be obtained from various sources.

Mr. Teem moved that the Steering Committee and officers be directed to investigate the financial assistance needed by the Commission to accomplish its purpose and also the financial sources available to satisfy this assistance. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stewart and carried.

Mr. Robinson then relinquished the chair to Mr. P. L. Bardin, the newly elected Chairman.

Mr. White made the motion that the Commission thank the Steering Committee for getting the Commission off to such a fine start and on

the right track. Dr. Brisbane seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Mr. Bardin stated that he had been requested to appear on a WAGA-TV program next week to discuss the work of the Commission. He asked if anyone knew of any reason why he should not appear. Mr. Brewer stated that the Commission needs as much publicity as possible concerning the work it is doing, the problems involved and the need for the study. It was pointed out that although no answers were available at this time, the problems involved should be explained to the public. Also, the public should know that the Commission has been formed and is off to a good start.

It was agreed that for the next few weeks the Commission should meet only when called. But, after the committees have been appointed and their work designated, the Commission should meet on a regular schedule.

It was emphasized that the work of the Commission should get started as soon and as rapidly as possible. Dean Pierce should attend the next meeting and present an over-all plan and time schedule for the study. In the meantime, Dean Pierce should consult with the Steering Committee and officers of the Commission concerning adequate legal services and finances.

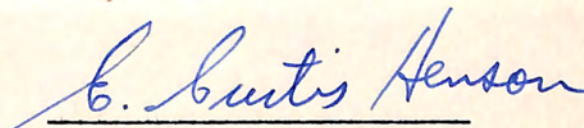
Mr. Teem asked if the Tax Study Commission appointed by the City would overlap with the work of the Education Commission. Mr. Landers stated that he thought the Study Commission would add to the strength of the Education Commission and that the two Commissions should keep abreast of each other but that they should work independently. It was pointed out that the Local Education Commission had not appointed a committee to make a fiscal study and that this committee should not be appointed until Dean Pierce presents a plan of action and legal assistance is available.

Mr. Jackson made the motion that the Commission accept the recommendation that Dr. Curtis Henson serve as secretary. Mr. White seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Mr. Brewer stated that to prevent misunderstanding the voting

members and the ex officio members of the Commission should be identified. Each member of the Commission has a copy of the House Resolution which clearly identifies members in each category. By calling this matter to the attention of the members of the Commission in a regular meeting, misunderstanding should not develop either within the Commission or between the Commission and other organizations.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m. subject to the call of the Chairman.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "E. Curtis Henson". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Secretary

ECH/dh

June 26, 1964

Approved: _____

Chairman