

Minutes of the NCROPA Committee Meeting held in London SW3  
on the 26th September 1984.

---

1. Apologies: David Kennington Litt.D.

2. Minutes of Committee Meeting of 5th April 1984

Read and approved. Ted Goodman asked to take minutes of this meeting.

3. Correspondence: NCROPA correspondence since last committee meeting reviewed.

It was decided that the Director should write to James Ferman, Secretary of the British Board of Film Censors, pointing out that his statement at the GLC Cinema Policy Conference that Maurice Yaffe psychologist at Guy's Hospital supported censorship was wrong.

It was noted that the Campaign Against Censorship were corresponding with Lord Norwich, at the suggestion of David Webb.

4. Restructuring Committee

- The resignation of Lord Norwich was noted
- It was decided to invite Lord Houghton of Sowerby to join the Committee as its Parliamentary Representative.
- It was decided that the Director would ask for the resignation of Dr. Richard in the interests of the Campaign.
- It was decided that Clifford Hanley would remain on the Committee as representing the Scottish members
- It was decided that the Director should invite Elizabeth Goodfellow of 52 Pitchford Street, Stratford London E15 4RX who is a member of the Campaign to join the Committee so as to increase its feminine element.
- It was decided that the Director should also invite two sympathetic academics namely Martin Baker of Bristol Polytechnic and Dr. Guy Cumberbatch.
- It was decided that Eric Miller should be Membership Secretary.

5. Plans for AGM

- It was decided that it should be in late November in the evening on Wednesday 28th, if possible. It should be preceded by a

- As Membership Secretary, Eric Miller agreed to address the envelopes.
- As Director, David Webb agreed to draft the notice and book a hall in central London.
- The AGM Agenda was fixed in outline as follows:
  - (1) Apologies
  - (2) Announcement of new committee
  - (3) Director's Report
  - (4) Account of NCROPA Campaign Against the Video Recordings Act
  - (5) Members proposals from the floor
  - (6) Any other business.

6. Any other Business

- It was noted with concern that many local authorities were refusing on principle to grant any licences whatsoever for sex-shops under the Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982. It was decided that Ted Goodman, as legal adviser, would prepare a list of the addresses of the relevant local authorities and that Eric Miller would send a letter, drafted by the Director, to the Chief Executive of each authority to find out the situation regarding grant of licences.
- It was noted that the NCROPA telephone answering machine had broken and could not be mended because the firm which manufactured it was no longer in existence.
- It was noted that resolutions to the National Council for Civil Liberties to which NCROPA is affiliated had to be submitted by 3rd December. It was resolved that the Director should send a NCROPA resolution on the following lines:
 

"The NCCL calls for the repeal of the Cinematograph Amendment Act 1982, the Video Recordings Act 1984, and the sex-shop licensing part of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 as being restrictions of the right of freedom of expression. Meanwhile it deplores the actions of local authorities which refuse on principle to grant licences to sex-shops and cinema clubs.

Such authorities are increasing the violation of freedom of expression by blocking the outlet provided for in those statutes and therefore converting them from restrictive Laws into prohibitory ones."

*L. J. Sundbelle*

11th April 1985