Citizens Interracial Committee to be phased out

A SPECIAL REPORT
by
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The County Board of Supervisors, at a board meeting yesterday, indicated that the Citizens Interracial Committee would be phased out of existence.

In a statement released by the board it was revealed that the Board of Supervisors had instructed the County Council to prepare an ordinance creating a commission on Human Relations in the county, which commission would advise the Board on programs and methods of staffing.

The Board also approved an agreement to provide an additional $10,750 in funds for CIC, which is understood to be a phasing out by the county of funds for the CIC.

In effect, the CIC will cease to operate as of October 1969.

Carrol W. Waymon, Executive Director of CIC, stated that the organization's service to the public would not be available as of October 1, 1969.

It appears inconsistent in these days and times that the county would allow an organization of this nature to be phased out.

Apparently there has been a movement going on for some time to stop funding the CIC. One has to wonder why?

Was the CIC too effective? Did the County Board feel they had too little control over CIC? Did they feel CIC was speaking out too much against the establishment? These are a few of the questions that would have to come to mind during this time.

Since CIC started the very first dialogue it has been under some type of pressure or another. Many people through the dialogues were a waste of time. Yet, very few people will question the value of the dialogue series, "Design For Understanding." This one program alone has done more for this city than any of the other programs you can think of.

It appears that no programs designed to bridge the human relations gap can exist if it dares to speak out against the establishment.

This is what happened when CIC came out with the riot report, "Sunday In The Park."

Many city officials (who will not be identified at this time) had strong statements to make against the report. The following are but a few:

"The CIC report made things worse for the city, especially the Police Department."

"That damn report was extremely inflammatory!" "If the CIC board of directors approved that report, then the board is not a very responsible one." "If Waymon and his staff knew all these things were going on, they should have worked closer with the police."

None of the above statements is very positive, they are very negative in nature. Yet, we have seen no reports on the rioting by any agency other than that published by CIC. We don't recall any special meetings being held by the administration other than the press conference held by CIC. Was anyone downtown doing anything?

A Human Relations Commission sounds nice, and there the similarity to anything akin to CIC ends. The county will control the commission and appointments to the commission will be strictly political. If you haven't guessed it yet, this is where we came in.

Several members of the board and staff of CIC are presently appearing before the Grand Jury. The jury is reviewing the organization's budget.

Phasing out the CIC is definitely a mistake. The attempt to begin a Human Relations Commission is even a bigger mistake. This time the City In Motion is just spinning its wheels.

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