The original documents are located in Box 29, folder “Presidential Meetings with Members of The House of Representatives, 5/1/75-5/11/75” of the Loen and Leppert Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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I had submitted the attached Schedule Proposal for Don Clancy. Warren Rustand turned it down because Mrs. Prem is president of a local organization rather than national. Clancy feels strongly about this meeting and I am wondering if you feel we should go back and urge this one again.

cc: Bob Wolthuis
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL
Date: April 17, 1975
Thru: Max L. Friedersdorf
      Vern Loen
From: Douglas P. Bennett
Via: William Nicholson

MEETING:
Representative Donald D. Clancy, R-Ohio, and
Mrs. Lee Jones Prem, President of the Epilepsy
Enlightment Group in Cincinnati, Ohio

DATE:
At the convenience of the President

PURPOSE:
To discuss the problems facing epileptics in this
country and possible solutions.

FORMAT:
- The Oval Office
- 5 Minutes

PARTICIPANTS:
The President
Rep. Don Clancy
Mrs. Lee Jones Prem
Mr. John T. Murphy, President of AVCO Broadcastin
Douglass P. Bennett (Staff)

CABINET PARTICIPANTS:
None

SPEECH MATERIAL:
Briefing paper and talking points
to be furnished

PRESS COVERAGE:
Announce to press
White House Photographer only

STAFF:
Douglas P. Bennett

RECOMMEND:
Max L. Friedersdorf

OPPOSED:
None

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION:
None
1. There are over 4,000,000 known epileptics in the United States.

2. Many epileptics choose to hide their disease for personal, social or professional reasons. Rep. Clancy, Mrs. Prem and others feel there is an overwhelming need to acquaint the public with epilepsy, its causes, symptoms and treatment. They wish to enlist the President's support for this objective. (Tab A)

3. Mrs. Prem is involved in the Epilepsy Enlightenment Group because her son suffers from epileptic seizures.

4. Mr. John T. Murphy, President of AVCO Broadcasting, will be accompanying Mrs. Prem because AVCO strongly supports this Group.

5. Representative Clancy, a conservative member of the Ways and Means Committee, feels that Presidential identity with this objective would be helpful to him.

**APPROVE**  

**DISAPPROVE**  

Because local gp.
Honorable Douglas P. Bennett  
Special Assistant for Legislative Affairs (House)  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.  

March 21, 1975

Dear Doug:

Mrs. Lee Jones Prem, President of the Epilepsy Enlightenment Group in Cincinnati, Ohio, has asked me to assist her in obtaining an appointment with President Ford to discuss the problems facing epileptics in this nation and possible solutions. Your assistance in arranging this will be greatly appreciated.

Mrs. Prem has advised me that there are over 4,000,000 known epileptics in the United States. However, since approximately 80% of the cases of epilepsy are controlled, many epileptics choose to hide their disease for personal, social or professional reasons. Mrs. Prem and others feel there is an overwhelming need to acquaint the public with epilepsy, its causes, symptoms and treatment, so that the epileptic can be freed from the stigma which has always been associated with the disease. She maintains that this can best be accomplished through the media, and wishes to enlist the President's support for this objective.

A recent case in Dayton, Kentucky, tragically pointed out the need for public education regarding epilepsy. Police had been called to assist lifesquadsmen in subduing a young epileptic. Restraints were applied to the young man's body to control the seizure. When his brother entered the room and saw the leg irons and other restraints, he began struggling with the policemen to remove them. In the course of this tragic event, the epileptic's brother was shot.

Unfortunately, the use of restraints to deal with epileptic seizures is all too common. At present, a lawsuit is pending against Los Angeles police for restraining an epileptic, causing him to break and further damage several limbs and leaving him crippled.
Such incidents emphasize the need for public education concerning epilepsy. I would deeply appreciate President Ford's attention to this problem by meeting with Mrs. Prem. If an appointment can be arranged, she will be accompanied by Mr. John T. Murphy, President of AVCO Broadcasting.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

DONALD D. CLANCY
MEMORANDUM TO: JACK MARSH
FROM: RUSS ROURKE

I spoke with Paul Sonnabend this afternoon, advising him of the "facts of life" with regard to the proposed meeting with the President. I was very frank with Sonnabend, and gave him a very candid run-down on the entire matter. He appreciated our frankness, and requested that the proposed meeting with the President be scrubbed.

He hastily added that he was enthusiastic about assisting the President in any area wherein his services might prove helpful...has only to request his volunteer assistance.

cc: CLeppert
    WRustand
    TMarrs

DATE:  Week of May 5, 1975

PURPOSE:  To give Rep. O'Neill the opportunity to introduce to the President, Mr. Paul Sonnabend, Chairman of the Board of "We, the People", a volunteer organization sponsoring a Bicentennial Fair to be held in West Potomac Park, April - June 1976.

FORMAT:  The Oval Office (15 minutes)
The President
Mr. Paul Sonnabend
Charles Leppert, Jr. (staff)

CABINET PARTICIPATION:  Secretary Rogers B. Morton (Interior)

SPEECH MATERIAL:  Talking points

PRESS COVERAGE:  None - White House Photographer

STAFF:  Charles Leppert, Jr.

RECOMMEND:  Max L. Friedersdorf

OPPOSED:  None

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION:  None

BACKGROUND:  1. "We, the People" was established by the volunteer sector of the country, which conceived a three month Fair, a Bicentennial celebration to be held in Washington, D. C. from April - June of 1976.
2. The Fair is to be located on a 25-acre site in West Potomac Park; the land was donated by the National Park Service. More than 25 of the Nation's largest volunteer-coordinating organizations have endorsed this proposal and are planning the exhibits; business and government are contributing materials and expertise; architects, site planners, exhibit designers and engineering firms are creating the environment, designing structures and coordinating volunteer exhibits.

3. The Fair will provide an educational forum where volunteer organizations in America can tell their story, recruit new volunteers and exchange information. All volunteer organizations are invited to participate, and are given free space to do so.

4. Mrs. Ford is the Honorary Chairman of the Board of Directors of "We, the People."

5. Mr. Sonnabend, a close friend of Rep. O'Neill, would like to discuss with the President, the site preparation money. Although most of the financing has been raised from private sources, Mr. Sonnabend has discussed the money matter with Department of Interior Secretary Morton.
April 21, 1975

Mr. Charles Leppert
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Charlie:

I am writing to request that you arrange a meeting between the President and Paul Sonnabend.

Paul is a close friend of mine from Boston. He is Chairman of the Board of "We, the People", an organization that is sponsoring a Bicentennial Fair to be held in the West Potomac Park.

He would like to meet with the President to discuss plans for the Fair. While most of the financing has been raised from private sources, some site preparation money must be provided by the Interior Department. Paul has discussed this matter with Secretary Morton.

Should you be unable to set up an appointment for Paul with the President, I would appreciate your assistance in having him see Don Rumsfeld or Vice President Rockefeller.

Thank you for your help.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.
OFFICE OF MAJORITY LEADER
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

Mr. Charles Leppert
Special Assistant to the President
the White House
Washington, D.C.
MEMORANDUM TO: JACK MARSH
FROM: RUSS ROURKE

Jack, please note attached schedule proposal re Tip O'Neill/ Sonnabend ("We the People").

As indicated on Page 2 of the attached briefing paper, Sonnabend intends to discuss "site preparation money" with the President. As you know, Ted Marrs did an exhaustive review of all federal funding assistance possibilities...without success.

Further, the attached Washington Post article would appear to indicate that the final chapter on this project has been written.

I don't really see any valid purpose for this meeting, unless you see some wisdom in requiring the President to go through this exercise for Tip O'Neill's benefit. As a suggestion, you might want to have Ted Marrs (either directly or through Charlie Leppert) advise Tip of the exhaustive inquiries already made by you and Ted in this matter.

cc: TMarrs
CLEppert
MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 30, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: JACK MARSH
              TED MARRS

FROM: WARREN RUSTAND

SUBJECT: Schedule Proposal for a Meeting with Cong. Tip O'Neill and Mr. Paul Sonnabend, Chairman of the Board of "We, the People."

I would appreciate having your comments and recommendation on the attached.

DATE: Week of May 5, 1975

PURPOSE: To give Rep. O'Neill the opportunity to introduce to the President, Mr. Paul Sonnabend, Chairman of the Board of "We, the People", a volunteer organization sponsoring a Bicentennial Fair to be held in West Potomac Park, April - June 1976.

FORMAT: The Oval Office (15 minutes)
The President
Mr. Paul Sonnabend
Charles Leppert, Jr. (staff)

CABINET PARTICIPATION: Secretary Rogers B. Morton (Interior)

SPEECH MATERIAL: Talking points

PRESS COVERAGE: None - White House Photographer

STAFF: Charles Leppert, Jr.

RECOMMEND: Max L. Friedersdorf

OPPOSED: None

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: None

BACKGROUND: 1. "We, the People" was established by the volunteer sector of the country, which conceived a three month Fair, a Bicentennial celebration to be held in Washington, D. C. from April - June of 1976.
2. The Fair is to be located on a 25-acre site in West Potomac Park; the land was donated by the National Park Service. More than 25 of the Nation's largest volunteer-coordinating organizations have endorsed this proposal and are planning the exhibits; business and government are contributing materials and expertise; architects, site planners, exhibit designers and engineering firms are creating the environment, designing structures and coordinating volunteer exhibits.

3. The Fair will provide an educational forum where volunteer organizations in America can tell their story, recruit new volunteers and exchange information. All volunteer organizations are invited to participate, and are given free space to do so.

4. Mrs. Ford is the Honorary Chairman of the Board of Directors of "We, the People."

5. Mr. Sonnabend, a close friend of Rep. O'Neill, would like to discuss with the President, the site preparation money. Although most of the financing has been raised from private sources, Mr. Sonnabend has discussed the money matter with Department of Interior Secretary Morton.
April 25, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: JACK MARSH
FROM: RUSS ROURKE

Paul Sonnabend is down to the final straw. Ted Marrs has been extremely helpful in exhausting all possible approaches for the We, the People project.

The last straw is "will you contact John D. Rockefeller III in an effort to put John D. and Sonnabend together for the purpose of convincing John D.'s U.S.A. 200 to provide the necessary funding for the We, the People project."

If you are not willing to do this, or if John D. rejects the proposal, Sonnabend will reluctantly scratch their entire project...

Please advise.
$4 Million Bicentennial Fair Canceled for Lack of Money

By Margot Hornblower
Washington Post Staff Writer

A $4 million Bicentennial fair to honor the accomplishments of the nation's volunteers has been canceled because its sponsors were unable to raise enough money.

The fair, which was announced with some fanfare last month, would have housed as many as 1,000 exhibits under several huge tents on 25 acres lent by National Capital Parks near the Lincoln Memorial. Splash.
MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 5, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: DOUGLAS BENNETT
FROM: WILLIAM NICHOLSON
SUBJECT: Schedule Proposal for Cong. Clancy and Mrs. Lee Jones Prem to meet with the President

The attached is self-explanatory.

In view of Domestic Council recommendation against this type of appointment, we feel this should be regretted.
MEMORANDUM FOR: MAX FRIEDERSDORF

FROM: WARREN RUSTAND

SUBJECT: Proposal for the President to meet with Cong. Clancy and Mrs. Lee Jones Prem, President of the Epilepsy Enlightenment Group in Cincinnati

Our Domestic Council staff people recommend against this type of appointment. They feel we should not get into the practice of meeting with local chapters of groups such as this because of the precedent it would set.

Is this one high priority as far as you are concerned?

not high priority
MEETING: Representative Donald D. Clancy, R-Ohio, and Mrs. Lee Jones Prem, President of the Epilepsy Enlightenment Group in Cincinnati, Ohio

DATE: At the convenience of the President

PURPOSE: To discuss the problems facing epileptics in this country and possible solutions.

FORMAT: - The Oval Office
         - 5 Minutes

PARTICIPANTS: The President
               Rep. Don Clancy
               Mrs. Lee Jones Prem
               Mr. John T. Murphy, President of AVCO Broadcasting
               Douglas P. Bennett (Staff)

CABINET PARTICIPANTS: None

SPEECH MATERIAL: Briefing paper and talking points to be furnished

PRESS COVERAGE: Announce to press
                 White House Photographer only

STAFF: Douglas P. Bennett

RECOMMEND: Max L. Friedersdorf

OPPOSED: None

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: None
BACKGROUND:

1. There are over 4,000,000 known epileptics in the United States.

2. Many epileptics choose to hide their disease for personal, social or professional reasons. Rep. Clancy, Mrs. Prem and others feel there is an overwhelming need to acquaint the public with epilepsy, its causes, symptoms and treatment. They wish to enlist the President's support for this objective. (Tab A)

3. Mrs. Prem is involved in the Epilepsy Enlightenment Group because her son suffers from epileptic seizures.

4. Mr. John T. Murphy, President of AVCO Broadcasting, will be accompanying Mrs. Prem because AVCO strongly supports this Group.

5. Representative Clancy, a conservative member of the Ways and Means Committee, feels that Presidential identity with this objective would be helpful to him.

APPROVE ________  DISAPPROVE ________
March 21, 1975

Honorable Douglas P. Bennett
Special Assistant for Legislative Affairs (House)
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Doug:

Mrs. Lee Jones Prem, President of the Epilepsy Enlightenment Group in Cincinnati, Ohio, has asked me to assist her in obtaining an appointment with President Ford to discuss the problems facing epileptics in this nation and possible solutions. Your assistance in arranging this will be greatly appreciated.

Mrs. Prem has advised me that there are over 4,000,000 known epileptics in the United States. However, since approximately 80% of the cases of epilepsy are controlled, many epileptics choose to hide their disease for personal, social or professional reasons. Mrs. Prem and others feel there is an overwhelming need to acquaint the public with epilepsy, its causes, symptoms and treatment, so that the epileptic can be freed from the stigma which has always been associated with the disease. She maintains that this can best be accomplished through the media, and wishes to enlist the President's support for this objective.

A recent case in Dayton, Kentucky, tragically pointed out the need for public education regarding epilepsy. Police had been called to assist lifesquadsmen in subduing a young epileptic. Restraints were applied to the young man's body to control the seizure. When his brother entered the room and saw the leg irons and other restraints, he began struggling with the policemen to remove them. In the course of this tragic event, the epileptic's brother was shot.

Unfortunately, the use of restraints to deal with epileptic seizures is all too common. At present, a lawsuit is pending against Los Angeles police for restraining an epileptic, causing him to break and further damage several limbs and leaving him crippled.
Honorable Douglas P. Bennett  
Special Assistant for Legislative Affairs (House)  
March 21, 1975

Such incidents emphasize the need for public education concerning epilepsy. I would deeply appreciate President Ford's attention to this problem by meeting with Mrs. Prem. If an appointment can be arranged, she will be accompanied by Mr. John T. Murphy, President of AVCO Broadcasting.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

DONALD D. CLANCY
MEMORANDUM FOR: JAMES CAVANAUGH
FROM: WARREN RUSTAND
SUBJECT: Cong Clancy Request to bring in the President of the Epilepsy Enlightenment Group from Cincinnati

We would appreciate having your comments and recommendation on the attached.
SCHEDULING ROUTING MEMO

Subject: Cincinnati at Epilepsy Group

Originator: Sunday

To Individual Processed Comments

W. Nicholson

W. Rustand 4/22

Staff to:

H. Donaldson

M. Widner

M. Rawlins

N. Gemmell

Return to:

Action:

GPO 560-925
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEETING:
Representative Donald D. Clancy, R-Ohio, and Mrs. Lee Jones Prem, President of the Epilepsy Enlightenment Group in Cincinnati, Ohio

DATE:
At the convenience of the President

PURPOSE:
To discuss the problems facing epileptics in this country and possible solutions.

FORMAT:
- The Oval Office
- 5 Minutes

PARTICIPANTS:
The President
Rep. Don Clancy
Mrs. Lee Jones Prem
Mr. John T. Murphy, President of AVCO Broadcasting
Douglas P. Bennett (Staff)

CABINET PARTICIPANTS:
None

SPEECH MATERIAL:
Briefing paper and talking points to be furnished

PRESS COVERAGE:
Announce to press
White House Photographer only

STAFF:
Douglas P. Bennett

RECOMMEND:
Max L. Friedersdorf

OPPOSED:
None

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION:
None
BACKGROUND:

1. There are over 4,000,000 known epileptics in the United States.

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APPROVE ________  DISAPPROVE ________
March 21, 1975

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Special Assistant for Legislative Affairs (House)
The White House
Washington, D. C.

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Such incidents emphasize the need for public education concerning epilepsy. I would deeply appreciate President Ford's attention to this problem by meeting with Mrs. Prem. If an appointment can be arranged, she will be accompanied by Mr. John T. Murphy, President of AVCO Broadcasting.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

DONALD D. CLANCY
MEETING: Congressional Bi-Partisan Senior Intern Program

DATE: Thursday, May 15, 1975

PURPOSE: To have the President greet the Senior Interns following a White House staff briefing in the Theatre from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

FORMAT: The Theatre or Rose Garden (5 minutes)
The President
Congressional Bi-Partisan Senior Intern Group (approximately 20 to 30 people) See Tab A

CABINET PARTICIPATION: None

SPEECH MATERIAL: Briefing paper


STAFF: Charles Leppert, Jr.

RECOMMEND: Max L. Friedersdorf

OPPOSED: None

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: None

BACKGROUND:

1. Each year, a bi-partisan group of Members of Congress sponsor senior citizens from their respective districts for a two week period in Washington, during which time they work in the Congressman's office and learn the operations of the Federal government firsthand.

2. This year, 18 Members of Congress are involved in this program, the largest participation ever.
3. Last year, as Vice President, you greeted the senior citizens and had your picture taken with them at your Senate Office.

4. The Congressmen and the group this year are asking that you greet them briefly in the Theatre or Rose Garden while they are here for a briefing being given by the White House staff.

APPROVE_____________ DISAPPROVE_____________
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<tr>
<th>SPONSOR</th>
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<td>Rep. Edward Biester</td>
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<td>Mrs. Laura Yeager</td>
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<td>William Yeager</td>
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<td>Fred Fraser</td>
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<td>Rep. Edward Roush</td>
<td>Marion Witmer</td>
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<td>Mrs. Madge Witmer</td>
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<td>Rep. Ralph Regula</td>
<td>Cyril Kidgell</td>
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<td>Mrs. Leona Kidgell</td>
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<td>Mrs. Minnie Bailey</td>
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<td>Rep. Frederick Richmond</td>
<td>Mrs. Rose Bloomfield</td>
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<td>Rep. Paul Simon</td>
<td>Hugh Rimer</td>
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<td>Mrs. Erma Rimer</td>
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<td>Rep. John Wydler</td>
<td>Mrs. Rosemary Koster</td>
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<td>Steven Mongeluzzi</td>
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<td>Lewis Greenberg</td>
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<td>Daisy Shirk</td>
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<td>Lester Turner</td>
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<td>Glenn Jackson</td>
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<td>Rep. Gary Myers</td>
<td>Maurice Slavonsky</td>
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<td>Rep. James Mann</td>
<td>Mrs. Floyd Jansen</td>
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Congressional staff accompanying group

Donna Norton from Rep. Hillis' office
Rick Carson from Rep. Biester's office