

Northwest Indiana Coalition Against the Iraq War

General Membership Meeting Minutes for February 17, 2008

Meeting Called to order 5:30 P.M. by Jim

Minutes

The minutes of January 13, 2008 were approved as posted on web site and distributed.

Treasurer's Report (Tony)

Dedicated to signs:	\$ 546.00	
General funds:	\$3,234.00	Harris Account Balance
Total funds:	\$3,234.00	

A motion to accept the report was made by Sy and Nina and the motion passed.

Following the report Tony offered to resign as treasurer, but no immediate replacement is available at this time. Tony is now on the national steering committee of United for Peace and Justice (UFPJ).

Old Business

A. Review of Billboards by Tony

The billboard on Interstate 80/94 (Borman) was moved and is now east of its previous location but still on 80/94. It is just past Cline on the south side of the expressway facing westbound traffic. Tony reports that a new large billboard will soon be on I-65 near Lafayette.

B. AFSC Outreach

A copy of the AFSC booklet on alternatives to enlisting in the military was passed around the meeting. Jim reported he has distributed a copy to all Gary high schools. The booklet does emphasize Indianapolis because of the high military recruitment in that city. Discussion followed of obtaining presence in schools and possible legal positions.

C. Report On IUN proposal for showing films

IUN professor Raul Contreras supports the showing of the anti-war films and discussions are ongoing regarding the best time to show them. Target date is in March on a Thursday. Bob has DVD's of the films and is familiar with most. He will handle the showing when returns from out of town. Discussion was also held on the Coalition purchasing its own copies of films.

New Business

A. Recommendations and Actions of the Executive Committee

1. Nomination of Lori to the position of Co-chair.

A motion was made to support the recommendation of the Executive Committee (Sy & Ed).

The motion passed.

2. Proposal for a local action for the March 19th, 5th anniversary of the war.

The Executive Committee recommends a local action rather than joining actions in Chicago or out of the area. It is felt better to get local publicity to keep local attention on the war.

B. Proposal by Vincent Emmanuele (IVAW) (VFP) regarding Coordination of peace activist groups.

Jim read Vincent's e-mail proposal for monthly meetings of progressive groups with possible actions bi-monthly. Jim then read his response welcoming the offer and expressing the Coalition's willingness to work together with other organizations.

Lori suggested the coalition consider raising funds for the Iraq Veterans Against the War (IVAW). The group is holding a Winter Soldiers Conference in Washington, D.C. and many from the area are attending. Discussion followed.

A motion was made to authorize up to \$1,000.00 in matching funds from the coalition treasury for use in a fundraiser for IVAW. (Ed & Sy seconded and the motion passed.).

C. Joining the No War On Iran

A motion made to affiliate officially with the above group. It was seconded by Ed and Sy and the motion passed.

D. Green Festival

To be held at Navy Pier on May 17th and 18th. Nina reported that Code Pink had a table last year and made money. The Coalition will consider sharing a booth. Barry said Gary would also have a Green Day on February 25th and Park personnel are involved.

Next Executive Committee meeting February 26, 2008 at 6:00 P.M. at the Rosewood Restaurant in Portage.

The next general meeting is March 16th at the Temple Israel.

Submitted by Ed and Jim