

## NWICAIW MINUTES MAY 15, 2008

The meeting was called to order by Lorri.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Treasurers Report: Total funds are \$2,897. Of that \$546 is dedicated to signs, leaving \$2,351 available in the general fund. A fund-raising letter recently went out to 176 supporters, urging them to contribute a portion (10%) of their "stimulus" check to the NWICAIW or to the UFPJ, where the action was initiated.

### OLD BUSINESS

Green Gary Festival (Gary): Ed and Sy attended and said attendance was good, but that we did not have a presence. Helen was suppose to find out if we could have a table, but we never heard back from her.

Green Festival (Chicago): May 17-18. We are sharing a table with Code Pink. LEAF (Legal Environmental Aid Foundation) will also be at our table. We are selling magnets, buttons, static cling window signs, and passing out literature. Code Pink will also have a petition. Lorri and Nina will be at our table. We have enough volunteers, but thirteen Volunteers are still needed for the Green Team, a general Green Festival crew.

Coordination of peace group efforts: Vince was in D.C. testifying so was not present to report, but at the last meeting it was decided that we would try to have a joint action once a month with other peace groups in the area. Lorri suggested that participating in existing events ("co-opT" actions in addition to "co-op" actions) have value too. Sy proposed that we issue emails organizing people around existing events, co-opting them, such as the Memorial Day parade, Gary Air Show, the Popcorn Festival. Bud and hopefully Vince will work on sending emails out for the Gary Air Show.

Memorial Day Parade: Carolyn reported that the head of the parade had died. He was always opposed to our official participation. Carolyn spoke to the new person in charge but has received no answer. It will be held on Monday, May 26, from 9-11 AM. We will have a presence whether it is official or unofficial.

Yard signs: They have disappeared over the winter and need to be replenished. It would be nice if there could be more sales outlets. Ed and Carolyn will speak to the owner of Marquette Perk. Lake Street Gallery already sells them. Those whose signs have disintegrated should request a new one at no charge.

Expanded executive committee: Carolyn spoke to Alex and Beryl about joining the executive committee, but neither has given her a final answer.

## NEW BUSINESS

Gary Air Show July 4: We will try to get as many peace members there as possible, wearing T-shirts and buttons. Like last year, Spiro will not allow us to have a table. Last year we also passed out small leaflets urging people to call their congressmen about the war.

Educational: Sy suggested that a portion of each meeting, maybe 15 minutes, be devoted to an educational segment, in which someone would discuss a war-related issue, even possibly opposing points of view. Perhaps Tony (who wasn't at the meeting) could speak at the next meeting. There was a lot of discussion, mostly during the executive session. Carolyn mentioned that the AFSC had a lot of information on their website.

Cable TV and radio forums: Carolyn reported that Alex Wheeler may be willing to work on local cable TV programs and forums. Lorri is hosting a radio program once every three weeks, Monday night from 6-7 PM. on WVLP (98.3 FM), a Valpo radio station. Vince will also begin a weekly show soon. They have begun streaming their programs live, which had made a huge difference in their audience.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting has been tentatively scheduled for June 17 at 7:30, but check the website for updates, as there may be a change. It will be held at Temple Israel in Miller.