

Northwest Indiana Coalition Against the Iraq War

Minutes for meeting of September 9, 2007

The Meeting was called to order by Co-Chair, Jim Spicer at 7:04 pm. Introductions were made and the minutes of the meeting of August 19, were approved with a motion by Carolyn and a second by Lorri and a unanimous vote.

The Treasurer's Report was read by Jim in Tony's absence. Total Treasury is \$1,906. Dedicated to signs is \$671. General Funds are \$1,260. Recent major expenditures include: Lamar via Peaceroots for PSA billboard: \$1,348. Lamar for junior billboards: \$300. Garco for T-shirts: \$770. Anticipated expenditures are: Popcorn Fest (unknown) and Lamar for junior billboards (last time) \$300. Carolyn moved the report be accepted. The motion was seconded by Nick and approved with unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

A report on the billboard project included news that the billboard on I-80/94 facing westbound traffic in conjunction with Peaceroots a PSA will be erected on Sept 28th. It will include a banner announcing the Oct. 27th Chicago mobilization which will be in place for one month and then removed revealing the Coalition's website. This recommendation by Tony based on negotiations with Lamar and Peaceroots was approved by those present and voting.

Carolyn reported on a conversation with Sheriff Dominquez concerning security at the meeting with Senator Bayh.

Lorri reported on the success of the Popcorn Festival Parade. \$90 was raised with the sale of T-shirts and signs. She will post a letter to the newspaper thanking the community for its warm reception.

Jim reported the sale of \$67 in merchandize at the Fest in the First and the distribution of leaflets with contact information for federal lawmakers.

Reports on rallies in Highland and Miller showed favorable reception by the communities.

Prototypes of the armbands for the moratorium have been produced but were not at the meeting.

The October 27th mobilization fundraiser letter has been posted to Coalition supporters in hopes of raising funds to forward to UFPJ for expenses. Arrangements for buses to the event are being made.

It has been proposed that the Coalition take out an ad in the program for an upcoming production of the Chicago Street Theater in Valparaiso. The production in February (1-16th) is Letters from Iraq. Jim suggested that he will confer with Tony for a recommendation on the size of the ad and our treasury's resources.

Jim reported that the Coalition website is now almost fully repaired after some technical difficulties over the summer.

NEW BUSINESS:

Nick introduced the suggestion of local actions in conjunction with either Sept. 15th or Sept. 21st to coincide with the vote in Congress on funding the war or the moratorium. A discussion of forming contacts with various college campuses for activities followed with agreement to investigate possibilities.

Carolyn suggested a meeting with Rep. Visclosky to pressure him to vote against funding the war. She will request a date in Oct. or Nov. Nina is meeting with him in Washington on Sept. 18th and will deliver a letter to be composed by Carolyn.

Nina communicated the intention an author, Bernadette Vadusso (sp?) to speak to groups who can be arranged to receive her.

The meeting was adjourned with a motion by Lorri and a second by Carolyn and approved by those present.

Submitted by Lorri Cornett/Jim Spicer