

## Minutes of NWICAIW meeting February 12, 2006

The meeting was called to order by Tony Shafon. The minutes from the Jan. 22 meeting were approved. The treasurer reported that there was \$2500 in the treasury with a bill from Sue's fund-raiser still outstanding.

### OLD BUSINESS

Howard Dean action: The Howard Dean action was very good, with 40-50 people attending the rally and protest out side of the Avalon where Dean was appearing at a Democratic fundraiser. It was visible, noisy, and received good press. Some members were able to meet with Dean later and hand-delivered a large stack of our suggestions to him. The State of the Union meeting/viewing at Purdue Calumet was also good and was attended by about 50 people.

Structure of the NWICAIW: Sy raised the question of whether or not we need an executive committee, made up of representatives from each branch of the coalition, to take up issues which might arise between meetings. There was a lot of discussion, and the issue will be taken up again at the next meeting.

Incorporation: Tony brought up incorporating and/or becoming a tax-exempt organization. Sy explained that they were separate: 5013C organizations (tax-exempt) were federal and Incorporation was a state status. Tony was concerned that because his name was on the bank account, he would be personally responsible in tax-related or litigation issues. Nick moved that the group cover and share any liability if it ever comes to that. Judi seconded and it passed.

Community Access TV: Helen said that listing meeting dates on the Community Calendar on Community Access TV in Porter County is free. Nick moved to do it. Judi seconded, and it passed.

Col. Anne Wright will be in the area on Sunday & Monday, April 9, 10. Helen volunteered her home to host a pot luck dinner and possibly a fund raiser, and to put her up for the night. She will speak at noon at Purdue. Nick asked to authorize \$200 for her to speak at Purdue.

Chicago Action is sponsoring a 3rd Anniversary (of the war) march on March 18. Carolyn moved and Sy seconded spending \$25 for our group to be listed as a sponsor.

Gary Rally report by Carolyn: Only Carolyn and Tony were at the last planning meeting, but the speakers, including Barry Romo and Danny Davis, were announced. There will be a lot of press coverage in all media. The rally will take place at the Genesis Center from 10-

12 on March 25, and a march up Broadway will follow.

Carolyn reported that an opt-out ad will appear in the Emerson student newspaper. Marjorie reported that she will be counseling in her area on conscientious objector status, which is a form of opting out.

### NEW BUSINESS

Sy reported that Bush will appear at Notre Dame on Feb. 23. There will be a demonstration of over 1000 people organized by Kathy Liggitt on that day. The teamsters' Local 1013 are sending a bus from McBride Hall for a rally at 4:30 the night before and for the next day. We will endorse the protest by posting it on our website and Nick will send out emails.

Nick reported that Cindy Sheehan will be in Chicago for 3 events on Sat., Feb. 18.

Helen reported that there are 10 days left (until Feb. 17) to file to be a Democratic Precinct Committee person or a State Convention Delegate to the Democratic Convention in 2008.

Sue sent a report that there was too much stuff being posted on the Yahoo site and/or that they were too long. Bob Cavallo said that he might be able to help Steve Johnson with the website. He will talk to Jim about how best to work with Steve.

There was discussion about taking up other non-Iraq issues. Marjorie brought up earlier in the meeting the pursuit of other causes by our group besides the war. There was discussion: some thought that we should concentrate on the war, that other issues might be divisive, or dilute our purpose; others felt that if the war ever ends, it would be good to use the structure we have in place to pursue other topics.

Vote on Chairs: With only 9 members present (Sy left) and everyone supportive of Sy and Jim, Judi moved that we keep them on as Chairs. Kay seconded, and it passed.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting is Feb. 26.

