

MINUTES FOR THE JULY 10 MEETING OF THE NWICAIW

The meeting was called to order by Jim Spicer.

The minutes of the June 26 meeting were approved.

Tony Shafton reported that there was \$1250 in the treasury, plus \$138 from sales of items from the July 4 and Miller Art Fair event, totaling \$1388. It was moved, seconded and passed to buy more magnetic ribbons.

Five new guests attended, Ann and Andy Paradise, June Long, Trent Pendley, and Stacy Paeth, whose son was wounded in Baghdad and sent back to Falluja on a tank in a full leg cast. Stacy spoke out through Military Families Speak Out. Her son's story was carried nationally and she appeared on MSNBC. The publicity and attention forced the military to fly her son to Germany for proper care, and he was honorably discharged.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Report on summer events: Besides the sales, Carolyn, McCrady, Julie Chary, Kay & Bud Rosen, Steve Tallackson, Jim and Elaine Spicer, and Paul Kaczocha got 290 petition signatures during the July 4 and Art Fair events. Carolyn got 80 more signatures at Mayor Hatcher's birthday party.

2. Gary Air Show: This event is Sat. and Sun., July 16 & 17 from 12-4 at Marquette Park. Bud Rosen reported that we may set up a table in the Aquatorium area. Bud will check on getting a VIP pass so we can drive our table and chairs into the park. Jim will check on storing them at the Aquatorium ahead of time.

There was discussion about purchasing a tent/shelter, about having banners and signs made, and having T-shirts made. Barb Hargrove will check on making T-shirts for us to wear. Tony said that he was going to buy a tent/shelter for himself and we could use it. It was moved, seconded, and passed that Judy Tallackson would purchase one for future use.

Carolyn, Kay, Bud (Sat. 12-2), and Julie (Sun., 12-2) will work at The Gary Air Show, and Judi and Steve will work the beach with petitions. More people are needed. Jim will send out an email.

3. Report on Church letters: Julie reported that she contacted 2 pastors who said they would send someone to the meeting, however no one came. Carolyn reported that Rev. Aniyke from First Presbyterian Church is holding a forum on the war on July 30 and would like panelists from NWICAIW. Rev. Jackson from Trinity United Church of Christ invited us to come on any Sunday to speak. Judi Tallackson suggested sending letters to South County churches. She will work with June Long, who offered her database, to compile a list.

4. John Conyers Program: Carolyn reported that Geri was in contact with Conyers' office. He is solidly booked through the fall, so it does not look like he will be able to speak in Gary. Geri will follow up anyway. Carolyn suggested that we could hold our own hearing. Kay suggested bringing up the subject of a Town Hall style meeting about the war with Visclosky.

5. Cong. Visclosky meeting: A delegation of the NWICAIW will meet with him for 30-45 minutes on July 29 in his Merrillville office. Time still to be determined. The delegation will consist of Carolyn McCrady, Steve Tallackson, Geri Solomon, Jim Spicer, Ed Johnston, Chuck Hughes, president of the Gary City Council, and hopefully Stacy Paeth. The preparatory meeting will take place at Steve and Judi Tallackson's house on Wed., July 27 at 6:30 PM.

6. Recruitment was discussed. Carolyn suggested bringing the issue up with the Inner City Student Council or the School Board in order to get them to rule on it.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Taste of Miller is July 28 from 4-9. Judi Tallackson will "man" a table and Ann and Andy Paradise will circulate petitions.

2. Nina Corazzo was mentioned as an activist from Valpo who might be interested in working with us. No one knew her. Perhaps Sy does.

3. Jim Spicer suggested having Steve Johnson organize an online petition for our website to increase the number of signatures.

4. Carolyn suggested a press release discussing the goals and activities of our group and announcing our upcoming meeting with Cong. Visclosky regarding his support for HR35. There was discussion for and against it. Tony moved that Carolyn be authorized to write it, and it was seconded and passed. June Long recommended columns on Community Organizations in the Hammond Times and the Post-Tribune. Trent Pendley thought that Stacy Paeth's experience should be incorporated into the press release.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be Sunday, July 24 at 7:30 at Temple Israel.