

Minutes of NWICAIW meeting, January 8, 2006

The meeting was called to order by Jim Spicer.

The minutes were approved. Tony gave the treasurer's report. Our expenses for the year were \$6,071 and receipts were \$8,721. We currently have \$2,233 in the bank and we owe \$400 to Sue for her fundraiser. The report was approved.

### OLD BUSINESS

1. Carolyn reported on the planning committee meeting for the Gary Rally. Alex Wheeler, Tammy Davis, and Chuck Hughes attended along with Carolyn and Tony. Chuck was able to get the Genesis Center that date at no cost. March 25, 2006 is the date. The speakers so far are possibly Barry Romo, the head of Viet Nam Veterans for Peace, and Danny Davis, Chicago Congressman. Sy, Julie, and Marshall added that Congressman Visclosky, Mayor King, and union members should be invited. The next planning meeting will be Jan. 14.

2. "Opt Out Initiative" reports: The Valpo report was given by Lorri. She and Sy met with the Valpo school superintendent and school attorney. It was a very unsatisfactory meeting. They were unresponsive regarding the number of opt put forms in the school, the number of military recruiters, and the frequency of military recruiters' visits. They will not pass a resolution supporting HR551 which would make the "opt out" clause in NCLB an "opt in" clause. However next fall they will include in the school handbook for parrents a paragraph in bold type about opt out notification, but they will not include an "opt out" form. Carolyn suggested a story or ad in the school newspaper. Lorri suggested sponsoring an "opt out" day.

Jim reported that in Gary, "opt out" forms went out to the school principals, but no one knows where they are now. Carolyn said we can place an ad in the Emerson newspaper for \$35. Tony and Carolyn will work on it. Julie moved that we spend money on ads in Gary, Valpo, and any other school newspapers. Ursula knows someone at West Side High. The motion was seconded and passed.

3. Protests report: Nick was not present but sent a message saying that 1000 people attended the protest against Bush in Chicago on Friday, Jan. 6. (Others thought it might have been less.)The Times and Post-Trib send reporters especially to interview and report on the steel workers who turned out. Others continue to attend the local rallies. Alan reported that the number of honkers for peace at the Flags Memorial in Highland has increased to 90%. World Can't Wait is planning an event in Chicago to coincide with the State of the Union Address. Carolyn reported that Tom Hargrove, president of Local 1010, will put an antiwar resolution on their agenda. Lorri reported that the holiday Valpo protests at the live

nativity, at a musical concert at Valpo High School, and at the courthouse had good turnout and good response. The Valpo group now has a regular meeting place: the lower level conference room in the law offices at 15 N. Franklin. The next meeting is Tuesday, Jan. 10, from 7-8:30.

4. Sy reported that an event is being planned on the Purdue North Central campus.

5. Jim has yard signs and magnets for distribution in his car.

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Visclosky Forums: Karen Krojeczek was applauded for organizing attendance and issues at the Visclosky forums the week of Jan. 9. There was a lot of discussion about questions for Visclosky, especially in light of his new support for the Murtha amendment. Sy suggested a visual presence by wearing our t-shirts. Early attendees will report for the benefit of those attending later forums.

2. Tony proposed that the NWICAIW affiliate with the Chicago coalition, CAWI (Chicagoans Against War and Injustice). There was discussion about the pros and cons. Tony moved and Carolyn seconded a motion to join the coalition. It was passed. Tony will be our representative to CAWI, and Sue will be our list-serve liaison.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will take place on January 22 at 7 PM at Temple Israel in Miller.