

Board Meeting Minutes, Irving, Texas, August 3, 2005

The meeting of the Veterans For Peace Board of Directors was called to order by President David Cline at 1:05 pm August 3, 2005 at the University of Dallas, Irving, TX. Present were Members Frank Ackles, Ellen Barfield, Dana Briggs, David Cline, Gene Glazer, Lincoln Grahls, George Johnson, John Kim, Sharon Kufeldt, Ken Mayers, Barry Riesch and Arnold Stieber, as well as Executive Director Michael McPhearson.

I. At the request of the secretary pro-temp, the reading of the minutes was deferred to a later time.

II. Prior to submitting his report, Treasurer Ken Mayers made a presentation calling attention to a significant shortfall in the budget and outlining the reasons for it while also pointing out some very positive trends in our overall cash-flow. He concluded with some suggestions for "damage control."

III. The treasurer's report (see Appendix A) was accepted as submitted, with one member abstaining.

IV. The Executive Director's report (see Appendix B) was unanimously accepted as submitted. In the discussion related to the Executive Director's report, the following items came up:

1. The matter of Doug Zachary's accountability was discussed, and it was agreed that he should be required to make regular reports to the Executive Director.
2. In response to a query about the amount of money paid for telephone service it was pointed out that this includes the money for DSL internet service. It was also pointed out that the "shopping around" by the office manager has resulted in a considerable lowering of this amount.

V. Motion was made, and passed that the next Board of Directors meeting will be held in the Seattle area October 8-9. Dana Briggs will make arrangements.

In the course of this discussion the perennial topic of personal expense incurred by board members to attend meetings was raised. President Cline commented that candidates for the board are fully aware of the obligation when they run for the position.

VI. The 2006 convention is scheduled for August 11-13 in the Seattle, WA area. It was noted that in the past two years, and already in conjunction with the planning for next year, questions have arisen regarding who is responsible for what. It has become evident that there need to be some agreed upon procedures

It was moved and seconded to create a conventions guideline committee made up of the Executive Director and people involved in planning previous, current, and upcoming conventions, and that they be tasked with producing a guidelines document for presentation hopefully by the next board meeting in October.

Motion passed.

In the course of the discussion it was noted that the Political Science Department of the University of Washington wants to co-sponsor the conference and also that we have enthusiastic support of Congressman Jim McDermott (a member) who will provide some assistance.

VII. The board re-affirmed the policy that resolutions passed at previous conventions remain valid and effective unless and until rescinded. "Master Resolution" (See Appendix C) summarizing existing positions was passed.

VIII. Resolutions submitted in time to meet the official deadline (See Appendix D) were considered by the board.

IX. The following amendments to the bylaws were considered:

1. Amend Article X; Section 4 by eliminating the current wording and substituting the following:

Article X; Section 4. Resolutions

I. The Board of Directors will appoint a resolutions committee whose responsibility it will be to receive and screen all resolutions submitted for consideration at the annual meeting. It will be the responsibility of that committee to establish and publish appropriate rules, procedures and deadlines for this process. Such Rules will include provisions for bringing resolutions after the deadline. All decisions of this committee will be subject to approval by the board of directors.

II. Once a resolution has been adopted in convention it defines an intent of the organization until it is countermanded by the body or until world events render it irrelevant. For this reason, a comprehensive list will be maintained of all resolutions which have been adopted. Any resolutions which are submitted for consideration will be compared with that list as a means of eliminating redundancy.

III. All resolutions not approved by the Board of Directors, or not submitted by the deadline shall require a two-thirds majority vote of the convention for adoption.

This amendment was approved by the board

2. Change the organization's statement of purpose from
"To seek justice for veterans and victims of war." to
"To seek justice for veterans and other victims of war."

This change was rejected by the board

3. It was proposed that dues be waived for members of the armed forces on active duty. It was noted that the board already has been granted the power to establish membership and dues policy. In that light it was moved that we extend a one-year dues-free membership to any active duty personnel who request it.

The motion passed.

X. The awards committee presented the following five names for awards to be given at this convention:

1. Tony Van Renterghem
2. Dan Kelly
3. Ron Dexter
4. Tim Origer
5. Wayne Wittman

All five of these awards were approved by the board.

XI. The nominations committee presented the names of the following 12 candidates for the four open seats on the board:

Tim Pluta,
Bill Collins,
Alan Dale,
Gordon Soderberg,
Ellen Barfield,
Patrick McCann,
Elliot Adams,
Woody Powell,
Wayne Wittman,
Peter Bronson,
W. George Johnson,
Dan Kelly

The report of the nominations committee was accepted and Lincoln Grahlf's was designated chair of the

elections committee. He was charged with getting two more volunteers from the St. Louis area and organizing the counting of the ballots.

XII. After reviewing documents and testimony both for and against Tom Lash, the board voted to continue the restriction against his membership. The vote was 8 for the action, 0 against and 3 abstentions.

XIII. It was agreed that we would address the shortage in the treasury in three ways

1. We will solicit donations after the presentation of the treasurer's report at the general meeting, and at the banquet in the evening.
2. A particular effort will be made to collect delinquent dues.
3. Approaches will be made to those on our "major donor list."

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM August 4

Respectfully submitted

F Lincoln Grahfs, secretary

**APPENDIX A
APPENDIX B**