

# **VETERANS FOR PEACE**

Veterans Working Together for Peace & Justice Through Non-violence. Wage Peace!

## **VETERANS FOR PEACE**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Thursday – August 23, 2001 – Albuquerque, New Mexico.

CALL TO ORDER – 8.37 AM

PRESENT: Ellen Barfield, Woody Powell, Barry Riesch, Paul Brailsford, David Cline, Lee Vander Laan, Peter Shaw, Wayne Wittman, Fredy Champagne, Larry Goodwin and UN Representative , Michael Carley.

ABSENT: Keith Boylan, Eric Gustafson

MOTION: Peter Shaw/Paul Brailsford – To accept agenda as amended. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION: Paul Brailsford/Sissy Goodwin – To accept MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING and On-Line Board actions previously distributed. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TREASURER'S REPORT -- Lee Vander Laan presented. Discussed transfer to enhancement fund. Held up for code. Need Executive Committee approval.

MOTION: Wayne Wittman/ Peter Shaw – To accept the Treasurer's report. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion of the formation of a trustee committee to work with the Treasurer and compensation to Lee Vander Laan's wife for her work on the books.

MOTION: Fredy Champagne/Paul Brailsford – To adopt a policy of paying the current bookkeeper 175.00 per month, retroactive over the previous eight months, plus travel expenses. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

FUNDRAISING:

It became apparent this last year that we need broader-based lists of potential donors. Board agreed to help build those lists. Fredy Champagne made the point that our most successful fundraising efforts are for specific projects, and that many other organizations support their administrative offices by assessing the funds raised for the projects those offices support.

MOTION: Fredy Champagne/Paul Brailsford – That all Nationally-endorsed and supported Veterans For Peace projects will be required to allocate ten percent (10%) of the funds raised for administrative support costs. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Vickie Goodwin gave a short report on grant writing efforts to-date, which have not been successful so-far. It was determined that Ellen Barfield, Fredy Champagne, Barry Riesch and Lee Vander Laan would comprise a

grant-writing sub-committee to assist Vickie in targeting her efforts.

MOTION: Wayne Wittman/Paul Brailsford – That the Fundraising Committee be tasked with coming up with a specific fundraising strategy. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### MEMBERSHIP:

Paul Brailsford reported some successes this year. We have 129 new members, although we have lost almost that many to deaths and unknown causes. It was recognized that a fully-functioning national office would go a long way toward helping build membership.

MOTION: Dave Cline/Ellen Barfield – That we issue a renewal notice once a year in September, in conjunction with a newsletter issue as part of an over-all dues policy to retain and expand membership. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Don Thompson of the Albuquerque Chapter and organizer of the Convention, presented the convention schedule and cost run-down. It appears we will have a small surplus to split between National and the Albuquerque Chapter. The Board agreed that the Convention would pay the registration fee for William Nemcik of Puerto Rico, since his expenses for coming were already so high.

MOTION: Wayne Wittman/Fredy Champagne – to adjust agenda to discuss move of the National Office to St. Louis. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The board took a poll of all present members. They voted unanimously to: Move the Veterans For Peace National Office to St. Louis, Missouri, and accept Wilson (Woody) Powell's offer to serve as salaried National Administrator in accordance with his proposal, as amended by the Board; and that Woody be required to surrender his position on the Board of Directors pursuant to the By-Law requirements applying to salaried employees.

#### JOB DESCRIPTION FOR VETERANS FOR PEACE NATIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

A VFP National Administrator would be more than an Office Manager, but not an Executive Director. He/she would serve at the pleasure of the VFP Board of Directors and take direction from that body. A VFP National Administrator's job would be to support and facilitate VFP Chapter and National Projects, Actions, Recruiting and Outreach activities by:

- ü Receiving and answering general correspondence not requiring Board of Directors or Executive Committee direct response.
- ü Providing administrative support for national projects as directed by the Board of Directors
- ü Acting as a clearing house for communications between VFP and other organizations, recommending responses by the Board or Executive Committee or President when appropriate.
- ü Sending out annual dues solicitation and notice letter.
- ü Coordinating VFP activity with other peace and justice organizations.
- ü Answering telephones and e-mail messages.

- ü Managing flow of funds into and disbursements out of the National Office, commensurate with the dictates of the Board of Directors and consistent with the governing By-Laws. Make regular monthly reports to the Treasurer.
- ü Developing and managing an annual National Office budget.
- ü Arranging for purchase, storage, sale and inventory management of promotional items (T-shirts, Buttons, Bumper Stickers, Caps, etc.)
- ü Acquiring, inventorying and otherwise managing office supplies (stationery, packing boxes, labels, envelopes, etc.)
- ü Maintaining mailing lists.
- ü Maintaining archives. (Journal back issues, policy statements, position papers.)

Working with volunteers assisting with major mailings, data entry, etc.

Woody was asked to prepare a presentation at the up-coming business meeting on Saturday, in order to gauge support of the membership.

The Board adjourned for lunch at 12:00 PM, and re-convened at 2:00 PM.

**AWARDS:** Larry Goodwin reported progress made on establishing awards categories and types. It is still a work in progress, although awards have been identified for presentation at the Convention on Saturday. The policy itself will be finished by e-mail consultation with the Board.

**IRAQ WATER PROJECT:** Michael Carley reported that Ed Bowser, Vickie Goodwin and Art Dorland are the new co-chairs of the next phase. There was discussion concerning the selection of Water Treatment Plants to restore, committee expansion, leadership and other matters of administration, including coordination with LIFE for Relief and Development, the co-sponsor of the previous projects and petitioning the VFP Board for re-instatement.

**MOTION:** Wayne Wittman/Fredy Champagne – That the Board of Directors will consider re-instatement of the Iraq Water Project when the committee can demonstrate unified participation in a well-defined project or group of projects. **CARRIED** with one abstention (Ellen Barfield).

#### **ZONES OF CONCERN & STRUGGLE (ZOCS):**

Discussed proposal for a committee composed of Board and general members to review ZOCS applications.

**MOTION:** Lee Vander Laan/Peter Shaw – That the ZOCS committee formation document be approved by the Board of Directors with a 9-member limit placed on the review committee. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **VIEQUES:**

Dave Cline presented an up-date on activities relative to the protests on Vieques Island in Puerto Rico, including an upcoming action in Washington, D.C. on September 25, 2001. He distributed buttons to the Board for distribution. David announced the delegation date has been changed to November and that the new pamphlet by Dr. Doug Rokke on DU and Vieques is now available. He also introduced Wm. Nemcik of Puerto

Rico.

#### CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICAN ELECTIONS:

Wayne Wittman reported on upcoming election monitoring projects that will be carried out by Veterans For Peace in El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua and a March 2002 delegation to Colombia with Witness For Peace. Discussed the need to assess the US military posture in Central America, South America, with special attention to the Andean region.

#### KOREA TRUTH COMMISSION:

John Kim (who arrived after lunch) reported on the tribunal in New York City last June. The only publicity it received in the US appears to have been in the New York Village Voice, a short article in an Ohio newspaper and a short TV spot in New York City. He also reported twelve more massacre sites have been visited by VFP delegate Brian Willson earlier this month (August).

#### MY LAI:

Fredy Champagne reported on recent trip to carry \$10,000 in aid to that village and complete construction on an additional wing for the hospital there. He emphasized the focus of the project is to keep people aware of the continuing costs of that war, in terms of health, environment and economy.

#### SHORT-WAVE BROADCAST INTERVIEWS:

Michael Carley has taped three shows so far. All have been well-received. Interviewees have been Alice Slater, Woody Powell and Kathy Kelly.

#### VFP PROJECTS ENDORSEMENT POLICY

Woody Powell and Ellen Barfield submitted a draft, took comments, solicited written comments, and will go back to the drawing board.

#### PROPOSAL BY MICHAEL CARLEY TO CREATE CHAPTER FOR PURPOSES OF ESTABLISHING BANK ACCOUNT FOR HIS FUNDRAISING EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF HIS POSITION AS UN NGO REPRESENTATIVE FOR VFP.

The Board was not convinced of the necessity of this. However, the discussion, and Michael Carley's unexpected resignation, led to the need to define the activities of a UN-NGO, compensation policies, board oversight, etc. Because the position has been defined by the people who have stepped forth to fill it, there is insufficient understanding of the functions and what benefits to VFP can be expected.

The board postponed further action until the resignation of Mr. Carley has become official and final.

#### VIETNAM STONEWALK:

Tom Gale presented the idea of carrying out a Stonewalk project in Vietnam. Preliminary work has been done to develop a proposal. The Board indicated what it would need to give it further consideration.

MOTION: John Kim/Fredy Champagne – The Board of Directors encourages further development of the Vietnam Stonewalk proposal with special attention paid to Agent Orange and the corrective actions needed to mitigate the harm it and other devices and actions of war have inflicted and still inflict upon the Vietnam civilians. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### MEMBER-SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS:

Drug War – Joe Minella NOT APPROVED (The intention was good, the language too wordy and unclear)

Samantha Smith Chapter on Death Penalty – APPROVED

Resolution on Korea to treat for peace, remove troops, etc. – APPROVED

To boycott states having death penalty – NOT APPROVED

#### BY-LAWS

Modification concerning definition of a quorum, previously accepted by the Board made and dated for general membership approval at the business meeting on Saturday.

#### NOMINATIONS TO THE BOARD

Wayne Wittman reported out the following nominees for the VFP Board of Directors:

Jim Gibson  
Sissy Goodwin  
F. Lincoln Grahfs  
Roland James  
Ann Hirschman  
Bob Bowman  
George Johnson  
Bob Heberle  
Gideon Rosenbluth

The Secretary is charged with obtaining bios and issuing a ballot to the membership by October 5.

#### MISCELLANEOUS ACTIONS

Tabled VFP endorsement of Joel Andreas comic book – “Addicted To War, Why the US Can’t Kick Militarism”, until members had chance to review. Will take up on-line.

Decided to produce an interim newsletter that would be a news digest filling the months between issuance of the more complete Journal. It will be sent by e-mail, to those with e-mail addresses and snail-mail to those who don’t.

MOTION: Lee Vander Laan/ Paul Brailsford – To endorse the “Falling Awake.Com” matching gift program whereas every ten dollars pledged or donated is matched and accrued to Veterans For Peace. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Adjourned – 9:00PM

WE MET 8/26/01 at 8:25 AM.

PRESENT: Ellen Barfield, Woody Powell, Barry Riesch, Paul Brailsford, David Cline, Lee Vander Laan, Peter Shaw, Fredy Champagne, John Kim, Larry Goodwin.

Decided to hold the next meeting in St. Louis the 19th and 20th of January, 2002.

Discussed Michael Carley's resignation. Also discussed basis for his UN NGO position. Decided we needed to find out if there was a job description or contract available. Ellen to contact Paul Walker to find out.

A committee was set up consisting of Ellen Barfield, Lincoln Grahfs, Roland James to research the position as exercised in the past and develop criteria for the future.

Tom Gale gave a presentation on Stonewalk.

MOTION: Peter Shaw/ Fredy Champagne – To accept Woody Powell's proposal to move the National Office to St. Louis to be managed by him and to accept his resignation from the Board of Directors so that he can start immediately. . CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Vickie Goodwin gave a presentation on grant applications. She will need biographies of the new board. Discussed possibility of compensating her out of the ZOCS fund.

MOTION: Fredy Champagne/Lee Vander Laan – that the meeting adjourn.  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10:05 AM