

Veterans For Peace, Board of Directors Meeting
University of Washington, Seattle, WA 9-10 August 2006

9:19 AM August 9, 2006 meeting called to order by Vice President Kufeldt

In Attendance:

Board members: Sharon Kufeldt, Kenneth Mayers, Ellen Barfield, Barry Riesch, Bill Collins, Elliott Adams, Patrick McCann, Dave Cline, Alfred Dale, Wayne Wittman, Dave Cline, Frank Ackles, and Frank Houde

Staff Members: Michael McPhearson Executive Director

Guests: Lane Anderson, Bob Krzewinski, Nate Goldshlag, Hugh Bruce, Peter Bronson, Tom Swan, George McAnanama, and many others

Board member introduced them selves

9:28 President Cline took charge of the meeting

Agenda

By consensus: add to agenda Good and Welfare

Excused Absence John Kim

Minutes

Motion by Collins, seconded and passed to accept minutes as corrected of 8-9 April 2006

Treasurer Report

Motion by Wittman, seconded and passed to accept Treasurer's report

Change Fiscal Year

Motion by Mayers seconded and passed by 2/3 majority That Article XI Section 3 of the Veterans for Peace, Inc. by-laws be changed to read as follows: "The fiscal year of VFP shall be from Jan 1 through December 31 of the same year"

Executive Director's Report

Katrina Report

Motion by Barfield seconded and passed: that cost for hiring a firm to review Katrina tax returns be absorbed by VFP

By consensus: highlights of Katrina report will be posted on the web and full report will be available to members on request

AER Report

Motion by Kufeldt seconded and passed: to postpone consideration of report until additional salary data is submitted

Investigative Committee Report

Motion by Dale seconded and passed: accepting the Investigative Committee report on complaints by Gordon Soderberg and Dennis Kyne about Executive Director, Board of Directors and associated issues (Note: members may get a copy of the report from National office)

Nominating Committee (for Board of Executives)

Veterans For Peace

Board of Directors Meeting

University of Washington, Seattle, WA

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Motion by Wittman seconded and passed: to accept report nominations: Sharon Kufeldt, Kenneth Mayers, Mike Ferner, George Johnson, Anita Cole, Tim Pluta, Lane Anderson, Pete Bronson, John Grant, Michael Uhl

Executive Director's Report

Motion by Riesch seconded and passed: to accept report

Motion by Kufeldt seconded and passed: to add to October meeting agenda a discussion about whether there should be a limit to the percentage of members that could be associate members

Break 11:25 - 11:38

Caucuses

Motion by Collins seconded and passed: Members may form caucuses, consistent with the goals and mission of VFP, unless the Board objects.

Fundraising Committee

Motion by Kufeldt seconded and passed: to appoint McCann as chairman of the Finance Committee

Veterans Service Organizations

Report by Mayers

Awards Committee Report

Motion by McCann seconded and passed: to accept report

Report on Katrina Relief Awards – both pins a special awards

Crosby Stills Nash and Young Tour Report

Lunch break 12:15- 1:22

In Attendance:

John Kim joined the meeting during break

International Liaison Committee

Report

Presentation of three delegates of VFP ROK: Kim, Sanghan. Pyo, Myung Yeol. Joo, Jung Heon

Motion by Wittman seconded and passed: authorizing the President to sign the MUO with VFP ROK.

Convention Committee Report:

Resolutions Committee

Motion by Ackles seconded and passed: not consider Resolution #1 since it is reaffirmation existing resolutions

Motion by Collins seconded and passed: respectfully decline to endorse Resolution # 2.

Motion by Barfield seconded and passed: to endorse Resolution # 3, with the word “demand” replaced by “calls on”.

Motion by McCann seconded and passed: respectfully decline to endorse Resolution # 4.

Motion by Adams seconded and passed: not consider Resolution #4a since it is reaffirmation existing resolutions

Motion by McCann seconded and passed: to endorse Resolution # 5

Motion by Houde seconded and passed: to endorse Resolution # 6 with the conditions that 1) he reaffirm that as a special project he will under write the costs, 2) that wording be added to encourage

chapters to ask their members of congress to stop the pressure by our government on the Japanese government to remove Art 9 and 3) encouraging the chapters to read article # 9 out load to their chapter

Motion by Kim seconded and passed: to endorse Resolution # 7 as amended under (3) change "To send" to "organize" and under 4) change "To send a copy of" to "communicates"

Motion by Collins seconded and passed by a 2/3 majority: to endorse bylaws change # 8

Note: Resolutions #9 & #10 were erroneously included.

By consensus because of the recent change of world events Cline, Dale, Mayers will draft a resolution about Israel/Palestine.

Honorary Membership

Motion by Mayers seconded and passed: award Hetty Epstein Honorary membership

Break 3:04 – 3:22

Guests: many more members joined meeting

Chapter & Membership Development

Motion by Houde seconded and passed: since the Iraq vet for whom the chapter is being named was 19 when killed and since the old Chapter 19 has been confirmed as inactive, to give Riverside & San Bernardino Counties, charter number 19 instead of 137. Motion by Mayers seconded and passed: to charter chapter number 19, Riverside & San Bernardino Counties, CA, named Jon Castro Chapter of VFP, the city of record is Palm Springs, CA.

Motion by Collins seconded and passed: to charter chapter number 138, in Eastern Nassau and Suffolk Counties, NY, named VFP Long Island, the city of record is North Babylon, NY.

Motion by Kufeldt seconded and passed: to charter chapter number 139, in Northern Olympic Peninsula, WA, named North Olympic Chapter of VFP, the city of record is Port Angeles, WA.

Motion by Riesch seconded and passed: to charter chapter number 140, in North Western, PA, named Casey Austin Sheehan Chapter, the city of record is Conneaut Lake, PA.

Motion by McCann seconded and passed: to charter chapter number 141, in South West OR, named Oregon South West VFP, the city of record is Bandon, OR.

Motion by Adams seconded and passed: to charter chapter number 142, in Okanogan County, WA, named Okanogan County Chapter, the city of record is Okanogan, WA.

Motion by Wittman seconded and passed: to charter chapter number 143, the city of record is Everett, WA.

Motion by Dale seconded and passed: to, with changes in the application, charter chapter number 144, in the Delaware Valley, PA, the city of record is Levittown, PA.

Report concerning Mr. Soderberg

Motion by Riesch seconded and passed (11 in favor 1 opposed): that, based on Mr. Soderberg's statement "Either do it at this board meeting or drop it and clear my name with a letter to the entire membership!" with heavy hearts, the Board move forward with the somber process of weighing the evidence of the Committee's Report. Motion by Wittman seconded and passed: to go into closed session for consideration of the evidence.

Motion by Collins seconded and passed: to expelled Mr. Soderberg from membership

Amendment moved by Adams seconded and passed: to amend the motion to include," after 3 years may reapply for consideration for membership by the Board".

Motion by Collins seconded and passed: to direct the President to take all appropriate legal actions and public notification to restrain Mr. Soderberg and protect the good name and integrity of VFP.

Motion by Kufeldt seconded and passed: to come back into open session. Charges concerning Mr. Krzewinski

Motion by Houde seconded and passed: that the charges are with out merit

Meeting adjourned 4:51

9:20 AM August 10, 2006 meeting called to order by President Cline

In Attendance:

Board members: Sharon Kufeldt, Kenneth Mayers, Ellen Barfield, Barry Riesch, Bill Collins, Elliott Adams, Patrick McCann, Alfred Dale, Wayne Wittman, Dave Cline, Frank Ackles, John Kim, and Frank Houde.

Staff Members: Michael McPhearson Executive Director

Guests: many members came and went during the meeting

Good and Welfare:

Report on Bruce Barry's condition

Arlington Memorial

Motion by Kim seconded and failed: to modify Arlington Memorial motion of 8-9 April 2006 with item 2 removed

Consensus to put Arlington Memorial motion of 8-9 April 2006 out on chapter contacts

Resolutions

Motion by Collins seconded and passed: that the Board takes a position, with heavy hearts, that unfortunately the resolutions (Medical Marijuana, Endorse Earth Charter, Civilian Conservation Corp) don't meet the emergency test, and respectively return them to the authors to be resubmitted another year

Motion by McCann seconded and passed: to endorse, under the emergency test, Resolution #1

Whereas the human costs of the current conflict in Lebanon have been overwhelming,

And whereas Hezbollah fighters continue to fire rockets at cities in northern Israel and while ground combat takes place in southern Lebanon,

And whereas the totally disproportionate use of force and violence and the indiscriminate destruction of infrastructure by the Israeli Defense Force is a clear violation of international prohibitions against collective punishment and injunctions to protect civilian lives and property,

Therefore be it resolved that Veterans For Peace universally condemns the targeting of civilians by both sides and calls for the United States Government to support an immediate cease-fire and promote negotiations involving all concerned parties to resolve all border disputes and prisoner release issues.

Motion by Barfield seconded and passed: to endorse, under the emergency test, resolution #2

Whereas the occupation of Lebanese territory by the Israeli Defense Forces constitutes a clear violation of the sovereignty of Lebanon,

Therefore be it resolved that Veterans for Peace calls for the United States Government to use the diplomatic and economic means at its disposal to secure a removal of IDF forces from Lebanese territory.

A resolution on Gaza is not in order because the 2004 convention approved a resolution, which included the following:

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Whereas the International Court of Justice has ruled that the wall being built on Palestinian land is a “de facto annexation” and is illegal.

Therefore VFP calls for:

- 1-The immediate removal of the wall from all Palestinian lands
- 2-Dismantlement of all Israeli settlements on the West Bank and Gaza
- 3-The end to the military occupation of the West Bank and Gaza by the Israeli Defense Force
- 4-The return of Israel to its 1967 borders as mandated by UN resolution 242
- 5-Internationally supervised negotiations for the creation of an independent Palestinian state and all related issues of security and the refugees “right to return”

Convention Committee 2007 Report

Convention Committee 2008 Report

Moved by Mayers seconded and passed: to empower the Chairman of the committee to consult with Atlanta to test their seriousness of intent. If satisfied with their capacity he is empowered to designate Atlanta as the location of the convention.

KPC, IWP, BTHN, VNAORR, IVAW, and other project reports:

Motion by Houde seconded and passed that exercising our fiscal responsibility and a concern of the lack of paper trail we send a delegation to the IVAW board meeting.

Motion by Mayers seconded and passed to request time on the IVAW board meeting agenda for a delegation of the Pres, the Treasure, and the ED to discuss 501c3 accountability.

Fall National Focus Activities - VFP’s Role

Moved by Adams seconded and passed: that we put on the October agenda a discussion of an Action and Strategy Committee

Resolutions, request to revisit the SOAW resolution

Moved by Wittman seconded and failed: to endorse the SOAW resolution

Motion by Riesch seconded and passed that the next meeting will be in St Louis 3, 4, 5 November 2006

Adjourn 12:06

Submitted – Elliott Adams, Secretary