



Veterans For Peace
2010 Board Meeting Minutes

(August, September, October)

**VFP Board Meeting Minutes – Holiday Inn, Portland, ME
August 25 & 26, 2010**

In Attendance:

Board members: Adams, Collins, Eichholz, Bolger, Ferner, King, Herington, Uhl, Feldman, Craven, and Goldshlag

Staff Members: Dennis Lane, Executive Director, Virginia Druhe, Jeanette McDermott

8:18 AM meeting was called to order by President

Agenda Review - approved

Executive Director's report –

Introduced Jeanette McDermott

Treasurers Report

Moved, seconded and passed: To make the following adjustments to Special Projects Fund

Rename Global Peace Special into Communications

Move Afghan – Publish Ads into Communication

Move PD Zones of Concern to Development & Action Support

Move Gulf Build/March/Bus Tour to Development & Action Support

Close Appeal For Redress

How War Economy Effects You –

Board Fund Raising –

Board members have been assigned 3 people each to call

Goldshlag will be support for us as we call

ED will write up a description of how to make the calls

ED will have staff actively support process

Membership Committee –

Moved, seconded and passed: to charter Chapter #161, Iowa Chapter, Iowa City

Moved, seconded and passed: to approve request to rename North Carolina Triangle Veterans For Peace, Chapter 157 as Dwight D. Eisenhower Chapter # 157

Moved, seconded and passed: to give new members a \$10 certificate to our store for VFP logo material.

Moved, seconded and passed: That, with the help of the staff to identify the Chapters that have large numbers of local dues paying members that haven't paid national dues, Adams will contact those chapters

Bylaws Committee

Moved, seconded and passed: to accept committee's recommendation on resolution #1 (not to endorse)

Moved, seconded and passed: to reject the committee's on recommendation #2 (not to endorse) because we are concerned that it maybe a legally responsibility of Secretary 501c3, the officers are responsible.

Moved, seconded and passed: to accept committee's on recommendation #3 (to endorse) obsolete

Moved, seconded and passed: to accept committee's on recommendation #4 (to not endorse) maybe legality issue

Moved, seconded and passed: to accept committee's on recommendation #5 (to endorse)

Moved, seconded and passed: to accept committee's on recommendation #11 (to endorse)

Board Development –

John Chadwick, Bill Collins – volunteered for the Nominations Committee

Moved, seconded and passed: moving the nomination process to the Nominations Committee

Break for lunch

Introduce Ethan McCord

Bylaws Committee

Moved, seconded and passed: to reject the committee's recommendation on #6 (to not endorse) current procedure is adequate

Moved, seconded and passed: to accept the committee's recommendation on #7 (to not endorse) too low a threshold

Moved, seconded and passed: to reject the committee's recommendation on #8 (to not endorse)

Moved, seconded and passed: to accept the committee's recommendation on #9 (to not endorse)

Moved, seconded and passed: that we not endorse this, proposal #10 (to not endorse) they have the right, there is no process

Resolutions –

Moved, seconded and passed: to not endorse 2010-1 Multi-Religious Faith Housing

Moved, seconded and passed: to not endorse 2010-2 Multiple Deployments OK to do one deployment

Moved, seconded and passed: to not endorse 2010-3 this could be better handled by a letter than a resolution

Moved, seconded and passed: to endorse 2010-4 End Blockade of Gaza

Moved, seconded and passed: that 2010-5 is not a redundant resolution

Moved, seconded and passed: to endorse 2010-5 End Military Aid to Israel

Moved, seconded and passed: to not endorse 2010-6 Draft, this supports the war machine

Moved, seconded and passed: to not endorse 2010-7 Impeach Obama, duty to recommend impeachment of even our friends

Moved, seconded and passed: to endorse 2010-8 Close Military Bases

Moved, seconded and passed: to not endorse 2010-9 One State Palestine, not our business, no mass Palestinian movement for one state solution, mission creep

Moved, seconded and passed: to endorse 2010-10 Support Free Gaza Flotilla

Moved, seconded and passed: to not endorse 2010-11 Civil Disobedience, groups come to ask for endorsement who do not have a pledge of nonviolence, very restrictive,

Moved, seconded and passed: to not endorse 2010-12 Bradley Manning, not appropriate to ask for letter every month

Moved, seconded and passed: resolution 2010-13 is inappropriate and is withdrawn

Moved, seconded and passed: to not endorse 2010-14 War Education Group, does not need a resolution, submitter has decide not to come,

Moved, seconded and passed: to endorse 2010-15 Earth Charter

Moved, seconded and passed: to endorse 2010-16 Democracy in VFP

Moved, seconded and passed: to not endorse 2010-17 Community of Yes, based on 2 state solution, calls for Obama to as vigorous action as possible

Moved, seconded and passed: (reconsideration) to not endorse bylaws proposal #8

Moved, seconded and passed: to endorse 2010-18 Condemnation of a Gaza Flotilla Attack

Moved, seconded and passed: to endorse 2010-19 Working Group

Moved, seconded and passed: 2010-20 is inappropriate and is withdrawn

Moved, seconded and passed: to endorse 2010-21 Sanction Israel

Moved, seconded and passed: to endorse 2010-22 withdrawn

Moved, seconded and passed: to endorse 2010-23 Burn Pit Exposure

Moved, seconded and passed: to endorse 2010-24 Intervention In Iran

Moved, seconded and passed: 2010-25 withdrawn for redundancy, Lifting Israel's Blockade of Gaza,

Convention 2010

Convention 2011

Uhle will write up report to include recommendations for revising process

Board Responsibilities –

Board Development Committee has not been maintained

Moved, seconded and passed: January meetings will be dedicated to Board Development Training.

Advisory Board –

The ED will come back with a proposal by next Board call

Number of Board Members-

should it be increased

Start time of Next meeting.

Moved, seconded and passed: to start at 9:00AM Thursday

Adjourn -

Moved, seconded and passed: to adjourn

In Attendance:

Board members: Adams, Collins, Eichholz, Bolger, Ferner, King, Hearington, Uhl, Feldman, Craven, and Goldshlag

Staff Members: Dennis Lane, Executive Director, Virginia Druhe, Jeanette McDermott

9:18 AM meeting was called to order by President

By consent: SOAW is referred back to the SOAW Working Group

Iraq Debacle Statement – report

IVAW – 3 months behind on loan, waiting on 2 grants

Moved, seconded and passed: approval of July minutes 19 July 2010

Moved, seconded and passed: adjourn 10:15 AM

Elliott D S Adams, Secretary pro tem

VFP Board Call Minutes September 20, 2010

Present: Hart Vigas, Mike Ferner, Mike Harrington, Bill Collins, Joey King, Elliott Adams, Sam Feldman, Dennis Lane, Patrick McCann, Leah Bolger
Absent: Darcella Craven, Cherie Eichholz, Nate Goldshlag

1. Policy book review

A. Elliott – can't see what has been changed in this document compared to what it was before. We should postpone discussion until that comparison has been made. Discussion followed. The motion was made and seconded.

Vote: no = use version we have here; yes = work with policy book
Motion failed. Yes = 1 No = 4 Abstention = 3

The revision provided was reviewed up to the section STANDING COMMITTEES, NATIONAL PROJECTS AND WORKING GROUPS on page 5. Changes in document were made as below:

B. Full membership

Sam – like veteran membership rather than full member
Move to change. Second.
Elliott. Full member is established by by-laws.
Harrington – non-verified vet is not full member
Motion withdrawn.

C. Assisted dues

Elliott – who decides who gets assistance?
Change to “a request to waive the dues should be made to the national office by the member. ”
Motion passes. No opposition.

HART LEAVES FOR CLASS AT THIS TIME.

D. Board list serve

Elliott – asked that other people not be included in the same email with Board group so that replies don't lead to confusion. Language we had before is adequate.
Harrington – that's what this says. Don't take it outside the Board.
PMac – just remind ourselves.
Motion – Collins, approve what we have. Harrington seconds
Motion passes. 1 abstention. 6 yes.

E. Membership tracking

Harrington – what does 'turn over due' mean?
Motion Elliott – change to “vets that become overdue, associates that become overdue”.
Second – Collins.

Motion passes. No opposition. 1 abstention.

F. Executive Committee Composition.

ED is voting member of Executive Committee according to the bylaws

Non-voting is deleted.

G. Affiliation w other groups.

Hearington: is there a list of these organizations? Is this happening?

Ferner: No list. Eg, Leah is liaison to United National Anti-War Coalition

Hearington: is there such a person w IVAW??

Joey: perhaps Hart.

Collins: Joey & SOA is another example.

Ferner: should list be in policy book??

Collins: should have it in published form for reference, like committees. Web site would be a good place for it.

Feldman: is it permanent or just for an action?

Ferner: it is ongoing. Until we decide not to.

Motion: current affiliations will be listed on VFP web site.

Motion passes. Unanimous.

H. Chapters, General.

Elliot – saying chapters operate autonomously contradicts the by-laws saying they must follow national principals.

Hearington – it is in the preceding sentence.

Elliott – no, it doesn't include the bylaws.

Motion, seconded. Add phrase, "within the framework of the bylaws."

Motion passes. Unanimous.

I. Front page

Elliott. Cover page says originally adopted 2007. This is a new document, so this line should not be included.

Review will be continued at further meeting.

3. Executive Director report

The Zinn gathering to establish the endowment fund is this Saturday, September 25, at Bruyn residence. Jeff Zinn will not be there. Matt Damon's mom will be there. She said she is contacting Matt about the fund. We currently have \$30,000 to establish the fund. Existing bequests will be moved to the Zinn Fund.

- While in Boston, Dennis and Mike Ferner will be meeting in Boston with an investment advisor regarding the endowment, with the Jane Addams Peace Association & with our program officer at the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee.
- Dennis will go to Burlington, VT to meet Ben Cohen & the Burlington, VT chapters. He expects to receive a gift from Ben at that time and will be asking for funding for a 3 year PR/marketing campaign.

- The Fall appeal mailing will drop this week.
- Everything is going well in the office.

4. Treasurer's Report

Nate is not on the call. Financial report was forwarded. No comment from members present.

5. Committee Reports

Finance – the committee is working on setting up procedures for Zinn Fund.

Development - Reminder to make fundraising calls from lists that Nate sent out (see two attachments). Send any change of information to Virginia.

Membership – Sam is working with Nate & Jeanette. Chapter 41 wants to change their name to the Jeffrey Lucey Chapter.

Communications – held tryouts for the speaker's bureau at the convention. 10 -12 people appeared and they are getting more email response. Overall response may turn out to be bigger than we thought. McCann suggests it may be worth having several thousand glossy brochures to put out at campuses, etc.

SOA – Joey reports that national is probably not going to have a table at the event since Chapter 27 does a good presence and another chapter may be there as well.

6. Approve minutes (see attached)

Moved, seconded.

One abstention. All others aye.

In the future notes taken by Virginia will be official minutes.

7. October 2 One Nation event in DC

McCann: McPhearson says Leah asked donation to Peace Table. Also requested division of labor between those marching at 10:30a at 14th & Constitution and need to have some folks at the stage at Lincoln Memorial at 9a with banners for VFP gets good visibility there.

Dennis: how many radios do folks want there?

Elliot: idea is to have radios at banners so people can check in there. I think maximum of 6.

McCann: will put stage info out to chapter contacts and chapter-biz.

Alice Walker is doing pre-dance event on Saturday at Bus Boys & Poets for \$150. This might be good opportunity for Dennis or Ferner to be there to solicit her active support for VFP.

8. October Board meeting

Elliott has pointed out that this is usually a planning meeting. Nothing is prepared for that at this time. Ferner has sent a recent email. "A word on planning". Dennis will be presenting a proposed budget. We need to set aside an hour to participate in webcast with Phil Butler and Moazzam Begg.

Elliott suggests we need to be looking at how we democratize VFP to have more member involvement in driving direction. Robert's Rules requires that voters be present for debate. How do we bring informed decisions by larger numbers of members to bear in our process? Also, we ought to think about how we can take great ideas and people willing to drive them and support them and help them grow. I think it would be helpful to have an outside person guide us with this.

9. Future Board meetings

Suggestion for January meeting in Miami from McCann. Joey suggesting the possibility of Nashville for the spring. Collins it is nice to move it around if there are others willing to have us. Elliott agrees with Collins.

Motion to adjourn, seconded.

Unanimous.

VFP Board Meeting Minutes – Portland, Oregon October 9 & 10, 2010

Present: Mike Ferner, Nate Goldshlag, Mike Hearington, Joey King, Bill Collins, Cherie Eichholz, Elliott Adams, Sam Feldman, Leah Bolger, Dennis Lane, Hart Vigas

Guests: Pam?? Associate Member Chapter 72, works with Returning Veterans Project; Grant Remington, president of Chapter 72;

Call to order: 9:00

1. Agenda review:

King: Add Statement of Purpose.

Hearington: Can we consider endorsing the Dream Act? Will add that in endorsement section tomorrow.

Adams: Talk about Board role of nurturing ED. Will include in section on Board related items.

2. Statement of Purpose read by Bill Collins.

3. Minutes of the September board call were approved.

Unanimous.

4. Goldshlag moved that Policy Book updates not be discussed until there is a version that shows changes and has a table of contents. King seconds.

Collins: Process at the last meeting was expeditious and thorough enough.

Ferner: Should continue with previous process. Leah and I have both been over this numerous times. The only reason to go back line by line is if we think Leah's draft leaves something out. If something is left out we can put it in. We've been doing this since January and need to get it done.

Goldshlag: current book represents 10 years of history. I never thought it was broken. There is no way to remember what is missing.

Adams: We discovered two things missing the last time without even looking. I have no idea what the motivation is to do this. This is the first time I have been involved with this Board that I have not been able to find it in my heart to respect the work of this Board.

Ferner: This is not rushing ahead by any means. Leah was asked to do this a year ago this month.

Bolger: I have responded to all these points. This is a waste of time because we voted on this last month. Why can it be brought up again?

Adams: It was a 3 to 1 vote.

Vote on the motion:

Yes: 2

No: 6

Abstention: 1

Motion defeated. Policy Book review will continue.

5. Executive Director Report – Dennis Lane

A. Has had several phone calls this week, some resigning in response to the banner. I am clear that my position is to remain impartial on issues like this. I have called everyone who has resigned and have had warm conversations with them. Eight have resigned.

B. Zinn Endowment. 251 donors have raised \$32,000+. There will be no solicitation in the future, as contributions to the fund will come from planned giving bequests. \$250,000+ in bequests. The kickoff event for the fund could not have been more successful because we have established a relationship with the Zinns. The speakers at the event will be posted on the internet. Myla will be guest of honor at the event. Planning to give people an option to give to the Zinn fund and various projects.

Bolger: Is there ever a point where we have access to these funds for operating. Bill: an endowment is a long slow process, but it is permanent.

Goldshlag: we can set any policy we want, for example, spend 5% per year.

Adams: I think it is really important that we have this discussion. I'm concerned about putting a lot of annual income and it is ending up in Zinn fund.

Ferner: we have a policy from a couple of years ago that 10% of non-recurring gifts over \$10,000 would go into operating fund and the rest into reserve. This policy would apply to the Zinn fund. Finance committee could look at all of this.

Eichholz: we have to get clear on this for donors.

Lane: most people who give planned gifts want it to go on into perpetuity. Finance committee needs to bring a recommendation.

Feldman: I agree and I can see there could come a time when funds would have to be drawn on. There should be a clear statement of how this decision would be made, 2/3 of Board or such.

Lane: Finance Committee will also have to look at how funds will be invested. We are talking with several investment groups who are experienced in social investing.

C. Have double checked about trademarking VFP. There is another group that uses VFP, Volunteers for Peace. In another job the experience was that the name goes to the older group.

Adams: I talked with another lawyer and he suggested we could negotiate with the other group.

Goldshlag: I don't think we have good reason to pursue this. It doesn't make sense to use time on this when we are facing serious financial issue. Everything is fine as is.

Bolger: we could be preventing future problems with some other group, like when Gordon Soderburgh established Voices for Peace.

Viges: I think our name is more important than money.

Adams: I move we ask Dennis to contact attorney and find out about the process of trademarking VFP. Seconded.

Yes: 7 No: 2 Abstention: 1

Motion passed.

D. Meeting with IVAW in October and he will be giving me a check for September & October loan payment.

E. We are sending a proposal for \$8000 to the Sparkplug Foundation this month.

We will be sending a proposal for \$15,000 to McCormick to pay for website development and infrastructure. Betsy has created a list of features for a new site.

Fund for Nonviolence has given us initial approval. I am to call them back on December 1. They have funded IVAW & MFSO.

F. We will reapply to Unitarian Universalist Service Committee in June. The application will have to deal with torture. Mike & I met with them in Boston in September.

G. *The Silent Truth*, a documentary about Lavena Johnson, who is from St. Louis will be shown at Webster University. The university and VFP are cosponsoring. Ann Wright is coming in. We think it will be a big event. It is an opportunity to collaborate with a lot of women's groups.

Bolger: Chante Wolf and the Working Group on military sexual trauma should be involved.

H. Mike & I met with the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War. Michael Christ recommended that we consider inviting veterans from other countries and they could help us make those contacts.

Bolger: This is terrific. We have a working group on nuclear weapons. Peter Shaw is chair of it, Paul Chappell is on it, Cherie is on it so they could be the point of contact.

Lane: They want to do a presentation at the convention next year. We also met with Psychologists for Social Responsibility. This is a process of building collaborations that could be beneficial with other organizations.

Eichholz: Just a note. The new director of PSR is David Hart, who was a director of VFP for a time. So there is another connection there.

Bolger: How do we move this forward?

Ferner: It will involve staff some, and we have several Working Groups that could be involved.

Adams: I think we should go ahead at this. Move that it be President and ED carrying the ball with IPPN for awhile. Seconded. Passed, unanimous.

Adams: We used to have a policy that we would not create chapters in other countries, but rather encourage local organizations to form in order to not re-create the pattern of 1st world domination. Just mentioned as background.

I. This is the fall appeal mailing. I continue to have ongoing communication with these young people. It went out late because the convention was so late. The year end appeal will go out the week before Thanksgiving.

Goldshlag: return slip should always say tax deductible.

Lane: If Board will keep calling major donors then you can follow up after the year end mailing and ask for 3 year commitments. I will create a script. Letters to these people will go first class.

6. Membership Committee Report - Sam Feldman

A. Feldman: Chapter 132 wants to be renamed the Linus Pauling chapter. He is the only person to have two unshared Nobel prizes, one for chemistry and one for peace. They think they can do some events and get publicity for themselves and Pauling's work for Peace. Moved & seconded. Passed, unanimous.

B. Chapter 41, Cape Cod wants to change its name to Cpl. Jefferey Lucey Chapter. Lucey committed suicide while waiting for VA treatment. We have family permission. Moved & seconded. Passed, unanimous.

C. Chapters are not authorized to discipline members for misconduct and need guidance on it. I have written a brief chapter on it. [Read.]

Nate: it seems to me a chapter should be able to prevent someone from participating in the chapter. They are not kicking them out of VFP. They are there, the Board is not.

???: According to by laws they are not allowed to exclude someone from their meetings.

Adams: Move that Membership Committee draft guidelines for how chapters can deal with disruptive members. Seconded. Passed, unanimous.

D. Feldman: We are continuing to work on a plan to recruit lapsed members with Doug & Jeanette. Membership committee is planning to call chapter leadership and encourage them to call their members. We should look back at the March Forth campaign and results.

Ferner: That seems like something staff needs to follow up on.

Adams: It would be good to get feedback from the chapters that were involved.

Lane: I feel we could get 30-35% of our lapsed members back.

King: I find it makes has doubled my effectiveness to get together with members for coffee instead of just calling.

7. Working Groups – Leah Bolger

A. Bolger: We have 141 people signed up in Working Groups. I've got a survey out to see if they have a listserve, have they had a conference call, are they ready to have a website, are they making progress.

B. Have a Working Group on War Economy and a How Is the War Economy Working For You campaign. It seems they ought to merge. John Amidon doesn't want to. Ferner: The campaign is asking to become a national project. If that is approved then the project can decide. Let them work it out.

C. Working Group on Constitution, War Powers has 23 members and no one will be a chair. I suggest naming a chair from the Board. Leah will appoint someone.

D. At the convention I told IVAW and MFSD people they could be members of our working group. Motion that membership be open to dues paying VFP members and by invitation of working group. Seconded. Passed, unanimous. Those who are not paid up will be notified by the president that they have 10 days to pay.

E. Gordon Sturrock requests waiver of dues. Motion to reject the request. Seconded. Dropped.

F. Policy drafted on abusive language because it has been very severe on the Palestine Israel list. [Distributed before the meeting.] The suggestion is that first time they are warned with a copy of the policy, 2nd violation barred for a month. Third violation, barred from group. Moved. Seconded. Yes, 7. Motion passes.

8. Treasurer Report – Nate Goldschlag

A. Hard copy distributed. Numbers are scary. We are down by \$66,000 for the year. Dramatic drop off in donations in the last 3 months. Donations from members are \$41,000 below budget.

Collins??: we have 3 things going against us. One is donations maybe going to the Zinn fund. Another is the economy. And the continued aging of our members out of the income earning stage of life.

Goldschlag: recurring donations are below budget. We don't have a donor base beyond our membership and that is key. I'm trying to find out what it would cost us to rent a mailing list. My understanding is that generally you just hope to break even on a first mailing to a list like this.

Bolger: maybe people should not be able to get the newsletter after they have stopped paying dues.

Goldshlag: would save a few thousand dollars. It is not a major solution. The mailing to our older ACT list got a very bad response.

Lane: We have not had a way until just recently to evaluate the effect of our staff telephoning to lapsed members, 8-12,000 people. Woody recommended to use a company that does telemarketing to our 12,000 lapsed and they take a percentage. We could focus on that for the 25th anniversary and try to get them re-involved. It is a company in Berkeley.

Eichholz: I would be concerned if we have people calling who don't know anything about us.

Adams: I am uncomfortable with hiring a classic telemarketing company. I hate them. We are a special organization, passionate, people friendly. One time we sent a newsletter cover that inside said "This is what you're missing. We want you back." We need a plan to deal with these donations.

Lane: We have 2 pledges left. I think concentrating on the 25th and the follow up.

Goldshlag: We need to do an email appeal immediately. IAW appeal had an insert from Daniel Ellsberg. We could use prominent people.

Bolger: We don't have big donors much apart from Lifetime Memberships. Our members already give a lot I don't know if we can expect more of them. I think our phone calls are better spent on lapsed and others.

Eichholz: March Forth worked well for us in Seattle. Have we ever tried having a chapter contact call in with the ED and President where they would give updates and involve people in calling, especially recently lapsed members.

Adams: What is your plan to improve donations on the next appeals?

Lane: Upcoming efforts are to do follow up calling on the 25th mailing and the Hollywood party. So far this year we are ahead of last year on our direct mail appeals and I am trying to create appeals that reach people. I can have a fuller plan in January.

LUNCH BREAK

Treasurer's Report continued

Collins: What is the projection for income from the increased dues.

Goldshlag: Approximately \$48,000 per year. Since our loss this year to date is \$56,000 a projected loss for the year could be as much as \$80-90,000. I don't think travel is raising any money. There is no major donor income. The convention made \$6400 based on \$8000 in program ads and no speaker fees.

In expenses, we are under budget which is very good. Travel is significantly over for ED and for Board. If at all possible we need Board members to pay as much of their travel as possible. But these are not our major problem.

Bolger: I really think we should not imply that Board members are not doing their share if they do not pay their own travel.

Ferner: the policy re: Board meetings is that members itemize expenses, turn in to office and determine if they want reimbursement or to make an in-kind donation.

Lane: my travel will go down next year.

Bolger: we have spent only \$500 on advertising and marketing. We should put more there. I asked my 3000 members on Facebook for birthday money and raised \$700. Facebook ads are not that expensive. We got a huge positive response on Facebook to the banner drop and we could have raised a ton of money on that action. We need to spend some money to make some money.

Adams: inaudible.

Lane: Ben Cohen is interested in developing a full-fledged media campaign for VFP. One of the elements would be to develop media packets for the chapters so we can work in tandem and do training. I'll have the initial letter to Cohen this week or next week. That could be very beneficial both locally and nationally. Jeanette has started putting together some of this so the grant could cover some of her salary and some of Betsy's. I've had a meeting with a PR firm to see what are the elements we should have because I want to have it all spelled out.

Viges: So are we going to do anything about Facebook?

Bolger: Facebook is very reasonable and can be targeted to veterans, geographically, etc.

Lane will follow up to get more information.

Bolger: what is the ad fund for and what is the David Cline fund for?

Goldshlag: the Ad fund is for any advertising the ED wants to use it for. It was collected in the past for ads.

Eichholz: The David Cline money just came in when he died. I think initially it was for to help pay for his service. There has never been a designation for it that I know of.

Bolger: We spend \$4700 in Development & Action Support. What was that for?

Adams: inaudible.

King: do we need to move it into general fund?

Collins: I remember in the Ozarks writing some standards for the Dave Cline fund. Ken Mayers may know more about that.

Ferner will check with Ken.

Bolger: I'd like to have some proposals on how to use the money. Scholarships, etc.

9. Development

Goldshlag: each of us had 3 people to call. How many of us managed to talk to 3 people, 2, 1?

Collins: I found I needed printed material to send to one of the people I spoke with. Dennis and I have talked about what I might send him. It might be good to make a practice of that after the first phone call.

Goldshlag: We need to have more instructions on what to do for the actual ask.

Adams: We send feedback to Virginia to be put in database? Yes.

Eichholz: Do we need to wait on calls until the year end mailing is out? No. Do we have a way to track who brought a member in to use that person as a contact later? Not now.

Adams: could we let the office know that we have invited someone and there could be follow up when we hear from them, or don't hear.

King: You can increase response by carrying a stamped VFP envelope with you.

Goldshlag: I'm disappointed more people haven't made calls.

10. Personnel Committee

A. E.D. Evaluation. Collins: We have some forms to consider and also to decide what the procedure will do. We agreed on 5 steps: Executive Committee do evaluation as well as can be done by phone, shortly before the fall meeting. Friday evening prior to the board meeting they complete process, then invite ED to review and comment, then finalized in executive session. The next day evaluation is presented to Board for information and any action that may result. We could include this process within this meeting. We have not approved the evaluation form.

B. Sexual harassment policy. Collins: presented in April. Some changes were requested. We added reference to the existing grievance procedure and made expectations clearer.

Moved & seconded. Passed, unanimously.

11. Board-related items

A. The January meeting will include board development training with a man Dennis knows in St. Louis.

B. Ferner: I suggest that we have fewer in person meetings, say 2 rather than 4. It would save us \$8,000 annually. I work with national organizations that meet 2x per year and it works well.

King: I think the by-laws require 3 meetings.

Bolger: I'm opposed. I think the quality and amount of work we get done in person doesn't compare to phone meetings.

Eichholz: I would be very interested but how would we make up the time?

Collins: I think that can work when you have staff that can prepare a lot of materials ahead of time. We make a lot of basic decisions and the creativity together is important. I don't think this organization can get by with that.

Bolger: We need to be serious and prepared when we do get together.

Ferner: Shall we have a policy that we will meet on Friday night?

Goldshlag: I think hanging out together on Friday night is valuable. I think we need to be more disciplined in discussions.

King: It's hard to make a decision when we'll be having new members.

Adams: Motion: barring special arrangements we are not scheduled on Friday night. Seconded. In favor: 5 Opposed: 4 Abstain: 2

So we are not meeting on Friday nights.

12. Policy book.

Began at section re: standing committees

Motion to approve. Seconded.

Goldshlag: can we have a table of contents for this document. I will create it.

Ferner: Leah and I will make changes we have spoken of.

Adams: I make a motion that the secretary be responsible for keeping this updated.

Collins: Personnel committee shall be composed of 2 or more Board members. Currently we have one. Eichholz volunteered to join the committee.

Motion passed

12. UNAC/National Assembly relationship

Ferner: An effort to get national peace organizations on the same page in terms of events. Evolved into United National Anti-War Coalition at meeting in July. I have been representing VFP. Leah is taking that over now.

Bolger: UNAC has a Continuations Committee. I am also on the Steering Committee. They are organizing for a meeting in New York in January to plan a big action on April 9, 2011. I have been nominated to speak at a simultaneous event in January. Do we want to have this large a role in UNAC?

Bolger: it raises the question How much do we want to relate to other peace organizations?

Motion: VFP will stay connected with UNAC but is not planning to take a leadership role.

13. Board vacancy after the election

Ferner: We need to name someone to replace Uhl on the Board. Do we want to just appoint the person who gets the 5th most votes in the board election? We can use it to build diversity on the board? The whole board has to vote to approve an appointment to a vacancy.

Adams: I move that this time we take the 5th person voted on. Seconded.

Yes: 3 No: 5 Motion fails.

14. Introduction of Guests: Marion Ward, Associate Member, Chapter 72

15. Google groups

Goldshlag: Google is no longer going to offer file sharing for groups. However, I was able to create a site through them. I have moved our files to a site there and Betsy will be adding you all to it. It allows us to build folders by year, treasurer's reports, etc.

King: we need someone to back up all this information, too.

BREAK

16. 2010 Convention Debrief

No decisions.

17. 2011 Convention

Ferner: It will be really helpful to have a call soon with Betsy and with Doug Rawlings.

Ward: we are not really clear what our role is. Do we get speakers, for example.

Ferner: the national committee talks about that together. The host committee has a good bit of autonomy.

Ward: money is involved in getting speakers, isn't it?

Goldshlag: this year they managed to only pay expenses and no honoraria. That is part of why they made money.

Ferner: I will get hold of the Maine people and have them send you any documents they have. Dennis will send you the national document on conventions and then we will have the conference call. On the first conference call I'd like to look at the idea of building in more participation.

Ward: On that conference call I'd also like to look at a timeline so we know our priorities for what has to be done.

Possible themes: VFP, the next 25 years. How is the war economy working for you? The Art of War. How are we going to end these wars? How are we going to reach out to homecoming vets?

Collins: are you making plans for an action on Sunday?

Ward: We weren't sure what our role is. We want to emphasize what Portland has done to lead as a sustainable city. We want to organize a bike ride, encourage train travel to and from the convention.

Members in Corvallis and Seattle are willing to help.

18. Option for a biennial convention

Ferner: This can be on a future agenda. It is suggested as better in terms of finances and environmental costs. I want to add that it also takes several months of my time, the ED's and Betsy's time.

19. Trips abroad

In January, Hart is going with Iraqi Help Now and IVAW are going to take hospital supplies to Iraq for two weeks. We will be staying in a family house.

Ferner: is going to Pakistan and Afghanistan with Kathy Kelly and Voices for Creative Nonviolence for a month or so. This trip was delayed from October to November or December. It will cost about \$1800 and help (individuals) is appreciated. I think it would be great if we could organize a VFP delegation to Afghanistan.

Collins et al: There may be ways to use other organizations to help us organize/coordinate trips. Collins will be in Yemen in November. May miss November call.

Bolger: Dennis and I have been on calls with a group of kids in Afghanistan who are building a peace park and want to reach out to people around the world with a message of peace. A new member from Florida, Justin Rich, was a recruiter and is thinking about gathering stories of kids in the US whose parents have gone to war. So I think there is a connection we could make between kids in the two countries while you're there.

20. SOAW report

The gathering is November 19-21. We have the conference room and Chapter 27 will be doing a VFP table. I think we will march. I will make sure the table has membership brochures.

21. Relationship of Board and ED

Adams: The most important role of the board is guiding and nurturing the ED. It is really hard and we haven't done it very well. It might be better we try to come to a decision on how to do this without the ED and then talk about it together. There is no one else to do it.

After discussion, Adams moved to have the board discuss ED matters in a brief session just prior to the monthly board calls. Seconded. Motion failed

Recess: 4:15 pm

Facility tour 4:30-?

7:00pm dinner with the Portland chapter

Sunday

Call to order 9:00 am

- 1) Planning discussion. Ferner described a one-year organizing campaign, concluding with the 10th anniversary of the invasion of Afghanistan, next October. Purpose would be to involve chapters and members in working with related organizations in each area. Could have the war economy be a focus of local resolutions, in addition to other themes.

Adams moved, Ferner seconded. Approved: to conduct a pilot organizing project. Eichholz, Ferner and Lane to co-chair.

- 2) 2011 budget discussion 45 mins.

- 3) Moved, seconded and approved to endorse the Chase, Inc., boycott (credit cards) to support the Farm Labor Organizing Committee's campaign to organize tobacco workers.
- 4) Next meeting Jan. 14-17 in Albuquerque
- 5) Adjourn 11:30