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Veterans Memorial Building  
San Francisco, California  
August 7, 2003

## Veterans For Peace Board meeting

President Cline opened the meeting at 9:10 A.M.

Cline noted that Barry Riesch can't come because of family problem and John Kim is expected but not here.

Present Board members are : David Cline, Gene Glazer, George Johnson, John Amidon, Lee Vander Laan, Lincoln Grahlf, Wayne Wittman, Gideon Rosenblut, Frank Houde, Bob Heberle, Ellen Barfield, Woody Powell and Jozef Hand-Boniakowski served as parliamentarian.

Guests were Joseph Farah, Joan Powell, Freddy Champaign. Jim Steinhagen., Roy Wolff, Kate Lundy

Convention procedures to be considered.

Must consider resolutions.

Resolutions:

#1 Berrigan: Gideon moved to approve Amidon seconded .Passed on

#2 Corrie Ellen added her comments, John added **Passed on**

#3. Lee **Passed on**

#4 Amendment of by laws Merchant Marines. Gideon spoke to it. Discussion **Passed on** to convention.

#5Amendment change. Statement of purpose. Add to "To seek justice for

veterans and victims of war” Eliminate. Discussion. Passed on

#6 By laws amendment to read (d). To abolish war and violence as instruments of national policy, national and domestic policy . Exception taken by one member. Wants to set aside and suggested that it be sent to back to the chapter for clarification. Does it go to the convention. Lincoln moved and George moved to send back to chapter. Discussion. **Passed on .**

#7By law change about reducing military spending and eliminate nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction. One opposed. Eliminate the term “arms race”. Objection raised to wording. Want to withdraw until George J. moved to table and Lincoln seconded. **Not passed on.**

#8. Reimbursement for board. Objection to amount expressed . might not need total membership . Frank could be agreeable to withdraw motion but wants it to be addressed so people don't have to come hat in hand. Wants withdrawn and wants procedures be developed to make request as least embarrassing as possible. Withdrawn and requests that it be addressed at January meeting. **Withdrawn. Lincoln will write proposal for the January meeting.**

9. Bring them home now. Two objections Concerned about the second part of resolution;. .David felt it's not a work in process. Passed on to the convention. Gideon moved to pass on to convention and Bob second. Discussion. Motion **Passed on.** The last provision about support by U.S. to help rebuild

10. UN control over security reconstruction Some problem with no self-determination. General agreement even though the fact that a lot of distrust George moved to pass **Passed on.**

11. End the occupation of Iraq. Explanation about the maker not being a member. Was a member he made the motion. Some motions introduced by Tom Boyle were not endorsed by the Chapter 92 but uncertain as to this resolution. **Passed on**

12. Bring the troops home now, and Repeal the Patriot Act. Objections believing that it should be separated. Endorse the October 25, 2003 demonstration **Passed on** with hopes that it sticks to the understanding that it supports the October 25 demonstration.

13. Defense of Liberty. **Passed on.**

14. Support for entertainers under attack for speaking out. One expressed problem **Passed on.**

15. Veterans& Labor. USLAW is an anti-war group. Several felt opposed because it was outside of our purview. Concerned about Labor is not solidly behind anti-war movement. Want some in the labor movement to be involved in trying to rewrite to be more agreeable. Wayne Wittman volunteered to be that representative in Chicago October 24-25 because of his labor affiliation. George was asked to attend the work shop during . Hoped to amend the resolution on the first resolved ot read "Working people rising" in place of "organized labor ". ~~Passed on~~

16. Korea Peace Campaign **Passed on** without comment

17. Say no to Coke. Some want it to include more than just Columbia. George suggested Shasta while here in SF. **Passed on.**

18. Close SOA **Passed on**

19. El Salvador **Passed on**

20. Palestine-Israel Peace. Provide necessary aid and assistance in #2 **Passed on**

21. Vietnam. Passed on Delete "representative of the people and find ways to" **Passed on.**

22. Vieques. Extends its admiration and "applauds" be substituted **Passed on**

23. Preserving Space. **Passed on**

24. Nuclear De-escalation. Not clear on meaning of de-escalation. Some felt that #25 expresses a similar notion. #26 Also addresses nuclear issues Maybe combine #24 and #25. resolves. Lincoln and Mike Diedrich to work on combining them. **Passed on.**

26. Oppose mini-nukes. Frank to rewrite the resolved to specific. Use the

term “low yield” instead of “mini” **Passed on.**

27. Refraining from unilateral action. **Passed on.**

28. Military spending and legitimate defense. **Passed on**

29. Endorsement of “Campaign for a New Foreign Policy.” **Passed on.**

30. Demand full release of George W’s military service record. **Passed on.**

31. Request for Investigation. David suggested combining #31 and #32 & #33 because of investigation. Maybe the Albuquerque meet to combine them. **George will contact Felker to make it happen.. Passed on with the suggestion that George work with them.**

34. Remove JROTC and military recruiters **Passed on.**

35. Department of Peace. Reaffirmation **Passed on**

36. Support United Nations **Passed on**

37. Depleted Uranium David questioned whether the U.N. banned the DU in the 1949 Geneva Convention.. Question about “U.N. resolutions banning DU as a “weapon of indeterminate effect.” George moved that **it be tabled until Peter Aronson .” 707-442-3009 be called and find out if he’s amenable to the “indeterminate effect Passed on** after agreeing to eliminate of DU, etc.

38. DU Testing rejected

39. Veterans health care and readjustment. Debate over making incentives for recruitment. Change suggested to read “VFP calls for needed resources for the support.” **Passed on.** No problem for maker, Gene G.

40. Veterans health care. Seems to be included in #39.

41. . Military service and retirement. Concerned about having resolutions that give incentives for enlisting in the military. **Rejected** because it is more relevant for a service organization.

42. Voices in the Wilderness. George moved to reject the \$1000 resolution and supports a resolution to “Support the Voices in the Wilderness. Seconded

by Bob. **Passed on.**

43. Electronic voting machines. Discussion. Desire was to reduce the **resolution to be easier to read and approve to make it more acceptable. Lee will rewrite it. Approved and passed on with rewrite. Lee will do today.**

44. Use of internet. Nice idea but difficult to accommodate. Maybe the workshop to work on the issue. Someone should talk to him. Approve of the possibilities of developing this system. Agree with concept but **Rejected**

45. The Earth Charter, .Discussion that expressed concern about exact meaning of Charter. Not fully explainable. **Passed on** to floor with two exemptions, John and Ellen.

46. Anti-war Elector **rejected**

47. Cuban Missile Rejected because it is out of order to “arm themselves.” It could be brought up on the floor and left to the group but David could declare it **out of order** because it violates our Statement of Purpose.

48. John Amidon wants his resolution on opposition to the Patriots Act be introduced and wondered why it was not included in the pack of resolution. Hope to combine it with #13 and wording.

Meeting recessed at 12:40 to reconvene at 2:00 p.m.

To discuss treasurer’s and Executive Director report along

Meeting called to order at 2:15

Board member John Kim checked in.

Visitor Sherry along with Freddy, Joseph, Jim Steinhagen, Phil Butler and George McAnanama.

Treasure’s report

In the event the resolution on the US Labor meeting in Chicago in October 24-25 passes, Wayne will be the lead delegate, Ellen moved and seconded

Frank discussion, Does not exclude anyone. Passed

Executive Director's report.

Performance of first months and in 3,100 active members and it's doubled this year. Wants to use a telephone system Global Exchange to do to contact old members. That will be the last strong effort to pull in the lapsed members. It will be cost effective. Funding most comes from dues, donation and merchandise sales.

First ten months income was \$131,640.00 and \$124,440. in disbursements.

Full proposed budget for 2003-2004 of income of \$148, 958.00 and disbursement of \$148,365.00.

The idea of advertising for the national convention might be valuable. Wayne moved to accept the executive Director's report and budget . . Frank seconded. Discussion: Passed

Questions on Global Peace campaign and concerns about the \$7,000 that was deposited with VFP. Lee wondered where that amount was reflected in the report. Woody accepted responsibility for locating it and reporting its location. We know how to spend it but no follow through. Woody will locate it. Lee reported that the new computer system he installed is working beautifully. Passed.

Wayne move to approve balance sheet and Global Peace Campaign. Frank seconded with changes. Discussion. Passed. The corrections should be included. In the Financial report and request for Global Peace Campaign and balance sheet

John Kim had question on accounting.. Woody reported that it costs \$2000.00 a year for review and \$250.00 a month. That complies with the constitutional requirement of an annual financial review. Kim wanted to know about the final IRS report. Kim will be forwarded a copy of the report.

Woody and Lincoln will both present treasure and financial report. . Woody first and Lincoln second.

How much time for Executive and Treasure's report? Maybe 30 minute maximum  
Phil Butler requested five to ten minutes for a Life membership pitch it

right after Executive Director's report. Where does the time come in for the twelve candidates? Put the candidates time to speak at the beginning of the four hours speak out.

Convention rules of for and against one minute per issue. The rejected resolutions will be presented at the end of the board's approved resolutions.

8:30 to 12: 30 for the business meeting. 12:30 to 2:00 is lunch. The resolutions should have the three hours and build a format to fit the resolution with strong leadership from the chair.. Phil Butler suggested , "Don't allow wordsmithing, and be very clear about what the board approved," Other suggestions such as getting tellers ahead of time, use voice vote, have only two speakers, and have a limit of two minutes per speaker with two on each side. Plan to use power point.

Possibility of putting the candidates at the lunch on Saturday, but maybe at the beginning of speak out. . We have 200 minutes for the resolutions. With five minutes total suggested John A moved that we have the candidates at the speak out. .Frank seconded. Discussion. Passed. John A. suggested three minutes each for the candidates,

Woody will run the speak out.

David thinks we should have some guidelines for future conventions to allow time for the business meeting, candidates time and other time requirements of the convention time. Woody will work with Paul to put together those guidelines to recommend to further conventions.

Ellen suggested that resolutions should come through chapter if possible and individuals shouldn't be able to offer so many. Convention guidelines will be developed by Woody,

Frank moved and George seconded that the minutes be approved as amended  
One  
abstention made by Lincoln.

Merchant Marine as full members and nuclear wording to be reconsidered.

Jozef offered that submissions to the Vietnam Restoration Project are welcomed

Ellen had several announcements : 1. United for Peace and 27 August when congress is at recess to call for a truth commission of intelligence glitches. 2. Endorsement for Voices in the Wilderness is asking for a \$50 donation. 3. SCL Foundation is sponsoring Fortieth anniversary of MLK Jr.'s March in Washington August 23.

4. The Pledge of Resistance will have a formal meeting in October Pat Driscoll has been participating in that and the name might change. We might consider continuing sponsoring that later but decision can wait.

Erick Gustafson, Roy Bourgeois, and John Greely promoted individually” Bring them home now campaign will have a announcement next Wednesday, August 13, in Washington.

George mentioned that some local projects are in the works and work on the “Bring them home” campaign.

Lee offered committee with John Amidon to approve making 500 crosses and other actions Lee moved that \$500 from Zoc to cross project. Frank seconded. Objections raised over supporting a symbol of a religion.. Other offered that he uses it as a grave marker. SOA concept. Further discussion. Motion passed.

Proposal at a cost of \$600 from ZOC into bringing Mildred Medina for rescue and development of Vieques coming. Lee moved and John Amidon seconded to use \$600 to defray costs for Mildred Medina. Passed.

Lee announced an amount of \$250 to \$500 for outreach project to be announced.

Lee mentioned about the plans for the 2004 convention and the preliminary requests for Boston or Cambridge. . Democratic National Committee has the convention on the same weekend. Might have to move it further back and have to get the convention to amend the constitution to allow the earlier date.

The Boston steering committee has proposed July 23-25 for the VFP Convention, the weekend BEFORE the DNC convention. The Democratic National Convention starts on Monday, July 26 through Thursday, July 29, although participants may be arriving that weekend.

Nineteen colleges and universities were contacted, and three, so far, have responded positively. They are unable to make final commitments until later in August or early September, 2003.

Lee moved that we have the membership approve of the temporary change of the bylaws to permit the convention to be held July 23-25, 2004 or the week earlier.

John moved for adjournment, Frank seconded. Passed Adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Heberle, Secretary