

Chapter 132
VETERANS FOR PEACE, CORVALLIS

Minutes, September 28, 2009

I. Attending: Bart and Leah Bolger, Bob Stebbins, Del Shirley, John Gaylord, Paul Rickey, Joe Magner (briefly), Esmeralda and Todd Allen.

II. Administration:

Treasurers Report--Bart Bolger,
Total in account: \$976.43
Designated: \$400
Available: \$576.43

Most of the transactions this month were related to the International Day of Peace Fair.

We spent \$174 as a grand total for the Fair, \$80 for stage rental will come back. \$41.40 went to pay for printing. Bart and Leah contributed \$52. Wednesday evening Fair planning participants will debrief the Fair. We don't need to act on the financial parts at this time.

III. Past actions/events status and debrief

- ◆ Stand Down in Springfield armory—Bart & Bob. They processed and provided registration for vets. The Stand Down included things like a barbershop, bicycle repair, counseling for transitional housing for homeless vets. Bart and Bob helped staff the back-pack check-in room.
- ◆ Joe Magner stopped by with CDs of "Absolute" from the Peace Fair.
- ◆ World Peace Weekend events: pinwheels, peace fair, peace concert—Bob. Pinwheels were impressive. The Fair was considered a success. Kudos go to Leah her leadership..
- ◆ Table at U of O on September 25---Bob. Hank Disney & Jim Schmidt, vets from Eugene and Bob and Del talked with students and distributed materials. We inadvertently ended up in the "commercial section" where there was a lot of traffic. Hank and Jim stood in the middle of the hall and handed out cards and talking to passersby.

IV. Action Team reports and planning

- ◆ Truth in recruiting plans for CVHS, CHS—Bob
Roger Weaver, Bob and Roberta Hall went to CVHS and are scheduled for the 2nd & 4th Thursdays. Catherine Connor & Aleita Hass-Holcombe will go to CHS. Philomath is non-responsive to Bart's e-mail. Bart is planning to reconnect and find out if the contact person has changed. October 1 update: We now have a visit to PHS scheduled for October 20th; and every third Tuesday after that.
- ◆ Albany Veterans Day Parade, November 11—Bob.
Bob has made the parade application and received an invitation to a banquet. Other veterans groups may come. Bob still has his little float and can bring it. We will do more planning at the next meeting.
- ◆ Planning has begun for Oct 23 "Corvallis Stand Down" for all homeless people. Bart is coordinating with Project Connect, Community Services Consortium (CSC) and others.
- ◆ Gila Talk on September 29 at 7pm at UUC—Bob. There is a potluck at 5:15 and speech will follow at 7pm.
- ◆ "Re-think Afghanistan" DVD video –Bob. It is a video in 5 parts and done by Brave New Films. We considered coordinating with other peace groups and to consider how to coordinate a showing. We would like to show it after the memorial for the Daily Vigil so that Vigil participants can walk to the viewing. The Library and UMC Martha Room are considerations. We would probably start the showing at 6:30 on the 7th of October. Update 1 October: This will be held at the FUMC, Martha Room, at 6:30pm on the 7th.

- ◆ “Resisting Militarism: no more flyovers at OSU games.”—Leah. Bob Henderson called Leah because he was upset and told her he had called to express his concern to the OSU president. We considered writing a letter to the OSU President and Corvallis Mayor. Also to the FAA because they must approve the fly space. Bart will get a quote related to PTSD from a medical authority, and he will draft a letter. PTSD is one of many reasons such as cost, noise, military entertainment.
- ◆ *Dissent: Voices of Conscience*, by Col. Ann Wright and Susan Dixon—Bob. Bob distributed two copies to share around for reading. Paul and Todd are the first.

V. Scheduled Future actions/events

Oct 5, 4pm Amy Greenberg lecture on history of the first US peace movement, MU Journey Room.

Oct 7, 5pm: Vigil and special observation of the 8th year of the Afghanistan occupation and the 6:30 pm showing of the video “Rethink Afghanistan” at the FUMC Martha Room.

Oct 10 Second Saturday Concert with beneficiary to be the Jackson Street Youth Shelter. 6-8 pm at Sunnyside Up. VFP has been a co-sponsor of the concerts for approximately 3 years.

Oct 17 Peace rally and march in Eugene—“war will not bring peace in Afghanistan.” Info: CALC 585.-1755.

Oct 18 at 3 pm at the Corvallis Library. Mickey Reiman, from the group “Absolute,” is helping promote a book written about the conscientious objectors camp at Cascade Locks. We will promote it on our e-mail list.

Oct 12-16 will be military rape awareness week. One in three women in the military are raped by their peers.

Nov 15 Winter Homeless Shelter opens and it will be in the same place as last year, the Westside Community Church, 4000 SW Western Blvd.

Nov 27—Corvallis Holiday Parade.

Regular events:

Daily, 5:00 to 6:00 pm—Corvallis Peace Vigil, Benton County Courthouse.

Fridays, 4:30 pm--Albany Peace Vigil, Linn County Courthouse.

Del Shirley
Scribe