

UNITED FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE
DELAWARE VALLEY NETWORK
January 29, 2008

Present: Monique Bankey, Mavia Simon Iano, Chris Robinson, Terry J. Beitzl, Jerry Taylor, Bill Deckert, Libby Schwartz, Susan O'Connell, Ken Heard, Elisabeth Leonard, Rich Gardner, Bernadette Soltis, Marlana Santoyo (co-facilitator), Sue Edwards, Bob Moore, Debi Richter, David Gibson, Phyllis Gilbert, Sharon Hurley, Nina Huizinga (co-facilitator), Ben Sears, Bill Perry, Anche Butler

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Wednesday, January 30, 2008: Robins Book Store is hosting Colonel Ann Wright, who will read from her new book, *Dissent: Voices of Conscience* at Robins Book Store, 108 S. 13th St., at 6:00 p.m.

Friday, February 1, 2008: UFPJ (National) meeting in NYC to plan for Washington DC March 19 demonstration.

Saturday, February 2, 2008: Documentary *No End in Sight* is being shown at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Cherry Hill, 401 North King's Highway, at 6 p.m. This is a fundraiser for the Winter Soldier Investigation II. Contact: Sue O'Collell at (856) 309-1252 or email PDSJ@googlegroups.com.

Monday, February 4, 2008: One Philadelphia, 12:15 p.m., location not yet known.

Monday, February 4, 2008: AFSCME District Council 47, 30th and Walnut St., 3rd Floor Auditorium, Noon to 2 p.m. Human Rights Agenda and Budget

Monday, February 4, 2008: UFPJ (Delaware Valley Network) Meeting, WILPF Office, 1213 Race St., 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 9, 2008: National Lawyers' Guild is sponsoring an educational workshop, "Stop and Frisk—Know Your Rights," at the W.E.B. DuBois Center at 4515 Baltimore Ave., from 1 to 3 p.m.

Wednesday, February 13, 2008: Documentary video, *Uncounted* will be available as a DSA link. Organize a viewing party at your home. Contact Debi Richter at Debi@busforchange.com or call her at (215) 467-2153 for more information.

March 13 to 16, 2008: Winter Soldier Investigation II in Washington DC

March 19, 2008: United for Peace and Justice in Washington DC and various locations in the Delaware Valley. [See below for more details.]

SHORT ITEMS:

Website:

Sharon Hurley and Rich Gardner shared an example of what the website will look like if we use the May First, People Link version. The cost will be about \$100 a year.

AGREED: We told them to go for it.

Billboard Project:

Normally billboard advertising in our area costs anywhere from \$800 to \$2,500 a month. However, we may be able to get a PSA billboard for cheap. Sharon Hurley will find out more about this by tomorrow.

What about the effort by Mary Tracy to eliminate billboards. Chris Robinson will check about this and report back in 5 days.

Union Printing:

marie@kennedypring.com, (800) 504-9009, 55th and Baltimore Ave. Costs: 8 ½ by 11, black and white, 1,000 copies = \$175; 8 ½ by 11, color, 1,000 copies \$182

Prompt Printing Press, 956 Reeves Ave., Camden, NJ, (856) 963-9111
prompt@promptpress.com, Costs: 8 ½ by 11, black and white, two-sided, 1,000 copies = \$100; 8 ½ by 11 posters on #67 Vellum, 500 copies = \$50 plus 7% tax

Airplane with Banner: Publicity idea. Who wants to follow up on this?

Septa Poster combined with handing out palm cards: Publicity idea. Nina will check out what Granny Peace Brigade paid for getting poster printed and having it on Septa buses and subways and report back by next meeting.

Committees:

Publicity: Bob Moore can do press releases and have people follow-up making phone calls. Sharon Hurley, Bill Deckert (Lower Bucks), and Terry Beith (Middle and Upper Bucks) are willing to make calls.

Outreach: Marlena Santoyo, Nina Huizinga, and Elisabeth Leonard are on this committee.

Finance and Administration: Bob Moore

Secretary: Nina Huizinga is doing this, for the time being

Presiding Officer: We may rotate this responsibility or Nina and Marlena may share it.

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Web/Computer: Sharon Hurley and Rich Gardner

Steering Committee: AGREED: Karen Porter and Debi Richter will join the Steering Committee. Members of the Steering Committee are expected to attend meetings and take responsibility for necessary functions.

PEACE VOTER:

This is an educational and lobbying effort organized by the Coalition for Peace Action. They gather information about legislators and candidates positions and create succinct summaries to distribute to voters. Bob Moore passed out a voter guide of the positions of all 2008 Democratic and Republican Presidential Candidates' positions on Iraq, nuclear policy, and Iran. It was a two-sided, 8 ½ by 14 page. They printed out about 3 million of them. In addition, 3 to 400 people chip in to pay for newspaper ads. They targeted 19 races and were able to get 16 peace people into office.

They would like to expand the use of such voter guides and, in particular, they would be useful in the run up to Pennsylvania's Presidential primary on April 22. We could also target Congressional races and races on the State level. The Coalition will be giving regional trainings to train trainers on how-to-do-it. Stay tuned.

MARCH 10 TO 19 IN WASHINGTON DC:

This extended period of demonstrations is organized by the Iraq Veterans Against the War (IVAW). Code Pink is also taking part and UFPJ is helping, too.

March 10 and 11 will be "Stop Loss Congress" days to highlight the military practice of keeping soldiers on tour duty past the time they would otherwise go home. So why shouldn't Congress stay in Washington DC during their spring break.

March 12 to 15 will be their Winter Soldier Investigation. They will be using the entire campus (of which college?) at Silver Springs, MD to hold their investigation and have a line-stream video all four days. They hope to air these videos all across the USA using indy media and utube. There are a coalition of veterans and peace groups working on this.

March 19th, there will be a big UFPJ National direct action demo in DC with actions happening at Blackwater, CACI, Bechtel, the Pentagon, Lockheed Martin, etc.

Leslie Cagan et al. encourage as many people as possible to come to DC.

For more information, contact Bill Perry at bpVetforPeace@aol.com or call him at (215) 945-3350.

MARCH 19 in the Delaware Valley:

The Coalition for Peace Action is planning a "Call to a Moratorium" in Trenton and the surrounding New Jersey area. There will be a one-hour rally from Noon to 1 p.m. at the State House (to get lots of press coverage), a Teach Out in the afternoon (go out to all sorts of locations and educate people) and a one-hour vigil at Congressional offices from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

We can piggy-back on these ideas in thinking about what each of our groups wants to do on this important 5-year mark of the disaster the Iraq War has been. This led to a lively brainstorm.

Send off folks who are going to DC and invite the press, go to bridges and convert them into bridges for peace, hold a peace convention, have each group be responsible for a teach-out, invite Tom Cronin, do things with high schools, have a post card campaign, bring in a historical perspective, tie-in the cost of mercenary contractors, advertise the 800 number folks can use to call their congressperson, get involved with union labor, contact Kathy Black and John Braxton to gain access to unions, have a very short

program or none at all, get out and talk with people, be silent, do something legislative, visit congress offices, focus on the economic cost of the war. Finally, a great idea: Call this the Iraq Recession!

AGREED: Each of us will go back to our groups, and think with them about plans for March 19th. We will report back next week at a meeting that will focus on our plans for this day. In addition to having a lot of decentralized activities, we want to have some unified elements.

NEXT MEETING:

Monday, February 4, 2008: WILPF office, 1213 Race St., 6:30 p.m. We will focus on plans for March 19.

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