



Veterans for Peace Chapter 27

Minutes of the Meeting 10 October 2004, VAMC, Fort Snelling, MN

Members Present: John Varone, Todd Erickson, Tom Chisholm, Harold and Louise Nielsen, Kim Doss Smith, Vern Hall, Jim Steinhagen, Steve McKeown and Pat Downing.

John Varone called the meeting to order at 1815 hours.

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Varone, Todd Erickson, Tom Chisholm, Harold and Louise Nielsen, Kim Doss Smith, Vern Hall, Jim Steinhagen, Steve McKeown and Pat Downing.

SEPTEMBER MINUTES

Please read them on the web site: twincitiesvfp27.org. There were no comments. They have not been mailed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The VP was certified to write checks when the treasurer is not available. Wayne Wittman was attending the NVFP meeting with Barry Riesch and Bob Heberle. No report.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Pres. Varone distributed copies of the Chapter 27 Annual Report. Some of the highlights include, education regarding our political philosophy, media activism, broader participation by our members, interfacing with the public at the canoe venues, improving the office space and efficiency, the budget, grants and fund raising. See the website for the entire report.

John and many others greeted Mr. Bush in Chanhassen on Saturday, 8 October. The Coffin and John caught Secret Service attention.

John and his wife will be taking part in a counter recruitment day at Chaska High School on 25 October. Do you know that failure to register for the armed services for those 18-25 is a felony with a price of five years in confinement or \$25,000.00

The president desires a detailed, quarterly report of speakers activities.

An Independent Media Fair is scheduled for October 15th in St. Louis Park. The theme is "Take Back the Media".

VFP is cosponsoring a seminar on anti recruitment and conscientious objection. Kim Doss Smith is one of the directors of the conference. It will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church January 25th, 2005. Cost, \$25.00. Look for more information on the website.

STAFF REPORT

Joe, Shiloh, Kim and Chante run the office. Shiloh will be attending a Grant Writing Class at St. Thomas University, October 22nd. Expertise in this critical skill is imperative. Meanwhile she is learning Quickbooks for improving our fiscal accounting with funds provided by the Grant, Winds of Peace.

NVFP: See recent newsletter. If you do not receive the newsletter, you may not have paid your national dues.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SOA

The bus is full for the protest on 19-20 November at Ft. Benning but you are encouraged to drive, fly or hitchhike. Please note that a higher court recently reversed a lower court decision sustaining mandatory inspection of protesters at Ft. Benning with metal detectors.

Father Roy Bourgeois is speaking as these minutes are been prepared at the Newman Center, St. Lawrence Church, 12 October and Thursday 13 October at Augsburg College.

NEWSLETTER

Mailing Date for this quarter is 28 October. 2600 copies are mailed. Mr. Nielsen suggested ads, like those in the NVFP newsletter, be placed in our newsletter. Space must be provided. An attempt will be made to include ads in the next issue. Another effort to raise revenue.

SPEAKERS BUREAU

No report.

FUND RAISING AND CANOE

The canoe was present at a recent St. an Anthony Village Fair and was displayed in Red Wing on Sunday 10 October. Only one day this year in Red Wing. Joe Johnson will arrange additional venues. The Calhoun Square venue, so valuable the past two years has not been approved by the new owners. Help us find new outlets across the region and state. Peace must be preached and we need income to support our office and newsletter.

NEW BUSINESS

The Armistice Day Program is being planned. It will be on the State Capital Mall. Wayne Wittman is making the arrangements. Watch the website and plan to attend.

Special notice to all members: We will have a Christmas Party at St. Martin's Table on Saturday 11 December at 1900 hours. Bring pot luck, music and instruments. Meet and greet other members of this unusual and dynamic Peace organization. Will the Prince of Peace in whose name all Christmas celebrations are observed, and in whose name our president ends his homilies to the nation, be manifest in this United States?

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Varone gaveled the meeting closed at 1950 hours
— a record.