

Delaware County Wage Peace & Justice General Mtg February, 2007

In attendance: Clarissa Rogers, Sue Edwards, Robin Lasersohn, Richard Tut Carter, Melanie Ramsey, Paul Bilhys, Marylou O'Connor, Judith Trustone, Elizabeth Elles, Ceeley, Candy McCabe, Robin Harper, Terry Rumsey, Don Dix, Rich Gardner

Welcome (Terry Rumsey & Don Dix)

Introductions

Introduce Clarissa Rogers, new Delco WP&J Administrative Assistant

Clarissa will take notes

Volunteer to keep time

Discussion on Iran

Reading of **talking points** from Phyllis **Bennis** from Institute for Policy Studies

http://www.tniarchives.org/detail_page.phtml?act_id=16269&username=guest@tni.org&password=9999&publish=Y&username=guest@tni.org&password=9999&groups=TNI&lang=en

General discussion (not policy development) points:

- Alexander Coburn offers additional perspective
- Democrats are not taking a stance
- This issue is not on the mainstream radar
- There is a Quaker & Mennonite delegation including Philadelphians in Iran now, we can get information from them on their return, and perhaps host a related event
- We can sponsor a speaker on Iran
- Should we approach Sestack to open a dialog on Iran?

This discussion is our first step toward working on an Iran policy. This work will continue at subsequent meetings.

Convening Committee Nomination (Robin Lasersohn)

Elizabeth Ellis is nominated, there is consensus on the nomination, and Elizabeth accepts.

Update March 17 County Wide Vigil for Peace (Terry Rumsey, Iraq Working Group)

Flyers are distributed

Theme: Bring the troops home

- Vigil for 75 minutes at 20 key intersections across Delaware County, we are encouraging groups to sign up to be responsible for specific intersections
- Meet afterward at Peace Center for warm drinks, de-briefing and fellowship
- Organizing Meeting Monday, Feb at 7:30pm, Peace Center
- March 1st Media Training

- Bring your own signs, Most sign will reflect themes but people are free to bring other signs too
- It might be helpful use a color to unify the visuals—dressing in the same color (the weather might be problematic), wearing armbands, having balloons
- Discussion of tone—a somber tone appropriate for mourning has been proposed, concerns are raised about the strategic outreach value of this
- Suggestion to use pictures of soldiers who have been killed
- Concern about how this will affect their families
- It is agreed that the organizing group on Monday is entrusted to make these decisions. The Monday meeting is open and anyone who desires may participate in the meeting and decision-making and are warmly encouraged to do so.

50X50 Campaign (*Terry Rumsey*)

We met our financial goal and need just 2 donors to meet our numerical goal

Pass the hat to pay for the organizing

March 3rd Youth Outreach (*Melanie Rumsey, Youth Outreach Working Group*)

Words of Mass Construction. Youth outreach event with two local bands at the Garden Church in Lansdowne. Proposed date March 3, but may be moved until after the vigil. NOTE the event has since occurred

Update on Diversity Outreach Working Group (*Sue Edwards*) Diversity Committee consulted with a colleague about making March 17th event as inclusive as possible

Everyone brainstorm diverse groups to contact and invite to participate

Position Statement on Iraq War (Robin Lasersohn)

The original statement needed re-visiting as it was originally formulated years ago. Robin distributed a draft statement that she synthesized from dialog at the January, 2007 meeting. Editing will be done based on feedback at this meeting. Consensus was reached on some of the edits: striking the term redeployment, keeping the statement to one page. We can use the edited version on March 17, but we will continue working on this document.

Watada Update

Info can be found at thankyoult.org

A mistrial was declared and some charges dropped

Announcements

Visit prawnworks.net for anti-war information

March is Delaware Valley Justice Month— Judith distributes informational booklet listing events

April 1st Rally to amend the 13th amendment (that allows slavery in prison)

5th Annual Peace Festival Saturday, May 12 2007 2-5 Peace Center

free tabling and vending with your own table, or rent a table at cost

