

**Broome County Peace Action
Minutes of Meeting, February 9, 2009
Unitarian Universalist Congregation
Binghamton, New York**

- 1 The meeting was opened at 7:05 pm by President Ann Clune**
- 2 Present:**
 - 2.1 **Board Members:** Sue McAnanama, Stephen Schweitzer, Len Bjorkman, Dave Duncan, Jim Clune, Ann Clune, Dick McLean, Heda Libby, George Haeseler, Joyce Donahue, Herb Bix, Tarik Abdelazim, Jane DeHawkhurst
 - 2.2 **Members at large:** Jennifer Hyman
- 3 Approve Minutes from January meeting**
 - 3.1 The minutes were approved as e-mailed and posted at bcpeaceaction.org
- 4 Treasurer's Report – Pat Creighton.**
 - 4.1 Balances: The balances are: BCPA – \$2,434.92; BCNWRC – \$440.98; STPMF -- \$7,621.24.
- 5 Committee reports**
 - 5.1 **Israel-Palestine committee** – report by Jim Clune.
 - 5.1.1 Jim made a motion to support the Cairo declaration (see email from Jim). Passed unanimously. Boycott companies such as Motorola, Caterpillar, cosmetics from Dead Sea, lingerie, Starbucks, NY Mets.
 - 5.1.2 Len Bjorkman gave a report on the Friends committee on National Legislation (FCNL). They have a website that monitors votes by Congressional reps. He made a suggestion to go to the FCNL website and thank Hinchey for signing a letter to end the siege in Gaza. Also the committee is evaluating the Kairos document (which calls for continuing the resistance, and affirming non-violence) and will make a fuller recommendation at our next meeting.
 - 5.1.3 The next Israel-Palestine meeting is Monday, Feb. 15th.
 - 5.2 **Cost of War committee-** report by Tarik Abdelazim
 - 5.2.1 Committee recommends purchase by an ad hoc committee of an LED COUNTER to be affixed to City Hall with information on the ACTUAL DOLLARS SPENT on war since 2001. The sign can be programmed with other information, and updated easily. The national priorities project has been contacted for providing this.
 - 5.2.2 The cost is approx. \$6,000, which will be raised with private donations, and will NOT belong to the city of Binghamton.
 - 5.2.3 MOTION made by Len Bjorkman that the BCNWRC approve this and all checks for this project be made payable to BCNWRC. Seconded by Dave Duncan, and approved unanimously.
 - 5.2.4 MOTION by Len Bjorkman. for BC Peace Action to contribute \$500 toward this project, seconded by George Haeseler. and approved unanimously. Money to cover checks be moved between accounts.
 - 5.2.5 MOTION from George Haeseler. to move \$300 from BCPA to BCNWRC to cover check was made, seconded, and approved
 - 5.2.6 MOTION by Tarik to move \$1000 to BCNWRC was made and seconded by Len as a LOAN to cover the cost of the deposit needed – approved unanimously.
 - 5.2.7 MOTION – made by Len Bjorkman and seconded by Herb Bix to give the

committee \$100 to publicize the installation of this sign locally. Passed. A suggestion to unveil the sign on or around TAX day, and not March 19th was enthusiastically supported by committee.

The next meeting of the cost of war committee will be March 4th at 5pm.

5.3 Membership Committee

5.3.1 Susan will prepare a sample outreach letter for sending sometime in April, asking our many supporters to join PA, and including info about the cost of war sign.

5.3.2 Susan will attend the PANYS conference in NYC on Feb, 20th, and report back next month

5.4 **Update** will be mailed on Sunday and features a front page article about Cindy Sheehan and her upcoming visit on April 8.

5.5 **Tasini Debate Committee** -Young Democrats will possibly sponsor this at BU

6 New Business

6.1 MOTION made by Len Bjorkman , seconded by Tarik, to donate \$75.00 to Center for Conscience and War and \$75.00 to CCC Objection. Motion passed with three abstentions

6.2 MOTION made by Tarik Abdelazim that BCPA donate \$50.00, seconded by Joyce, to the American Civic Association memorial. After much discussion, Len made a friendly amendment to change it to \$100 with him contributing \$50. This motion passed, with two opposed.

6.3 MOTION made by Jim Clune, seconded by George Haeseler for BCPA to co-sponsor Cindy Sheehan's visit to Southern Tier. Approved unanimously

6.4 MOTION to donate \$500 for Cindy Sheehan, made by Jim Clune. Seconded. Discussion involved friendly amendment by Len Bjorkman, and Board approved \$200

6.5 George Haeseler brought up a request by PANYS for email addresses of our members. Group discussed pros and cons. Motion made by George Haeseler, seconded by Stephen Schweitzer, to not send our list of email address to PANYS, but instead inform Cheryl that all notices be sent to our state liaison, Susan McAnanama, and she will use her best judgment to forward those that are important. In future, Len suggested we ask for opt in and if members want to get emails, they could. Motion was passed with one abstention.

6.6 George Haeseler. is the speaker for March meeting. Topic: "How Peace Action should change."

6.7 There will be no speaker at April meeting, but will have a pot luck, and a friendly conversation about the impact of Cindy's words and work.

6.8 Speaker for the May meeting will be discussed next month.

6.9 Through conversation and consensus it was agreed to start our business meeting at 6:45pm, and the speaker at 8pm. This should give us time for all necessary re-arrangements of space.

7 Honorariums and speakers

7.1 Motion by George Haeseler and seconded by Dave Duncan that no money shall be paid to local speakers. Passed, with 3 abstentions.

7.2 Motion by George Haeseler, seconded by Dave Duncan, that the amount of the honorarium be decided before a decision is made to bring in speaker, and that decision be made in a private board setting. This was discussed, and we decided, without a vote, to be flexible in the implementation.

7.3 Publicity for speakers. Alan Jones will post on web, and Stephen volunteered to get info about all public meetings to the world via all media opportunities.

8 Announcements

Herb Bix will be speaking at BU on Feb. 18th. See email for details.

9 Adjournment at 9:13 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Susan McAnanama for secretary Alan Jones