

Minutes

Veterans For Peace, Chapter #027

16 September 2016

President Dave Logsdon called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. (“as our custom” late, he noted) and asked Richard to read our Statement of Purpose. Everyone observed a moment of silence, then Dave mentioned John Sherman in the Health Updates period and, as Charlie entered the meeting, noted he would not talk about Charlie. Then check-ins began.

In attendance were: Ron Staff, James C. Brown, Penelope M. Gardner, Dave Logsdon, Dick Foley, Steve Archerd, Richard Reisdorf, Coleen Rowley, Georganne Kramer, Larry Johnson, Bruce Berry, Mike Madden, Robin Monahan, Rebecca Lucas, Steve McKeown, Sharon Haire, Veran Hall and Charlie Bloss.

August Minutes were approved as presented following Mike's motion and Bruce's second.

Treasurer's Report was deferred as John Varone was not present. Dave said we could “rest assured that we have money on hand.”

Dave moved us to Committee Reports. Since Barry Riesch was not available as he and Craig Wood were currently on their way back from the Dakota Access pipeline protest on the Cannon Ball River near the pipeline site in south central North Dakota.

The Education Committee found Larry told of attending the Minnesota Humanities Center celebration of veterans voices with their annual awards. Larry also reported on the Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers “Leslie Reindel Peace Essay Contest” running again this year for Minnesota high school juniors and seniors. He mentioned that Jim Northrup was one of the awardees for the Minnesota Humanities Center “Veteran Voices Awards Ceremony,” as well as couple of other veterans he knew well. Also mentioned was a Cedar Riverside story telling event. Steve said he would report at the next meeting about articles promoting the Kellogg Briand Pact which is coming soon. Coleen said she would get more information about social studies teacher meetings scheduled to occur in the near future, as a potential venue for engaging our speakers.

Coleen then segued to reporting about the speaking engagement November 10 at Hamline University by Colonel Lawrence Wilkerson, former chief of staff to General Colin Powell, and Reverend Chris Antal, a former Army chaplain who resigned his commission over United States drone policy. That evening there will be an “Interfaith Service of Lamentation and Hope” from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at First Unitarian Society, 900 Mount Curve, Minneapolis with the same two speakers. Mike moved and Vern seconded that the chapter co-sponsor both events. This motion passed.

The Communications Committee brought the minutes of their meeting September 7. The committee motion brought to the chapter is “A request will be made to Greg Hagen to post approved minutes and treasurers report to the website. If this can be accomplished we will send one final Member Letter (ML) mailing directing people to the website with an option for continued mailing if specifically requested.” This motion was approved by the chapter. Getting funds to Greg for these efforts was mentioned and Steve responded that he would personally oppose that unless it included funds for the

editor of our newsletter, Frank Fuller, who has worked gratis for years.

The School of the America's Watch (SOA) has become the Convergence meeting at Nogales, Arizona, 7-10 November. It looks like a few local members are planning on making the trip.

During discussion of Direct Action, Bruce moved and Steve seconded that we donate \$200.00 in supplies to the Dakota Assess pipeline protest. This motion passed with one nay vote.

Then Steve moved and Mike seconded that we spend \$200.00 on a "Convergence Ad" with Wayne's picture in support of that effort. It passed.

Dave said the Bus Committee would have a report at the next meeting.

In the course of Arts Committee discussion and reporting that our chapter and Women Against Military Madness shared the cost of the peace pole, it was suggested that we offer to rededicate the peace pole at the State Fair grounds on August 27 next year on the occasion of Kellogg Briand Pact anniversary (a possible public event reaching out to the non-informed).

The Convention Committee report opened with Dave noting that a few members took the lite rail to the purposed hotel and looked around. The current thinking is that the 2018 convention would go from August 24 to 27 or 28 so as to include the Kellogg Briand pact anniversary. When Barry is back at the next month's meeting, the committee will have a more complete report.

The Canoe Raffle drawing is 9-17-2016, here and will include memorial time for Jim Northrup's death on August 1. The drawing will be at 7:00 p.m. after a meal. Mike moved that the chapter a lot \$130.00 for this food. Larry seconded and this motion passed.

Under New Business, Armistice Day events multiply. Brit's Pub, St. Catherines, our bell ringing, Mankato's three events (a morning bell ringing at 11:00 a.m., peace pole dedication and evening literary event; "Good Thunder...Reading Series 2016-2017").

Dave reports there are still openings for the Fall Retreat at \$50.00 each.

Bringing the Drone Quilt Project to town again did not seem to have any takers for facilitating locations.

The Larry Wilkerson, Chris Antal engagements on November 10 have already been sponsored by this group, today.

The International Day of Peace includes film showings and the World Beyond War Peace Conference will be live streamed.

Mike moved and Vern seconded adjournment, which happened.

Ron Staff, Secretary