President Dave Logsdon called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and read the statement of purpose himself with special emphasis.

A brief review of the health updates of current and former members included Dave’s report of a short phone conversation he'd had with Charlie Bloss; so he's OK even if not in attendance. Apparently Jim Steinhagen was spotted but has a regular "family dinner" at this time of the week.

Ron rang a chime to open and close a moment of silence at Dave's request.

In attendance were: Ron Staff, Bruce Berry, Dave Logsdon, Craig Wood, Wayne Wlttman and Barry Riesch. Vernon Hall, Steve McKeown, Steve Gates, Mary McNelis and Mike Madden were late but present.

Dave called for the approval of the June Minutes as circulated. Barry, "so moved," and Vernon seconded. The motion passed by voice vote.

Wayne presented the Treasurer’s Report and moved it's approval. Ron seconded and this motion passed by voice vote. In response to Wayne's note that the chapter has been paying $110.00 per month to an insurance company for no apparent reason, Ron moved that the payment cease until we get an explanation from the company as to the need for the insurance. Craig seconded and this motion passed by voice vote. Wayne then moved that the chapter send in the annual, required report to the Attorney General's office. Ron seconded and this motion, too, passed by voice vote.

The agenda moved on to committee reports. Barry gave the Membership Committee report about their meeting on June 24 in the office at 4:30 p.m. He said that a "new member" letter had been prepared to go out to these folks as they begin their involvement with us. Dave suggested that the committee contact the national organization about how Ralph Nader's efforts might be focused in our area. Ron and Vern are allegedly contacting "lapsed members" as to the cause of their absence and if they might yet return to active status (whatever that might be remains to be identified).

Steve McKeown gave the Education Committee report. He referred to Larry's report from July 12, which was passed out with the Agenda. He reiterated Larry's call to spread the word about the Peace Essay contest underway for high school students. He also talked of the letter being prepared for Mayor Hodges trip to the Vatican for presentation to the Pope.

Under the Fundraising Committee Dave noted the fine Canoe Raffle monetary production and talked of at least two more opportunities. The Open Streets event on Lake Street August 2 will go from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in front of the Northern Sun shop where we have been invited to set-up. Another event on the 15th will be near the Seward Cafe. Dave suggested some grant writing efforts might be useful in securing more cash for our efforts.

Craig, reporting for the Communications Committee, told of a conversation he had with Ed Felien of "The Southside Pride." He suggested he would talk more with Mr. Felien about Veterans for Peace. It was noted that today is the day chapter reports are to be turned in to the national for inclusion in that newsletter. Dave committed to getting it in yet today. Bruce Berry asked whether we have or should have a small card with every active member's contact information as he often finds himself searching for the scoop on how to reach people.
Mary reported she would have the per person costs for this November 21’s School of the America’s Watch trip to Fort Benning soon.

Mary also said she would send out the Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers report shortly.

The Direct Action/Strategic Action Committee talked about Barry’s concern with “join the service” ads shown before movies at theaters and moves being made to track down what could be done about this infusion of tax money through the Department of Defense into the entertainment industry. Steve McKeown noted that training to be a participant in two nuclear weapons exhibits coming at the Landmark Center in St. Paul starting the end of August and going into fall will be held on August 19 (check with Steve [612-869-2040] for further details).

Bruce, reporting for the Arts Committee, talked about the 8030 Project to highlight the 22 veteran suicides each day.

Mike noted the Nielsen Funds Committee (NFC) motion "The Nielsen Funds Committee recommends that the bequest be used to purchase a building. The NFC further recommends that our attorney, Ellen Abbott, contact the estate through Harold Nielsen's confidant to determine if a non-traditional building, such as a mobile home, a van, or a bus, qualify as a building." The committee chairman accepted as a friendly amendment "a van, or a bus" as offered by Caig. The Committee motion, seconded by Ron, was voted on by voice vote and passed.

Under New Business Dave noted that the National Convention ad had been sent off.

Luther Seminary’s planned visit to our office this Fall has Larry interested in being involved.

Larry said he is also negotiating to have a major Landmark event planned for August 27th, 2018 hopefully during the national convention in the Twin Cities.

The meeting began to adjourn as Dave and others reviewed, Peace Stock, the River Falls parade, the “Juneteenth” event, the Brainerd Peace Fair, the Gay Pride canoe raffle, tabling and the Entasham Anwar video event, which we helped fund. Some of these events were noted as small, but no action for peace is small. All count.

Dave finally called for an adjournment, Craig seconded and the voice vote passed.

Ron Staff, Sec.
Veterans For Peace Chapter 27
Treasurer’s Report - approved

July 2015

7-1-2015 checking petty cash, and saving $7,004.86

Expenses

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Total expenses 7-2015
$3145.14

Income

Donations
$356.60
Raffle ticket sales
$982.00

Memorials
$575.00

Peacestock tickets
$195.00

Product sales
$20.00

Total
$2,128.60

$7,004.86+income 2,128.60=equals $9,132.46-expenses $3145.14=$5,987.32

Savings+petty+checking=$5,988.32

Nielsen building  fund $10,004.77