

Minutes

Veterans For Peace, Chapter #027

October 14, 2018

Dave called the October meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. Mike MacDonald read the Statement of Purpose.

During health updates Dave opened the discussion by asking Charlie if he was still alive. He chuckled and then the Secretary asked if he was still sucking air. He said, "Ya." Larry reported having seen John Sherman and that Ray is still stopping to see him. Jerry Rau is reportedly still connecting with Ron Germanson.

Dave reported about the 38 Minute Silent Vigil at the Reconciliation Park in Mankato acknowledging the 38 Dakota during Indigenous Peoples Day. Then he asked for our regular moment of silence. He timed it to be 38 seconds.

Dave modeled the check in with his report of our chapter road trip to Mankato and the Pipestone National Monument. Others followed his lead.

In attendance were: Barry Reisch, Charlie Bloss, James E. Brown, John Varone, Larry Johnson, Mike McDonald, Dick Foley, Dave Logsdon, David Severtson, Tom Larsen, Chris Mato Nunpa, Vern Hall, Jeff Roy, Jeanne Stevens, Ron Staff and Craig Wood. SuAnn Martinson arrived later. And Steve McKeown left before the "regular meeting" began.

Jeff moved acceptance of the September Minutes, seconded by Barry, and it was approved by voice vote. Mike Madden did not vote because he was not present for the meeting, so abstained.

John gave the Treasurers Report for August. Tom moved acceptance of this report and it was seconded by Jeff, which was approved.

John then did the report for September. Mike (Mc) moved acceptance of the September Treasurers Report, Mike (Ma) seconded. This motion passed. There was some discussion about how to deal with the treasurers position. Dave had suggested asking SuAnn Martinson to be paid; at which point she showed up to the meeting.

Dave turned the meeting over to David Severtson, who reported about the play, "**Not About Heroes,**" being performed at The Off-Leash Art Box, located at 4200 East 54th Street in Minneapolis. It will be performed mostly in the evening with an afternoon performance on Armistice Day (November 11). He said veterans will be given free admission. A round of applause sent him on his way.

Dave moved the agenda to committee reports. Barry began the Membership Committee report by introducing our newest member, Chris Mato Nunpa, who got another round of applause. Barry told about others who have expressed interest after the National Convention in St. Paul.

Again Dave moved the Agenda to the Education Committee, referring it to Dick. Dick said he's been busy; that he was at Cretin/Durham Hall on September 21, where he spoke to five different classes,

three different teachers. On October 2 he was at St. Paul Johnson where he spoke to six classes in a row of Junior ROTC, which he suggested took “a little schmoozing.” He was at other schools staying engaged with his “anti-recruiter” activities, describing his Vietnam experiences and the ongoing results in his life. He noted how “that peace stuff is a little controversial” in the school systems. Then Mike talked about the forty-five letters he’s mailed to local schools offering our speakers.

Craig reported about taking the Newsletters around with the bus in the southwestern part of the state while getting signatures on the Ban Nuclear Weapons petitions including a stop at Pipestone National Monument. Barry interjected that it is a great “f__ing” Newsletter, which was seconded by Dave. Then Barry reminded everyone to take their 20 copies for distribution at their local coffee shops.

During the Communications Committee discussion, Jeff talked about a new element called the “PR committee” under this heading, with a special mission to “promote events.” Barry clarified that the Communications Committee is mainly him, Lyle and Wade keeping up the website and that this activity is independent from their focus. Barry reminded members to send stuff to him to be put on the website and he will act as the filter of what gets to Wade and then put on the website.

Craig reported on the physical condition of the Bus (Mobile-Peace-Outreach Center) and told of the trip which brought our message and presence to rural communities. Dave expressed pleasure and acknowledged that we often stopped at bars as those were usually the only place in town with people just hanging out. Libraries, too, fit that bill.

Dave moved the agenda to New Business. Dave noted that the Armistice Day agenda is still getting the last bit of mortar into the final ceremonial elements.

Dave brought up that the next meeting is on November 11th. Jeff moved and Sue Ann seconded that we moved the next meeting to November 4 due to the conflict created by Armistice Day landing on our “usual next meeting date.” This motion passed.

Dave sought volunteers to set-up the election of officers ballot for the December meeting. Barry spoke up. He said he would put out an “e-blast” that nominations are open for the four officer positions and that the election would occur at the December meeting.

Dave reported that he and Charlie Bloss would be attending the SOA Watch gathering at Nogales November 15 through 18. He thought this would be the last gathering at Nogales.

Sue Ann is going to a world gathering in Dublin against US and NATO military bases around the world. She noted that she is doing fund raising to get herself to the meeting.

Dave put forward the idea of a yearbook of 2018 activities through VFP, Chapter #027. He wasn’t sure it would need to be done each year. Then Tom suggested binding the newsletters into a book with a few other things including the annual title page.

Chris mentioned some activities he is paying attention to; resistance to line #3, the North Dakota action to required “street addresses” on identification cards to make them acceptable as voter identification (disenfranchising many native American reservation people), more than 89 locations switching to Indigenous People’s Day as well as how money flows when things don’t go right or go right from the wrong point of view, and so on.

Then Mike McDonald moved and Tom seconded that VFP, Chptr #027 participate in Give To The Max Day, November 15. This motion passed.

There was a motion to adjourn, which everyone agreed to observe.

Ron Staff
Secretary