

MAPJ Board Meeting – August 21, 2008

Present: Jon Tveite, acting chair of meeting, Greg Covington, John Exdell, Sam Lacy, Christopher Renner, Anne Cowan. Carol joined the meeting toward the end.

Minutes: Approved with one change to wording of the ‘advocacy’ discussion. Should have read: ‘Covington would like to see a wider distribution to and interaction with all Kansas Congressional representatives and Senators.

Treasurer’s report: Total in all accounts = \$23253.30

GI Rights project now has its own checking account the their money is no longer mingled with MAPJ.

The budget as planned and spent so far this year was distributed and discussed.

Program: John Exdell and Jeff Stilley are working on the Ray McGovern program for Oct 7. John has had problems getting responses from possible co-sponsors and opportunities for speaker presentations. Greg offered to help. He and John will work together contacting various churches for possible presentations. John has not had any confirmation from SGA as far as financial support. He will be contacting Jeff about this. MAPJ plans to put \$500 toward this program.

There was some discussion of changing the event date although it has already been announced in our newsletter. Concern is that Monday, Oct 6 is a student holiday and may decrease the attendance at a Tuesday event.

John is working with Rita Ross at the high school for McGovern speaking in high school classes.

Greg suggested contacting veterans groups. He was asked to do that.

Newsletter: MAPJ has no newsletter editor yet. It is hoped that the new, as yet not hired staff person, will take on the coordination of the newsletter.

Meanwhile Anne will ask Terrie Clark if she will once again step in for the September newsletter. Renner offered to do layout again.

Decided that the mailing date should be Sept 25. This could change if McGovern event date is changed.

Suggested that we have more newsletter information about Iraq, Afghanistan, Georgia etc in the next newsletter. Also suggested that we could put in a box with war stats – casualties, costs. Carol suggested that

Greg create a listing of resources, websites etc be listed in boxes near an issue article.

Movies on the Grass: We need to recruit 6-8 to help with the film and setting up the screen for the film on Sept 21 when MAPJ is the film sponsor. Jon will send out a request with specific needs listed.

Heartland Speaks: MAPJ needs to promote this event. Jon will work up a half sheet/double-sided? flier for us to hand out. Will include a registration form. Each board member and others could have a few copies to hand out.

Committee Structure:

The Political Action Committee was discussed at length. The committee does not really exist. John approached several people to be members and all declined. There was discussion of the effectiveness of contacting Rep Boyda. Several felt that it was not worth the effort and all expressed dissatisfaction with her record. Since the committee is not functioning now, it was decided that we should wait until Jan, see who is elected and organize a committee to deal with that person. It was suggested that we need someone to follow important bills about to be voted on so we can be sure to have timely input. Others felt the important tactic is to have face to face discussion with our reps. For now there is not the person time or energy to work on this.

General lack of committee structures was discussed. How to best develop this structure is not clear. We have tried and failed over a period of time. It was felt that if this became a priority that we could accomplish it, using various tactics to break down the projects and committees into smaller tasks and timelines.

Fundraising: A letter has been written by Anne and Terrie Clark. Board instructed Anne to go ahead, adjust the letter and do a mailing. It was decided that we do not have to have separate letters for past donors and past non-donors. This will greatly facilitate a mailing.

Chuck Fager, director of a large GI Rights hotline will be meeting with our local hotline project in October. It was discussed about having him present something to the general membership at a potluck when he is here, Oct 6.

It was noted that this is a KSU student holiday and is the evening prior to the McGovern event. Decided that this would not be worth the effort and would interfere with turnout for McGovern.

Tabling: Decided to have a table for MAPJ at the Campaign for Nonviolence event at the K-State Union. Wednesday, Sept 10. Jon and Anne can sit at the table. Jon will put out a request for others. Will have the MAPJ flier and newsletters to distribute. Possibly something from GI Rights, t-shirts and signs. Carol will contact organizers with our wish for a table.

Funding: Decided to fund a speaker for the anti-NBAF speaker with \$200. The event has not been finalized. Will send check when speaker and date is set. Anne will contact Sylvia Beeman.

Decided to fund the Dorothy Thompson Civil Rights Lecture series with \$200. The topic this year is racial intolerance and racial profiling.

Decided to fund a request from the Network for Spiritual Progressives at KSU with \$200, to go toward Dr. Margaret Gonslaves speaking on the empowerment of women.

Next Board meeting is September 18.