

The MAPJ board met on December 29th, 2008 at the Manhattan Mennonite Church. Members present were Chair Carol Barta, Vice-Chair Jon Tveity, Treasurer Anne Cowan, Greg Covington, Bill Dorsett, John Exdel, Alley Stoughton, Christopher Renner (via phone) and Victor Force MAPJ coordinator.

Additions were made to the agenda.
Minutes were approved.

Reports:

Treasurer Anne Cowan reported a balance of \$23,256.01; bills were paid up to one week ago.

Program- Bill suggested that we need to challenge the assumption of moving troops from Iraq to Afghanistan. He suggested that the speaker Robert Baer would be a good person to help us with this. Renner suggested that concerns should be more local e.g. Coal fired power plants. Exdel suggested that we need to talk with Lynn Jenkins about issues surrounding health care. Exdel also raised the concern of General Myers being listed as one of several being responsible for torture by the U.S. government since Myers is working as a paid employee at Kansas State University, and has a building at K-State named after him. Exdel will write an op-ed piece about this and the board expressed a desire to see if K-State students might want to take the issue of Myers as an employee at KSU on as a project.

Campus- No report

Ongoing Business:

Newsletter- Anne reported the need for a newsletter content meeting scheduled for January 6th at her home at 7:00 p.m. The newsletter will come out in January.

Spring speaker: The board wondered if we should get some one to speak on NBATH. Carol will contact Tom Manning and see if we should be working in concert with the local organization. Exdel suggested Robert Baer as a speaker. Bill will see if he can come and speak on either Feb. 23rd, 24th, or March 2nd or 3rd. If not we may only have the fall speaker and the annual meeting speaker this year.

Annual Meeting: Renner reported that Susanne Pharr is available the 1st week of April, 2009. Her cost is \$1,200-\$1,500 plus travel. She is willing to speak at our annual meeting plus put on one workshop. Renner is to secure Pharr for our annual meeting speaker and the annual meeting was set for April 4th at 6:30 p.m.

G I Rights- Cowan reported that the local phone number is now up and working. Information about the GI Rights organization will be distributed to local churches and social workers. Victor will distribute information at the Ministerial Alliance meetings, Jon T. will distribute pamphlets on campus, Greg will take pamphlets to local laundry mats, Alley suggested that Anne check into sharing information with the campus 'Safe-zone' organization.

Radio- Renner reported that they are applying for an NTIA grant worth \$400,000. He also reported that they needed to raise \$100,000 by September 2009. From January through March the radio committee will go out into the community to raise public awareness. It will officially be called the Fling Hills Community Radio. They have three years to get the station built. The engineer bill came Anne has paid our portion. What is left over from our promise of \$2,000 will go to the radio station.

Renner will write a story about the radio station for the newsletter. Renner reported that businesses in Manhattan, Wamego and Junction City will need to be educated about becoming underwriters.

New Business:

Community Fair at the Mall- Cowan brought up that there will be a community Fair at the Manhattan Town Center on 2/7. She asked if we should participate. After discussion the board decided that we will participate; as it is a good time to give out information about the GI Rights program. We will need access to electricity in order to play the recruitment tape on the television.

“War Within” Exhibit- The ‘War Within’ is an exhibit about GI suicide; the boots of soldiers including 13 from Kansas are on display. The board discussed the idea of bringing the exhibition to K-State. Carol will check to see how big the exhibit is and the cost of bringing it to Manhattan. Renner agreed to talk to Ben Hopper and the Union Program Counsel. Jon will check on the availability of the Union.

Resist grant- Cowan asked the Board for suggestion on what we have done this past year. The Board suggested our significant successes this past year. Victor will email Cowan statistics from Ray McGovern’s visit.

Due to the lateness of the night, the budget was tabled. A separate meeting was scheduled for January 5th, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Church, for the purpose of setting up the next year’s budget. The nominating committee will meet following that with the hopes of adding three more people to the board.

Leadership Change- Carol announced that the December meeting was her last meeting to chair. Jon T. was asked to take over as the vice-chair and agreed to do so if no one else wanted to do it. With no volunteers, Jon T. will assume the role of Chair at the January meeting. Carol will write up a job description for the chair’s job.

Pastors for Peace-will take place in early July. Glenda Philips will help with this.

Sister City- It was reported that elections in El Salvador are coming up with municipal elections taking place in January and the Presidential election taking place in March. Advocacy work needs to take place against a Canadian Mining company. 150 soldiers are occupying the sister city as a means of intimidation.

NBAF- The question was asked if MAPJ should hold a position on this. John E. and Bill will coordinate this.

Respectfully submitted,
Victor Force