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Resist Steering Committee Meeting, Mar. 21, 1982

Resist

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Resistance to many forms of illegitimate authority is necessary to bring health to this country and make it a constructive force instead of a terror in the politics of nations.

—from A Call to Resist Illegitimate Authority

MINUTES OF MARCH 21, 1982 MEETING

Present were Frank B., Dorothy, Amanda, Kate, Louis, Wayne, Ken and Grace.

The first order of business was to welcome new board member PAM CHAMBERLAIN. A former Girl Scout, Pam is a founding member of Women Opposed to Registration and the Draft. She is a resident of Cambridge, MA and counsels students in their rights at her job at the Dept. of Education. She has been active recently in the Women's/Gay Caucus of SSD. Frank B. suggested Pam's name at the last meeting, and Kate and Louis were constituted as the interview committee. Pam was formerly invited to join the Resist board by all present and accepted by the end of the meeting.

We made ten grants totalling $2100.00, six rejections and no postponements.

Grants:

1. Black and Proud Liberation Elementary School (MS) -- $200.00 for plumbing.

2. No Nuclear News (Cambridge, MA) -- $200.00 for their expansion campaign plus advice from Amanda.

3. VVAW (Chicago) -- $300.00 towards their Downey Canyon IV campaign.

4. Invert (ME) -- $250.00 towards restoring and transporting a used press.

5. NY March 27th Coalition -- $300.00 for the March 27th action.

6. RI March 27th Coalition -- a token support grant of $100.00. They were apparently less in need than #6.

7. Indochina Newsletter (MA) -- $200.00 to increase subscriber base.

8. City Life (MA) -- This one was left over from the last meeting. We did some checking as to exactly what their program is now and were well satisfied. They received $200.00 for general support.

9. WRL -- West (CA) -- This was another left-over. Praise is high for the woman who conceived and is carrying out this travelling fundraising workshop, and as WRL chapters do not generally have the opportunity to get together for conferences of the like, this seemed like an efficent use of funds.

14. Kalamazoo Vets -- Further checking after last month's meeting confirmed our initial good opinion of this group. $150.00.
March 21, 1982 Meeting -- Continued

Rejections:

2. Recon (PA) -- Although the project initially seemed a good one, upon closer examination we found that the articles were too simplistic for left papers and not basic enough for community papers. A good idea, but poor execution.

8. One Step At A Time documentary (Camb., MA) -- Dorothy said it in the initial packet, "expensive, one-person project."

9. PAHN (PA) -- Although we had good reports on the individuals involved, the organization's work did not seem to be a priority.

10. Disabled Lesbians (NY) -- We received a similar request last year and refused that and this one for the same reason: other women's studies conferences manage to raise their own funds, this one should too. It's commendable for a conference to focus on the rights and needs of disabled women, but it must put its money where its politics are and support the work needed financially. We decided to write the Disabled Lesbians a sympathetic letter offering to express our differences with the sponsoring organization if they thought it would be helpful.

12. MPAC (MA) -- They have to get liberal money for their liberal mailing.

16. New Liberty (PA) -- This was another leftover. Further checking revealed this to be a good, committed group of people. But unfortunately film is never a Resist priority. We will suggest that they try the Film Fund and the Philadelphia War Tax fund.

17. Peace and Justice Coalition (SF) -- This was a late arrival and not included in the number of rejections above. In addition to having questions about the correctness of this group's politics, we felt that it was silly for Resist to fund a Bay-area rally which had attracted so many sponsoring organizations and individuals. There is no lack of funds in SF, and they will have to attract them.

Other issues: Frank has been laid off for lack of work, but will continue to do some work at home until he moves to Philly the end of the month. Dorothy has resigned for personal reasons and this will be explained more fully at the next meeting which is tentatively scheduled for April 18, 1982. This is a SUNDAY. The meeting may be at Louis's if his remodeling is completed. We'll keep you posted as to the details. We are now in the process of looking for another staffperson to work 30-40 hours per week. Louis and Kate will be taking turns attending the weekly staff meetings for the foreseeable future to help with transition/hiring and establishing good staff/board relations. Thanks to them and to the rest of the board for their caring and involvement during the past several months.

For the meeting,

Amanda Claiborne
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March 19, 1982

Latest grant requests (received by March 12):

9. PAHN (PA) -- $500 toward conference materials for April 3.
10. Disabled Lesbians (NY) -- $490 for Women's Studies Conference.
11. Indochina Newsletter (MA) -- $200 to increase mailing list.
12. MPAC (MA) -- $200-250 for mailing to 3000 liberals.

Reconsiderations from last meeting:

13. City Life(MA)-- $500 for Leadership Training Program.
14. WRL West --
15. Kalamazoo Vets -- verbal updates
16. New Liberty (PA) --