Resist Board Meeting Minutes

5-3-1987

Resist Board Meeting, May 3, 1987

Resist

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A call to RESIST illegitimate authority

One Summer Street, Somerville, Massachusetts 02143
617/623-5110

Board Meeting - May 3, 1987 - 11am
Tess Ewing's house
104 Auburn St.
Cambridge, MA 02139 Tel.(617)661-2064

AGENDA

* Board Outreach Committee Report
* Community Building Corporation - update
* Newsletter
* Resist 20th Anniversary Committee - report
* Office - finances and miscellaneous

GRANT REQUESTS

Community Organizing

1) Coalition for Community Control & Development (Boston, MA) - $600 requested to cover printing and mailing expenses for outreach efforts.

2) Another Voice (Roxbury, MA) - $600 request for monthly newsletter as an organizing tool to households in Highland Park area.

3) Metro Ministry (Springfield, OH) - they're asking for $330 for subsidy for a month for person to help in community organizing and in fund raising.

4) The Learning Alliance (NYC) - $600 requested for outreach and development of their Community Education & Action Project

5) Citizen Clearinghouse for Hazardous Wastes (Arlington, VA) - Request of $500 for stipends for field organizers for work in Louisiana and West Virginia.

6) Oklahoma Client Council (Oklahoma City) - $600 requested for typewriter. Postponed from March meeting - we needed more info on their position on reproductive/abortion rights and also references. Info from them in packet.

Peace/Anti-militarist Work

7) CCCO/Choice or Chance (San Francisco, CA) - Request of $600
to help pay salary of producer of slide show.

8) Delaware County Jobs with Peace Campaign (PA) - $500 requested to produce and distribute their newsletter.

9) Resource Center for Non Violent Jewish Action (Medford, MA) - they're asking for $600 office expenses for tour organizing April 24th on.

10) Bienville House (Baton Rouge, LA) - $600 requested for costs of repair of computer printer and the purchase of a xerox machine.

11) Coalition to Stop Trident (New Haven, CT) - Request of $600 to purchase typewriter, copier and answering machine to be used in organizing 2 actions at Trident facilities in CT and RI in Fall of 1987.

12) Youth Against Militarism (Cinci., OH) - $600 requested for expenses of 2 day youth leadership development conference.

13) War Resisters' League, New England (Norwich, CT) - Requesting $600 for mailing costs of their Stop War Toys Campaign.

14) Nukewatch (Madison, WI) - $600 asked for to help defray organizing and operations costs of June 19-28th Missile Silo Peace School in North Dakota.

15) Refuse & Resist (NYC) - Request of $500 toward costs of national mailing on conference, June 5-7, and on organization.

Central America Work

16) Central America Research Institute (Berkeley, CA) - $600 requested to cover costs of re-newing subscriptions for their resource library.

17) Lower East Side/Barrio Nueva York Sister City Project (NYC) - they're asking for $300 for expenses of potluck supper and public meeting on March 18 (??) I've asked them for update and why they need $$ for event. I'm waiting for their response.

18) Postal Workers for Peace in Central America (Portland, OR) - Request of $600 for production of brochure on their work.

19) Nicaragua Task Force (Venice, CA) - asking for $600 toward cost of a computer for their mailing list work.

20) El Salvador Information & Research Center (Washington, DC) - $600 request for subscription drive for their weekly news summary publication on El Salvador.

21) Pledge of Resistance/S.F. Bay Area Campaign (Oakland, CA) - Request of $600 toward expenses of computer for mailing list and
other work.

22) Tidewater Nicaragua Project Foundation (Hampton, VA) - $357 requested to pay for repair/upgrade of their computer.

Labor Issues

23) Farm Labor Organizing Cmte./Centro Campesino (Auburndale, FL) - Request of $600 for Legalization Project.

24) National Tradewomen's Network (Philadelphia, PA) - asking for $600 grant and $1,000 loan (see below) for expenses of conference in May of 1988.

25) Riverside (Brighton, MA) - $400 requested for monthly journal of news and info for Boston taxi drivers.

Women's Issues

26) Mujeres Unidas en Accion (Dorchester, MA) - asking for $600 toward expenses of Community Unity Festival, a celebration of Latina tradition, on May 30th.

27) Lesbian Community Project (Portland, OR) - Request of $580 to cover cost of membership and major donor fund raising campaigns.

28) Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights (Chicago, IL) - $500 requested for production of newsletter.

Philippines Solidarity Work

29) Media Access Training & Assistance Unit (Boston, MA) - asking for $600 for expenses of campaign against U.S. bases in Philippines.

30) Synapses, Inc. (Chicago, IL) - Request of $500 for expenses of their Philippines poster project.

Miscellaneous

31) International Indian Treaty Council (San Francisco, CA) - $600 requested for printing costs of issue of their quarterly newsletter.

32) International Jewish Peace Union (NYC) - Request of $600 for printing and distribution of their brochure.

33) Black New York Action Committee (NYC) - they're asking for $600 for leaflet and poster production costs for May 23rd forum and demo on African Liberation work.

34) New York Circus (NYC) - $500 asked for expenses of producing a series of pamphlets on Chile.
35) Fireworks Graphic Collective (San Francisco, CA) - Request of $500 to cover costs of producing and distributing two posters opposing US intervention in Central America.

36) Alliance for Cultural Democracy (Chicago, IL) - $600 requested for production of the "ACD Briefing Book" for foundation fund raising purposes.

Loan Request

37) National Tradeswomen's Network (Philadelphia, PA) - they're requesting a loan of $1,000 to help with expenses of their May conference (see #24 above).

Well, that's the lot for the May meeting - and it is a lot!

Please send in your proxies if you can't make the meeting. Also please fill in the next meeting slip (below) if you can make a June board meeting. Have a good Spring.

For peace and justice,

Nancy Moniz
Resist staff

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Next Meeting Date Preference

I can't make the May 3rd Resist board meeting but will be able to attend the meeting in June. The best Sunday in June for me is

June 14_______; June 21_______; June 28_______

Signature
MINUTES RESIST BOARD MEETING--MAY 3, 1987

Present: Connie, Tess, Roxanna, Ken T., Ken H., Nancy M., Kate, Meredith, Louis, Tatiana, Wayne, Pam.

BUSINESS: 1. Anniversary Party--We received a letter from Tony P. (Mobe) re: multi-anniversary party. There is a meeting to plan it on Friday May 8th at 5:30. Groups involved: South End Press, GCN, Mobe, RA, Resist, Allegra, NLG. We agreed to join with this group to do an anniversary celebration Dec. 5th. Volunteers: Kate, Louis, Nancy Moniz, Meredith. Meredith says she may be able to go to the meeting if Wee can't.

2. Endorsement for the National Gay/Lesbian March on Washington, Oct. 11. We agreed to endorse the march. Moniz and Wechsler are attending multi-issue task force of march. Roxanna said she was going for HIC.

3. Board Outreach Committee Report: Committee is Connie, Louis, Wee. Louis got names of Afro-Americans. Wee has not had time to do all the follow up yet. We did a mailing to the mobe key contact list. (Wechsler also sent a notice to CA Report, Mobe newsletter and AFSC newsletter. May Resist NL will also contain notice about board openings.) Most inquiries so far have not been from people of color.

   Are we into long term leases in general...YES.
   Prospect St. Building--more expensive than anticipated. $11-12.50 per square foot. Will stabilize over time. Oh, well, that's life.
   Not enough $ in groups' current contributions....suggestion each group add $--Resist will add $100 dues.

5. Newsletter: Barbara Shulman--to transcribe tape or get someone.
   Ken has phone numbers of someone for photos.
   MERIP-photos
   Board--always willing to be consulted on issues.
   Left in Israel, Louis will read draft.
   20th anniversary issue committee--Kate, Roxanna will meet.

6. Resist AUDIT: Ellie R. has been in the last few weeks going over our books. Staff needs to know where all our back records are. Ellie thinks they should be kept in the office. (Pam Chamberlain)

7. Finances: Baybank--$13,345; Loan Fund--$3500; Working Assets--$53,249
   Total $70,000 as of 4/30/87. $6675 for this meeting because of special meeting in April. We are thinking of switching our Baybanks account to Cambridge Savings Bank, to save money.


9. AIDS Walk: Roxanna wants sponsors.
10. Dukakis Demo: mothers day, 1pm, knyvet park, Brookline. Also demonstration against Rehnquist, May 17th, 10am Nickerson field (BU graduation). And GLDC "Visibility Campaign" at the Metro May 16th, and Lanes and Games bowling alley June 4th. More to come.

GRANTS: Total $6650

1. Coalition for Community Control & Development (Boston, MA) $400, to cover printing and mailing expenses for outreach efforts. Ken Tangvik says these are good, solid people. Need every neighborhood/progressives to join together. S.Boston, W. Roxbury still not involved. Ordinances would give strong power to neighborhoods but with built-in anti-racism protections. Louis-why haven't they been able to raise $? KT-Believes they are serious, trying to raise $ now. Has been difficult to get started due to complexity of this work. Tess-yes to a grant.

2. Another Voice (Roxbury, MA) $400, for monthly newsletter as an organizing tool to households in Highland Park area. Yes, with letter about gay issues. Ken T. says these are good folks. People who were displaced from JP, now in Roxbury. Organizers are solid. Concern raised that they have not addressed gay/lesbian issues and should due to complex housing/gentrification issue. Ken T. thinks leadership would not allow homophobic behavior. Roxanna P. thinks we need to push leaders to make sure that gay issues are addressed. Tess feels gays may not wish to discuss sexual pref. in this group, but if dealing with housing in Roxbury, must discuss gay issues and how they will deal with homophobia in their group.

3. Metro Ministry (Springfield, OH) $300 with letter re: reproductive and gay rights. Grant for subsidy for a month for person to help in community organizing and fundraising. Ken H.- yes to a grant. Louis-avoid repro. rights. Connie-they are doing primarily social service work. Meredith-questions volunteers doing grant writing, not feasible. Louis-good imp. work in pol. issues, but still doesn't like that they avoid repro. rights. Tess- concern too religiously based, bible study? Louis-bible study not necessarily bad, black church. Tatiana-They are trying to relocate power---black community--large marginalized.

6. Oklahoma Client Council (Oklahoma City) $350, for typewriter. Ref-good work/coalition work/work with native people. Ken H.- yes think lottery is OK. Louis doesn't like using lottery $, neither does Tess. Tess-yes, good effort re: gay issues.

7. CCCO/Choice or Chance (SF,CA) $500, to help pay salary of producer of slide show. Louis- had question on budget. Tatiana- Union Rates for budget-ok. Tess-good script, good on gay issues.

12. Youth Against Militarism (Cinci, OH) $500, money to go for general funds. NM wrote April 8th re travel expenses. They have not responded. Talked to Vince Caleman AFSC Dayton. Very progressive network in their part of the country. Good national and Intl. connections. Anne Braden one of conf. org. AFSC supports conf. Ken Hale thinks it's great. Pam/RP-thought proposal doesn't exactly reflect what we normally expect, we believe this is very
impt. work. Many of presenters are youth. Pam—they should be talking about AIDS educ. at conf. This is essential. We should mention this in letter. AFSC is distributing AIDS video. Contact Andrea Devine (661-6130), also Pam Chamberlain.

13. WRL/New England (Norwich, CT) $400 for mailing costs of their Stop War Toys Campaign. Kate believes they can take credit for making this an impt and visible issue. Connie liked their answer to question 11.


16. Central America Research Institute (Berkeley, CA) $500, to help cover costs of re-newing subs for their resource library. RP very positive. Best & most impt. newsletter. Consistently covers all C.A. countries.

17. Lower East Side/Barrrio Nueva York Sister City Project (NYC) $300, for expenses for potluck supper and public meeting on march 18 (?) George Vickers says they are subset of Lower East Side Mobilization for Peace Action. Diverse group, good project, lots of energy. Work on de-gentrification. Good community-based. Wayne— they seem to have no presence in their sister city. People there do not know about it. We agreed to mention this in the letter to them.

23. Farm Labor Organizing Committee/Centro Campesino (Auburndale, FL) $500 for legalization project. We have funded them in past. Ken Hale—very good org. and very impt. work. RP-agrees but where can get money. Tess—Good work, needs to be encouraged.

24. National Tradeswomen's Network (Phila, PA) $500 for expenses for conference. Frank Brodhead— philly group felt to be weak but this shouldn't be mark against national. Tess—why Boston not involved? Louis—too big a project, they don't have resourcws. Biting off more than they can chew. Meredith—women do't have power in unions, any start is a good one. Hard to org. national network. NM—it's a year before their conference. They seem discipline, organized. Tess—very favorable, real grassroots, up from bottom effort. Very much needed. Women tradeswomen very isolated.

One hesitancy around funding— repro. rights, encourage them to take up the question.

27. Lesbian Community Project (Portland, OR) $500 to cover cost of membership and major donor fund raising campaign. McKensie River very supportive. "They are model community Org." 500 people at conference. Strong anti-racist multi-cultural focus. Good grassroots fundraising. Yes on all fronts.

30. Synapes, Inc. (Chicago, IL) $300 for expenses of their Philippines poster project. Karin (D&S) thinks they are good/radical. RP—not sure what they do. Meredith—Questions re: money to shrink wrap posters. NM—newsletters, multi-issue. YES, but don't need to use the money for shrink wrapping.
31. International Indian Treaty Council (SF, CA) for printing costs of issue of their quarterly newsletter. $500. NM—we have funded their nl before. Ken H. yes, most native american groups are anti-abortion. Tatiana—avoid repro. rights issues but it is a priority project.

32. International Jewish Peace Union (NYC) $200 towards printing and distribution of brochure. NorthStar—small group that does coalition work. Financial needs are limited. Need to do more fundraising. Louis—mainly university and intellectual work. Some significance in France but little significance in the U.S. No reason to fund. Tatiana—liked their brochure.

35. Fireworks Graphic Collective (SF, CA) $100 towards cost of producing and distributing two posters opposing US intervention in CA. NM—could not find reference. Passed around posters which were great. Answers to #11 very good. Louis—is this a priority? especially with this many proposals? Token or some. Kate—agrees with Louis.

36. Alliance for Cultural Democracy (Chicago, IL) $100 for production of "ACD briefing book" for foundation fund raising purposes. Louis—even if they do first rate work is this a priority? Our money is not going to make a major difference. Meredith—but they want money to raise money so it is not so out of track. NM—not one of our political priorities.

38. GIRLILLAS (Boston) $100 towards cost of a mixer. Connie—they called to lobby. They want to reach broader audience. Meredith—I think they should find somebody else to perform but I like their lyrics. They are not a priority.

NOs:

4. Learning Alliance (NYC) Group oriented towards "pacifist not marxist." Not a big operation, they have seemed to inflate themselves in their proposal. NOT A PRIORITY.

5. Citizen Clearinghouse for Hazardous Wastes (Arlington, VA) Chris Nichols—environment Action in WA—very good group. Travel/provide info/good local organizing/coalitions/labor/housing/very progressive. Tess—large budget. don't need our money. Ken—supported by Rockefeller/Ford/Stern/Penny. Ken T.—Very good work, praise to the skies. NM—should we set ceiling on size of budget? Louis—consult with board members. Tatiana—no project. Can be good projects from groups with large budgets. NO to group. Don't need our limited funds.

8. Delaware County Jobs with Peace (PA) Frank B. says they are good. Louis—dubious. (repeat performance on his usual comments on JWP.) Connie—No, not a priority. RP—No. Meredith—recent job interview, likes them, thinks concept is good. Knows LA organizer. Very workable idea in certain communities. Tess—but if we have to cut, not a priority. NO—difficult decision, not enough money, too many proposals.

9. Resource Center for Non Violent Jewish Action (Medford, MA) Talked to Tom Rawson of NJA. Knows Todd Kaplan, all there are activists. Kaplan well
respected. Tess/Meredith/Kate all think "Sheila Parks is a fruitcake."
Louis- NO. 3 people did courageous thing. Not organizational effort. Never
dress Isarel at all. Meredith-total lack of content to their proposal,
what they will talk about.

10. Bienville House (Baton Rouge, LA) We funded in past. Talked to SE
Regional Cispes. Good work, conservative area. Tess-liberal faith-based
work, people groups in area. Gay answer bad. Louis-past funding? Why
they don't know where they get $? Kate-Supported "Beyond War" speaker. very
questionable. Article in MJ, EST Board? Think positive. NO- priorities.
Can't fund at this time (but this is not the real reason) didn't like their
political stance on money issues, gay/repro.rights/ $ off Jimmy Swagert. Not
as radical on a number of issues but funded in the past because they were
doing impt. work, however now we have many many groups requesting funds and
we need to find groups closer to our political perspective.

15. Refuse and Resist (NYC) References- duplication of efforts, not catching
out. Frank-come from RCP. "No business as usual" people. Cannot sustain
work. Not an independent organization. Tess-their workshops sound good.
they have rich people on their list, can get $. Thinks conference sounds
interesting. KT- this is RCP in different clothing.
NO-we think conference topics are important. We feel with their
sponsors they have options for money elsewhere. This is not a priority in
context of all the groups we are considering.

19. Nicaragua Task Force (Venice, CA) RP-does not think they need us. Main
members professional, teacher, lawyer, mostly anglo. NO- like their work but
we have so many proposals. Need to save $ for groups with fewer resources.
Nice, but sorry, best wishes.

20. El Salvador Information & Research Center (Wash, DC) RP-We have funded a
number of similar groups doing info work on SALPRESS. RP can think of 15
others doing same work. Tess-How can people without the technical resources
benefit by this kind of thing? RP-repetition of work.
NO- If they'd like to know of other groups doing similar work we can
give list. Missing link- how to get this timely info to "all of us" who
don't have modems?

21. Pledge of Resistance /SF Bay Area Campaign (Oakland, CA) Question #11-
no position on any issues, why not? Tess-pledge in most cities faith-based.
RP- in SF no view on gay issues, AIDS? Ken T.-two anonymous grants, large
amount. Louis-important demos.
NO-They have no interest in making links with other issues. We support
their work on CA but a group like them should be making connections with
other issues, particularly answers with question 11 in city where AIDS is
serious problem. Should have position on these issues and should be doing
work around these issues.

22. Tidewater Nicaragua Project Foundation (Hampton, VA) Reference- this
group long-standing friend of NICA network. Not radical. Independent
liberal left. Professional. Book on Mishito question is good. Concerns re:
answers to question 11. Meredith-NICA on the forefront on all these issues?
RP- Wierd. Some good things, Good publications, but nothing exciting. Tess-
Where are they. Maybe the location is impt if it is rural area. Connie—not community based org. Just publishing. Wayne—they are working ith HS groups. Find out if working on local org. Are we opposed anyway on gay/lesbian issues, women's issues?

NO—if they are doing community work, question 11 even more relevant. Could submit another proposal. We need to know their position on what they think rather than their position on NICA's position. How it informs their work.

26. Mujeres Unidas en Accion (Dorchester, MA) RP—Community based group. Trying to teach english. Invited her to speak on militarization of Honduras. Outstanding project, but not sure if radical. It does empower people who come to this country-do not understand language. Thinks this is impt. work, political in the sense that it's empowerment through education. Ken T—Hispanic and anglo leftists who control the place. That's good, but they can do it without us. NO—good work, we support this work but too many proposals, they don't need us.


NO—good luck with work. We need to fund groups that have more difficulty getting $. They should address repro rights of gays/disabled people. Need to address abortion & repro. rights for Women of Color who have least access.

29. Media Access Training & Assistance Unit (Boston, MA) Ken T—thinks most of the people behind this Calvin Hicks, James Jennings, are very good/some of the best. Worthy, though questionable politics on Iran issues, is a very energetic organizer on 3rd world issues. A lot of Black leftists focussing on housing. Not so many focussing on broader issues. These folks are only ones doing good analysis on 3rd world issues and bring to Black community. Kate— For "professional" media types, their application is a mess. Louis—No one can work with Bill Worthy. He's an individualist. Ken—says the others involved are very good. Worthy isn't the only one. Connie—works with CPCS, agrees, nobody works with Bill. We would be funding an individual. Haymarket—thought the work was good but had a question about how much they can do. Wayne—no—cannot clearly understand proposal. Tess—We don't fund institutes who are one part of 2 state schools or individuals.

NO—we were not sure what exactly is the project and we cannot fund an institute or an individual. (Not clear if we want next statement in letter: If he can present a coherent project that is neither part of institute nor his own consulting business, we might consider it.)

33. Black NY Action Committee (NYC) NorthStar—four groups in Harlem organizing political grassroots tying int. and natl. issues. Meredith—when were they funded in the past? (twice). We hardly ever get an all Black group. Kate—around here this organization was CWP. Connie—I like some of their other projects better than the one they are asking for. Louis—What do they mean with 10 voting embers and 10 non-voting members? NO—Ask for another project, and inquire if they are a CWP front.

34. New York Circus (NYC) NM—sent them letters and they didn't respond. RP—phony project. Why write bulletins on public transportation in Chile for
people that are going back for political reasons. List a person on their
advisory board who has not worked with them for 2 years.

38. National Tradeswoman Network. NO to request for $1000 loan for year.

POSTPONE:

11. Coalition to Stop Trident (New Haven, CT) Joe Gerson, AFSC says very
active. Ken T- group has not tried to branch out to increase diversity,
broader base for their work. Also questions single issue strategy (i.e.
trident only) hasn't tried to shift or broaden strategy. Tess- perhaps this
project is designed to be an effort at broadening/WRL is in the coalition.
Are we double funding? Louis-WRL is so anarchic and scattered, believes this
is probably separate. Trident not any old weapon. Is key first strike
weapon. Needs attention cont. to be focussed on it. However, agrees these
"dedicated CD folks" have trouble relating to other groups. RP-avoid answers
to questions 10, 11 re: sexual preference, repro. rights., abortion.
Meredith-address sexual preference in their brochure. RP-proposal does not
reflect what some board members are saying (ie. this group could not be
anti-gay.) Ken T-Has not got new people to join their coalition. If we gave
$ should strongly suggest they work to broaden coalition. Tess-they seem to
come out of movement that we would expect them to say right things but not
have right practice around people of color/gays/coalition/labor/building.
Suggests postpone and see if this project is really effort to broaden base
and shift priorities to include different communities in work they are
doing. People on Resist board bothered by the fact they don't seem to have
increased their constituency. Hope they are trying to do this.

18. Postal Workers for Peace in CA (Portland, OR) McKenzie River Gathering
very supportive. Tess-knows one of the people on letterhead and others
involved. RP- we should give $ but we have not seen their brochure.
Impressed with the resolutions. Louis-would like to see draft of their
brochure first. POSTPONE generally positive but we should see draft. Very
encouraging, we like their work.

25. Driverside (Brighton, MA) Haymarket turned them down for emergency grant
because too new but encouraged them to come back when they have something to
show. Tess-wants to know who they are. Wants to see newsletter. Connie-
answer re: question #11, need to be more inclusive on question of people of
color. Ken H- in favor or it. RP- Suggests postpone so we can see draft of
Newsletter. Ken T- agrees with RP to postpone.

Nancy Moniz would like to remind board members to look over their packets
when they first receive them and call her about any groups with which they
are familiar in order to save time and Resist money in searching for
references. Thanks.

NEXT BOARD MEETING
JUNE 21
MEREDITH SMITH'S
9 SUMMIT ST., SOMERVILLE

Nancy Wechsler (who couldn't be at the meeting) would like to thank Roxanna
Pastor and Tatiana Schreiber for taking the minutes in my absence.