6-17-1990

Resist Board Meeting, June 17, 1990

Resist

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalrepository.trincoll.edu/minutes

Recommended Citation
https://digitalrepository.trincoll.edu/minutes/202
Dear board member,

Paul Lauter left a message on our answering machine with these directions to his place in NYC. Take the East Side subway to 77th (& Lexington) & walk east 3 to 4 blocks. By bus - Crosstown bus at 79th goes to 79th & York, a 2 block walk to his place. By car - parking is good on Sunday. Bus from LaGuardia to? (I have to check on this). Otherwise, a cab costs about $12 to his apartment. If you'd like, please call Paul on June 16 for confirmation of directions.

AGENDA

** Any last minute items of information by staff which are important to meeting.

GRANT REQUESTS

Prisoners

1) Prison Book Program (Jamaica Plain, MA) - $600 requested for copying & distribution costs for their "National Resource List" for men & women prisoners.

2) Prisoners With AIDS/Rights Advocacy Group (Denver, CO) - Requesting $600 for ????

3) Native American Prisoners Rehabilitation Center (Cincinnati, OH) - They're asking for $585.37 for costs of production of their newsletter, "Iron House Drum."

Peace/Anti-Militarism

4) Museum of World Solutions/Global Exchange (San Francisco, CA) Requesting $450 for a TV with VCR for fund raising presentations.

5) Peace Resource Center (Frederick, MD) - $600 asked for expenses of their Citizens Task Force on Economic Conversion.

6) War Resisters League/New England Norwich, CT) - Request of $750 (?) toward printing and mailing costs for a newsletter/call...
for action against the military budget and the Trident program.

Community/Anti-Racism

7) Chicanos Against Military Intervention in Latin America (Austin, TX) - They're asking for $600 for office expenses of their East Austin Youth Bike Project. This was postponed from the last meeting. We had questions about how the project is linked with their political goals; their plans for working with youth on other projects; their plans for integrating political education for the youth involved in the project; and future plans for this project.

8) Hunger Organizing Project (Albany, NY) - Requesting $450 for an organizing project about changing procedures of the Albany County Social Services Department.

9) Pacem in Terris/Committee Against Racism & Apartheid (Wilmington, DE) - $590 request for expenses of their Soweto Festival in June and July.

10) Tenants Support Committee/Comite de Apoyo de Inquilinos (Alexandria, VA) - $600 requested toward the purchase of a word processor.

11) Ithaca Area Community Loan Fund (NY) - $500 asked for the expenses of organizing the Fund.

12) Working Classroom (Albuquerque, MN) - Request of $600 for salaries for actors in their bi-lingual play, "Suenos Sin Fronteras/Borderless Dreams." I've asked them to send a synopsis, as well as their financial report for 1989.

13) Central Appalachian Life & Work (Clintwood, VA) - $600 asked for expenses of production of their newsletter.

14) Homeless Action Committee (Albany, NY) - They're asking for $630 for the costs of a 3 month outreach & publicity campaign.

Central and Latin America

15) Nicaragua Committee/CASA (Cambridge, MA) - Asking $600 for their "Friends of Nicaragua", a post-election organizing and educational project.

16) St. Louis Interfaith Committee on Latin America (MO) - $500 asked toward the purchase of a computer, a monitor, and a printer; and for software.

17) Ecumenical Program on Central America & the Caribbean (EPICA) (Washington, DC) - Request of $600 toward the purchase of a laser printer.

18) CALC/Cleveland Chapter (OH) - $600 requested toward expenses
of their second U.S./Mexico Conference on May 5th.

19) St. Louis Latin America Solidarity Committee (MO) - $600 request to cover printing costs of 2 of their newsletters.

Women

20) NY Metro Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights (NY, NY) - $600 asked for production of their quarterly newsletter.

21) "I Am Your Sister" Conference (Formerly Zami Project) (Boston, MA) - Asking for a grant of $600 and a loan of $1000 to cover postage & printing costs for a bulk mailing to 10,000 potential participants.

22) Domestic Abuse Prevention Center (Carroll, IA) - Request of $600 for a word processor.

Environmental

23) Catalyst (Montpelier, VT) - $600 asked for expenses of their research project, "Grassroots Corporate Action Campaign."

24) Enersol Associates (Somerville, MA) - $600 requested toward the purchase of a computer.

25) Northwoods Greens (Superior, WI) - $500 request for expenses of their Spring Conference.

26) Native Resource Coalition (Porcupine, SD) - They're asking for $600 for a typewriter and a file cabinet.

27) ARC Center for Peace & Progressive Politics (San Francisco, CA) - Requesting $500 for expenses of an organizing meeting of environmental & peace groups about the implementation of the Defense & Environment Initiative.

Gay and Lesbian

28) Wingspan, Lesbian & Gay Community Center (Tucson, AZ) - $540 asked for expenses of their Hotline.

29) Men Overcoming Violence (San Francisco, CA) - Request of $600 for printing and graphics costs of educational and outreach literature for their Gay Domestic Violence Program.

30) Lavender Network (Eugene, OR) - Asking $600 for the fee of an 800 telephone line, and for 6 weeks of long distance charges for their Helpline.

31) Progressive Caucus (Cambridge, MA) - Request of $600 toward the expenses of a campaign to defeat a referendum to overturn the Mass. Gay Rights Bill.
AIDS/Disability

32) ACT UP/Seattle (WA) - $480 requested to repair their copier.

33) CALC of Lane County (Eugene, OR) - They're asking for $600 for materials to build a wheelchair ramp for their office.

Miscellaneous

34) Clergy & Laity Concerned (New York, NYOH) - Request of $600 toward printing & distribution costs of a packet, "Rediscovering the History of the Americas - 1492 to 1992." Postponed from the last meeting. We needed more information. It's in your packet.

35) Cambridge-Ramallah/El Bireh Sister City Campaign (Cambridge, MA) - $600 requested to purchase the local Mobilization for Survival mailing list, and for materials for their canvassing outreach project.

LOANS

36) "I Am Your Sister" Conference (Boston, MA) - See above #21.

BUSINESS/POLICY ITEMS

* Report on joint Resist/Prison Book Program Typewriter Project

* Report on June 11th meeting

* Newsletter

* Office - Finances and other miscellaneous items.

* Next board meeting - We'll need to set a date and place. Since I have jury duty in Boston on Aug. 20, 21, 22, ??, I'll have to request that we work around that week in choosing a date for the next meeting. The best date for me is July 29th.

As usual, I'll send copies of any additional information sent by the groups with proposals on this agenda when I receive the info.

For peace and justice, Nancy

Nancy Moniz, Resist staff

Clip & send to office

The following are my choices for the board meeting in Boston:

July 29 _____ Aug. 5 _____ Aug. 12 _____
Resist Board Meeting
June 17, 1990
New York City


GRANT REQUESTS: We gave out a total of $14,110 to 26 groups. (And one $500 LOAN.)

Prisoners

1) Prison Book Program (Jamaica Plain, MA) -YES to a grant of $600 for copying & distribution costs for their "National Resource List" for men & women prisoners. Reference: highly recommended. Tatiana has found it very useful to send out.

2) Prisoners With AIDS/Rights Advocacy Group (Denver, CO) - YES to a grant of $600 for general operating expenses and for their newsletter. Reference: highly recommended. Very important information to get out. Discussion: Is this a one person operation? Is this too single issue? There are a few people involved.

3) Native American Prisoners Rehabilitation Center (Cincinnati, OH) - They had asked for $585.37 for production of their newsletter, "Iron House Drum." We couldn't get a reference. Tatiana and Ken had two suggestions for people to contact. Most board members were positive about this group, but we decided to POSTPONE until we contact these two people.

Peace/Anti-Militarism

4) Museum of World Solutions/Global Exchange (San Francisco, CA) YES to a grant of $450 for a TV with VCR for fund raising presentations. Reference: Interesting idea, not sure if it can be pulled off. Discussion: Sounds like an interesting idea, a little different. We need to encourage people with radical politics to work on environmental issues. Good political statement. A refreshing approach.

5) Peace Resource Center (Frederick, MD) - YES to a grant of $600 for their Citizens Task Force on Economic Conversion. Reference: Hank- this is a good group. Hank says he doesn't think they can get funding elsewhere. Town is conservative. Louis expressed a general concern that many "peace and justice" groups were once again not mentioning the Middle East or doing any programmatic work around the Middle East. Given the situation there, it is the most likely place to blow up. Decision: Yes, with strong encouragement to talk about foreign policy concerns in Middle East as well as Latin America and Asian Pacific.

6) War Resisters League/New England (Norwich, CT) - Yes to a grant of $600 for printing and mailing costs for their newsletter/call for action against the military budget and the Trident program. Reference: Everyone positive. Discussion: their trident work is important. Can they get money elsewhere?

Community/Anti-Racism

7) Chicanos Against Military Intervention in Latin America (Austin, TX) - Yes to grant of $600 for East Austin Youth Bike Project office expenses. This was postponed from the last meeting. We had questions about how the project was linked to political goals; their plans for working with youth on other projects; their plans for integrating political education for the youth involved in the project; and future plans for this project. They sent us additional information. Reference: very active group. AFSC had staff networking
with them on this project. They do political work. Make connections with international
issues as well as community issues. They work with Bikes Not Bombs. Discussion: This
conception of political organizing is disappointing. Questions raised about the concept
of teaching people the "importance of charity." Lack of political edge. We should send
them upcoming Radical Teacher issue with the 1964 Mississippi Freedom School curricula.
They should do more with history of Chicano movement. We should mention other groups that
do youth organizing.

8) Hunger Organizing Project (Albany, NY) - YES to a grant of $450 for organizing project
to change procedures of the Albany County Social Services Department. They had come to us
a few months ago for a project we didn't like. We asked them to come back with another
project. Reference from last time: good group, very active, good newsletter. Discussion:
good folk, but is this our priority? Does welfare rights organizing work? Some people
are transformed in the process. What are differences/similarities between this and the
work of the Hotel Tenants Rights Project?

9) Pacem in Terris/Committee Against Racism & Apartheid (Wilmington, DE) - YES to a grant
of $590 for their Soweto Festival. Reference: strong group. Good at assessing needs of
area. They do what they say they will do. Fran White: brother in group. Last year's
event highly successful. Discussion: Yes if it is more than South Africa, but tied to
domestic racism. Can they get money elsewhere?

10) Tenants Support Committee/Comite de Apoyo de Inquilinos (Alexandria, VA) -YES to a
grant of $600 for purchase of a word processor. Hank: trying hard to make coalition with
African American people in area. Good demonstrations. Confrontational in their tactics.
Playing a positive role in forging links with African American community and keeping
community from being yuppified.

11) Ithaca Area Community Loan Fund (NY) -NO GRANT: They had asked for $500 for start up
expenses for the Fund. Reference: Positive reference for person involved and for group it
comes out of. Not a Resist priority. Not nice to pay director $10/hour and secretary
$5/hour. (This isn't, however, why we are not funding them.) Send them Finding Funding
booklet.

12) Working Classroom (Albuquerque, MN) - YES to a grant of $600 for actors' salaries in
bi-lingual play, "Suenos Sin Fronteras/Borderless Dreams." Reference: positive. Good
programs. Nancy Moniz and Wayne read whole play. Good politics. Group has good track
record. Comments:" Not great answer to dealing with homophobia. Shouldn't be up to newly
hired gay director to deal with homophobia. Responses on phone were better than answers
on application. We will suggest other funding sources as well, ie. "The Youth Project."

13) Central Appalachian Life & Work (Clintwood, VA) - NO GRANT. They had asked for $600
for newsletter expenses. Reference: This is a one person operation. Confused on
financial stuff. White group. They say when they have funds they will hire a black staff
person. Not a great strategy. Questions: Is this service or political? Decision: No
grant. Hank volunteers to go and help out with fundraising-- talk to them about writing
grants, etc. We were unsure of budget, what they planned to do with the money, what
exactly they are doing.

14) Homeless Action Committee (Albany, NY) - NO GRANT. They had asked for $630 for 3
month outreach & publicity campaign. Reference: ACTUP works with them. Good communication
with AIDS work. Good folks. Comments: Political perspective of group. Where problems
derive from, that's good. But look at answer to 10E. There's a contradiction here. The
reality is that 1/3 of homeless are mentally ill. Alcoholism, drugs, etc. are real
problems. They deal with most visible. Doesn't deal with homeless families. It calls
homelessness to the attention of people, but doesn’t change anything. It is not ok that they don’t have a position on abortion and reproductive rights. Someone pointed out that they are working with groups around the mentally ill. What is the basis of organization? You can’t organize mentally ill people. They are working with advocates for the mentally ill. Questions raised about their brochure. They write: “Home, an environment or haven of shelter, of happiness and love.” Doesn’t exactly deal with the reality of domestic violence and oppression in the home. Decision: Not a priority for Resist to fund this type of work at this time.

Central and Latin America

15) Nicaragua Committee/CASA (Cambridge, MA) - YES to a grant of $600 for their “Friends of Nicaragua”, a post-election organizing and educational project. Reference was positive. Explicit support for the FSLN. Comments: need to strengthen movements. Important to keep work going. We’d like to know more about what’s going on in Nicaragua. Critical support is what is needed, because that is what is probably happening there. How about a newsletter article?? Yes to grant. Mention the following two points: Don’t slack off educating about role of US in elections or in making it impossible for Sandinistas to govern. We would hope they would be more specific and explicit in their discussion of events in Nicaragua, including the internal debates and discussions.

16) St. Louis Interfaith Committee on Latin America (MO) - YES to a grant of $500 toward the purchase of a computer, a monitor, and a printer; and for software. We discussed #16 and #19 together. Reference: Bill Ramsey, AFSC. In 1979-80 this group and #19 were one group. Decision was then made to split into two groups. They do cooperate. #16 concentrates on religious sector, more broadly based than 19. 30-40 active members. Leadership is developed from membership. Sanctuary work came out of this. Witness for Peace is coordinated by them. Companion City project coordinated by them. They don’t work much with labor because that’s what #19 does. Small involvement of people of color. People of color are involved in delegations to Central America.

19) St. Louis Latin America Solidarity Committee (MO) - NO GRANT. They had requested $600 for newsletter. See above. Bill Ramsey said they have been fairly successful with labor union members and academics. Leadership core is small, 8-10 active members. There’s been a falling away from the group in the last few years. Leadership is academics. Have done outreach to people of color, but small participation.

Discussion: #16. Should support interfaith committee for equipment. #19. Other request is for 2 issues of newsletter. No point unless they have design to become self sustaining. Interfaith group putting out better stuff. They are dealing with Panama.

17) Ecumenical Program on Central America & the Caribbean (EPICA) (Washington, DC) - YES to a grant of $600 for laser printer. NM familiar with EPICA, thinks it’s a great group. NISOUA likes them. They are paying attention to Guatemala. Delegations are well done, work well with different sectors in host country. Hank: contacts in DC also very positive, publications very good. Regional approach is important. Questions raised about circulation. They have their own distribution networks. Oscar thinks very highly of them, has worked with them and been very pleased.

18) CALC/Cleveland Chapter (OH) - YES to a grant of $600 for their second U.S./Mexico Conference (May 5th). Reference: very positive. Core committee is three people. Proposal vague on political perspective. Important to do conference on Mexico. Conference did happen, and is in debt. They need the grant.

Women
20) NY Metro Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights (NY, NY) - YES to a grant of $600 for production of their quarterly newsletter. Reference (Merble): They represent an important coalition of religious organizations in NYC area. Questions raised about their answers to gay issues and disability. They probably do work on this. They are not a grassroots organization but individuals doing really good work within their parishes. Can they raise funds? They do have that capacity. We liked that they were doing a newsletter focussed on sex, aids, etc.

21) (Grant) and 36 (Loan) "I Am Your Sister" Conference (Formerly Zami Project) (Boston, MA) - YES to a grant of $600 and a loan of $500 (they had asked for $1000) to cover postage & printing costs for a bulk mailing to 10,000 potential participants. Reference: Renae- Conference organizers have toned down expectations, and are more realistic now. More than just a celebration for Audre. Bringing women from all over the world to look at "isms." Funding Exchange may be funding them. Fran: talked with a lot of people. This conference will happen. We should fund it. $70,000 may be too large to raise from community. Realities of life will scale it down. Politics are good. Questions raised about what will come from conference. Will the conference be very contentious? Skepticism raised about possibilities of using conference to develop movement. Some people make contacts, but this is not the way coalitions are built. No programmatic agenda. Other comments: People are ready for this kind of conference. People are ready to go on beyond confrontations and divisions. Questions raised as to whether the conference will take up the Helms/NEA stuff. Audre is being investigated by NEA. The whole conference is a counter to Helms. It's going to be everything he can't stand. Question raised about outreach/inclusion of Palestinian women. There has been outreach to Arab women. Much of the outreach has been done within gay/lesbian organizations. Yes to the grant. It seems like a gamble giving the loan. Will we get the money back? This is not really an on-going group, although these same women have worked together on several projects. We agreed to give a partial loan, which we defined as $500.

22) Domestic Abuse Prevention Center (Carroll, IA) - NO GRANT. They had requested $600 for a word processor. Good work, but not our priority. Looks like a one person operation. They should be able to get other money.

Environmental

23) Catalyst (Montpelier, VT) - NO GRANT. They had requested $600 for their "Grassroots Corporate Action Campaign." Reference: good material on corporations. Good research. Publications good. Questions raised about whether or not they have more access to money. We don't usually fund this type of project.

24) Enersol Associates (Somerville, MA) - NO GRANT. They had requested $600 for purchase of a computer. Reference: Casa/NECAN hadn't heard of them. What is their political analysis? No one knew about them. NO. We usually fund groups that do political organizing and educational work.

25) Northwoods Greens (Superior, WI) - SOME ($200) for their Spring Conference. Reference: there are a lot of splits in Wisconsin greens. This is probably more progressive group. Committed activists. Between 30-50 people attended the conference at different times. Many decisions were made, including to run a candidate for statewide office in 1994, not to endorse candidates from other parties, and to support the Folger's coffee boycott. Discussion: Many greens are weak on class, anti-development. How will they work with other groups on the same issues? How do we know it isn't just a group of people who are friends, and not a real organization?
26) Native Resource Coalition (Porcupine, SD) - YES to a grant of $600 for a typewriter and a file cabinet. Reference: coalition of many groups. They were successful in killing pipeline. Good grassroots work. Many women involved.

27) ARC Center for Peace & Progressive Politics (San Francisco, CA) - YES to a grant of $500 for organizing meeting of environmental & peace groups about the implementation of the Defense & Environment Initiative. Reference: good, dynamic people, hardworking, effective. Discussion: Why aren't they working with East Coast group? This is an important issue. Very impressive work.

Gay and Lesbian

28) Wingspan, Lesbian & Gay Community Center (Tucson, AZ) - YES to a grant of $540 for their Hotline. Reference was very positive.

29) Men Overcoming Violence (San Francisco, CA) - SOME ($200). They had requested $600 for printing and graphics costs of educational and outreach literature for their Gay Domestic Violence Program. Reference (Vanguard): very good group, excellent work and politics. Discussion: Do they have social analysis of male violence? They get money from the city. We should put something in our newsletter about what they do, a grant or grassroots report or something. It is good they are taking on right-wing "families" groups. Hope they continue doing forums, etc.

30) Lavender Network (Eugene, OR) - NO GRANT. They had asked for $600 for an 800 telephone line, and for 6 weeks of long distance charges for their Helpline. Reference was positive, but it seems this project is more social service. Publication plays more community organizing role than helpline. They don't have any idea of diversity. This particular project is mainly social service. We would be open to more political project (anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, dealing with homophobia, etc).

31) Progressive Caucus (Cambridge, MA) - YES to a grant of $600 toward the expenses of a campaign to defeat a referendum to overturn the Mass. Gay Rights Bill. Reference (Tess and Wechsler): highly recommended. This is grassroots, radical part of campaign. What exactly are they going to do? Series of forums, Day after Demo, phone-banking, speakers bureau. What happens if the referenda isn't on the ballot? Some of this organizing will still go on.

AIDS/Disability

32) ACT UP/Seattle (WA) - YES to a grant of $480 to repair copier. Reference was positive.

33) CALC of Lane County (Eugene, OR) - YES to a grant of $600 for materials to build a wheelchair ramp for their office. Reference was very positive. Group highly recommended. Question raised about whether or not they could get materials donated, as well as the labor. We hope they use the building of this ramp as an organizing tool.

Miscellaneous

34) Clergy & Laity Concerned (New York, NY) - YES to a grant of $600 for printing & distribution costs of a packet, "Rediscovering the History of the Americas - 1492 to 1992." Postponed from the last meeting. We needed more information. Hans highly recommends group. Funding Exchange highly supports this project. They are going to major donors for this project. They need some initial funding. The group is desperate for money. Are they over ambitious? A lot of people are committed to seeing it through.
This has potential to be useful project, but it depends on the politics. Right now the politics are quite obscure. We need to see the bibliography. Project has potential to organize whole wing of academic left. Is CALC in touch with other groups doing work around this? CALC is a good group. We should trust them. They should link up with Radical History Review. Oscar suggests we give them the grant, ask to see the bibliography, more content and political focus, and distribution plans. Also-- they should contact organizations throughout Central America to see what they will be doing.

35) Cambridge-Ramallah/El Bireh Sister City Campaign (Cambridge, MA) - YES to a grant of $600 to purchase the local Mobilization for Survival mailing list, and for materials for their canvassing outreach project. References very positive. Louis is involved with this group. Louis says they need money constantly because they send delegations over to the Middle East and give out scholarships for these trips.

LOANS

36) "I Am Your Sister" Conference (Boston, MA) - See above #21.

BUSINESS/POLICY ITEMS


* Board outreach. We need to reconstitute the board outreach subcommittee in the Fall. Kate Cloud is on leave. Connie Chan is away for one year. Bell C. is going to teach in California for 6 months.

* Report on joint Resist/Prison Book Program Typewriter Project: project is going well. We have given away 10 typewriters. Some to groups and some to individual prisoners who do a lot of work with other prisoners. We will be running something in our newsletter about this project, as well as a thank you to those who made it possible. Staff/board lunch meeting should decide whether or not to continue this project and give it more money.

* Report on June 11th meeting: the meeting didn't happen, due to several last minute cancellations. We will discuss scheduling it again in the Fall.

* Newsletter: Current issue is on gay/lesbian and English-Only organizing. Next issue is on Middle East and our typewriter project. The following is on Students organizing against racism (at U of Michigan), and the peace corps. We have received lots of requests for extra copies of Jewish Feminist and Chomsky issues of newsletter.

* Office - Finances

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cambridge Trust</td>
<td>$19,716.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working Assets</td>
<td>$194,139.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loan Fund</td>
<td>$5,049.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub total:</td>
<td>$218,904.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calvert Bond Fund</td>
<td>$49,094.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cohen Endowment</td>
<td>$10,463.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resist Endowment</td>
<td>$5,328.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>$283,790.64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
* Other news: One of our regular monthly pledges recently died of AIDS and left us his Condo in SF. When it sells we will probably get about $50,000. Wechsler is trying to get his friends to write a little something about him for the newsletter.

We had a very successful fundraising event in Western Mass on May 21. Event was organized by Fran and Wechsler. Grace read, Fran and Pam gave raps. It was at Greg Prince's house (the president of Hampshire College). Greg donated the food/drinks.

Wechsler is working with Nick Thorkelson and Cindy Bargar to develop a new direct mail brochure and package. (They did our last one.) Wechsler will pass around a draft when one is ready.

It was agreed that the financial investment subcommittee will make a decision on investing the next $50,000 of the anonymous donation, unless a plan can be brought to the next board meeting.

We will discuss the pros/cons and politics of accepting visa/mc donations at an upcoming board meeting. Is it worth the bookkeeping work? What do we think of the politics of it? Kim Kline brought it up at her fundraising workshop and said people tend to give larger donations. She urged groups to consider accepting visa/mc.

* Next board meeting: July 29, at Louis Kampf's house in Cambridge.