

Veterans For Peace Board of Directors Meeting

March 15, 2025 – 12:40 PM

The meeting started with the reading and showing of the VFP Statement of Purpose and the Indigenous World View.

Open Discussion

- President Susan Schnall invited members to speak about chapter activities. Susan spoke at a veteran's rally in Washington the day before. She estimated that 3,000 veterans attended this rally. The link to her speech is <https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/>
- Dave Logsdon from Minnesota spoke about a rally there.
- Alice Slater mentioned the Code Pink "Peace Clock."
- John Wilks from the Albuquerque Chapter talked about the chapter's work on nuclear waste in New Mexico.
- Heather Carlos from Kansas is the new VFP membership coordinator.
- Jeff Roy from the Save Our VA (SOVA) project has tri-fold brochures for members. (I have ordered 50 for our chapter).
- Rachel Clark has organized a peace speaking tour in Japan the website for which is vfpspeakingtour@gmail.com. She is also involved with "Project 1030", which is the number of nuclear tests our government has done.
- Thomas Regrut from Lehigh Valley VFP (Pennsylvania) suggested that VFP sponsor a tour to Ukraine and Russia.

Members of Board of Directors in attendance

Ellen Barfield; Paul Cox; Gerry Condon; Nyamekye Anderson; Mike Tork; Ellen Davidson; Stephen Zollman; Josh Shurley; Susan Schnall

Meeting opened at 1:14 PM by Susan Schnall. Greg Corning read the poem, "For the Children."

Agenda items:

1. Minutes of 2/15/2025 meeting were approved.
2. Agenda of 3/15/2025 meeting was approved.

3. Treasurer's Report – Mike Tork reported that VFP was ahead by \$45,000 so far this year. He encouraged chapters to use the Zinn Fund, which is dollars set aside for chapter projects.
4. Executive Director report – Michael MacPhearson talked about a 40th VFP anniversary promotion, a spring membership drive, and the National Convention in Las Vegas. The Center for Conscience and War has contacted him about a partnership to help conscientious objectors. He presented a “Proposal for Organizing Veterans for Peace National Work.” This will include Israel/Palestine, mass deportation, Save Our VA, and Climate Crisis. Proposal referred to subcommittee.
5. New Membership Coordinator Heather Carlos introduced herself.
6. Golden Rule – discussed by Mike Tork
7. Transformative Justice Committee – Kelly Wadsworth
8. Special Projects Director – Mike Ferner
9. Convention Committee – Will travel to Las Vegas soon to evaluate location.
10. Communications and Mobilization Committee – Gerry Condon spoke about the e-news newsletter and the publication Peace and Planet News. He is in touch with Peace in Ukraine Coalition to join forces. He is also leading a VFP delegation to Nicaragua next week.

Meeting adjourned at 2:43 PM. A question-and-answer session followed the meeting.

Submitted by Jim Zimmerman