

Northern New Jersey Socialist Party

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday May 30, 2007

Attending: Morgan N., Andrea P, Greg P, Trevor P., Frank R., Lauren R. and Dave W.

Meeting called to order at 7:20 pm

Agenda adopted

Campaigns

Fair Food/Immigrant Rights

Greg gave an update on the Fair Food campaign, including the latest "day of action" on May 11-12th. He also reported that SPNJ members are joining member of Residents Against Racism in Bergenfield to support the day laborers there. Local members are encouraged to join the on-going solidarity work there (Washington St. in Bergenfield).

Anti-War/ Anti-Recruitment

Andrea reported that she, Greg and Trevor joined approx. 200 other activists in holding up a 3000 ft. banner at the Teaneck Armory with the names of the US military dead and those of dead Iraqi civilians. She reported that the demo received a lot of support from passing motorists and that the media was there.

Greg reported that the Bergen County Branch of Peoples Organization for Progress was hoping to organize a counter recruitment action in Hackensack this June. The next Bergen POP meeting will be on Tuesday June 5th. He also reported on the Party's No War but Class War campaign and handed out No War But Class War literature.

Lauren reported that Montclair Peace & Justice holds vigils every Friday in Montclair. She encouraged members to attend.

Food & Clothing Distribution

Greg reported on the Party's food and clothing distribution at Journal Sq. in Jersey City and asked if the Local wanted to pick a day to do follow-up food & clothing distribution Days. The last few events were part of the Jersey City Food Not Bombs/ Jersey City Peace Movement's vigil on the last Sunday of every month.

Motion: The Local organize our next food & clothing distribution day during the Jersey City Peace Movement/Jersey City Food Not Bombs vigil on July 29th at Journal Square in Jersey City. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Greg will send out an update before the event.

Other food and clothing distribution actions were also discussed. Lauren suggested using St. Luke' (Montclair) kitchen for food sharing in Montclair. Morgan volunteered to work with her on looking into food distribution location options in Montclair.

East Coast Anti-Hate Conference

Greg reported that the SP is a co-sponsor of an *East Anti-Hate Conference* on June 16th at the Newark Public Library with Residents Against Racism and One Peoples Project. He asked for volunteers to help do outreach and organizing for the event and passed around a volunteer sign-up sheet.

August 25th Anti-War March in Newark

Greg gave an update on the August 25th Peace & Justice Coalition march (the SP is already a co-sponsor) and handed out the "call". The Local will start to organize for the march and all members are encouraged to attend organizing meetings (listed at www.peaceandjusticecoalition.org).

Book/ Film Discussion

The group discussed books for an upcoming book discussion event, but could not agree on which book to chose. Greg said he would put out a call to the membership (via e-mail and regular mail) to see which books members would like to read/discuss and where the discussion meetings should be held.

Lauren announced that she was still organizing "Coffee House/ Movie Discussion" night at her church on the second Friday of every month. She invited members to attend. "Cinema Coffeeshouse is a movie series for the wider community. The films may deal with moral issues or be otherwise thought-provoking, lending themselves well to a led discussion/debate after the showing. Admission, popcorn, & chocolates are free, and soda and coffee will be available for \$1 each. Arrive at 6:30p.m. in the parish hall to mingle before the movie starts on the big screen promptly at 6:45. Cinema Coffeeshouse will be held the second Friday of each month.") The Coffee house will be at: St. Peter's Church 380 Clifton Ave. in Clifton. Contact Lauren at itzLaurenR@aol.com.

US Social Forum

Greg handed out info. on he US Social Forum, which will be held from June 27 – July 1st in Atlanta Georgia. He reported that the Party will have a literature table and many SP members will attend the event.

State-Wide Meeting/ Convention

Greg reported that the Socialist Party's National Convention will be held on October 19-21st and that the Party will need to hold a state-wide meeting to elect delegates.

Motion: The Northern New Jersey Local offers to host the 2007 Socialist Party of New Jersey meeting during the month of July in Newark. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Greg said he would report this to the State Executive Committee and send out a mailing to see what weekend in July would be best for members.

Next Meeting

Motion: To hold the next Northern NJ Local meeting on Wednesday June 20th at 7:00 pm at the Montclair Public Library. The meeting will include a short film and discussion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm