

UUP Veterans Committee Meeting Minutes

The UUP Fall Delegates Assembly in Buffalo, NY

October 3, 2007

The following committee members attended the DA meeting on Sept. 28, 2007:

(X: a member, but did not attend)

Tommie Babbs (X)	William Borgstede
Gina Doty	Aaron Godfrey (X)
John Hain	Richard Harding
Robert Kasprak	George Mitchell (X)
Norman Smellie	Tom Windt
Richard Butler	(someone came in later, but name?—let me know)

The following items were discussed. Open items to work on are in **bold**.

1. The minutes from the April 2007 DA were read by Gina and approved by all.
2. American Anthem: The American Anthem will be sung by a Buffalo University student at this DA. Gina later found out from Eileen Landy that the student was paid her going fee of \$40.00 to sing.
3. **Future DA Plans**: Robert will check with the Albany Veterans Administration about coming to meet our committee and speak to us at the February 2008 DA.
 - Robert commented that due to personal issues he had not worked on this for this DA as he had planned on.
 - Richard H. will contact the Fort Drum RSO (Regional Services Officer) and have them come to our Feb 2008 DA too and talk to us about current military issues.
4. Veterans Day wreath: Robert made sure that the \$172 cost for the wreath was approved at this DA and paid. This wreath represents support at the Eternal Lights Ceremony for Veterans Day in NY City. Robert spoke to the solidarity committee for funding, which was approved.
 - Discussion on what campuses do on this day revealed that some campuses do something, and some campuses do nothing. Gina is working on the new ROTC at her campus doing something for this special day.
 - Tom at Canton SUNY said that in the past, the President of his college welcomed people to come and have coffee and cake with him to celebrate the day. His office funded this.
5. Survey Questions for returning Veterans that are UUP members: William handed out a drafted survey question form to gain more information from veterans. The intent was to have the chapter presidents get the information and return it to us to use. We wanted to find out if our members returning from the Middle East and other conflicts are finding the support they need. The survey 'appeared' to slant more to students than our members.

We are putting this survey idea on hold for now, because we are going to have a few articles in The Voice to solicit information we are seeking instead.

--There was also discussion on whether the Affirmative Action Class List could include Veterans from the Persian Gulf and Middle East actions. ("who is checking into this?"—let Gina know).

6. **Review Title 10 on Preferences in hiring Veterans:** We want to find out whether this has been updated or not. Gina "thinks" that Robert K. was going to check into this (if not who?).

7. **Articles for The Voice from our committee:** We all decided that having a few articles in our UUP newsletter will advertise our committee and what we are working on. Gina will write a draft and send out to all committee members for review by Oct.3 and this will be in the November issue. Gina will also write a more 'indepth' article on our committee and members for December's issue.

--Denyce from UUP Communications came to our meeting and gave us great suggestions for writing these articles. She will make sure they appear well written after she receives the drafts.

--Denyce suggested that our articles have: who we are, our mission, our main priorities we are working on, and include our web site. (Note: The web site is outdated. Gina looked at it Oct 1 and the committee members names are not correct.) An idea is to look at the Family Leave web site on UUP for ideas to improve ours. Ken Holman (kholman@uupmail.org) is our web master to assist us. He will take our photos mentioned earlier.

--The Voice is printed 9 times a year, so we need to keep this in mind, for the Communications dept. is working months in advance per issue.

8. **Send your Military Photos:** Scan a photo(s) of yourself while in the military or send it digitally if you can to Robert K. for the web site we have on UUP. We may want to use some in our upcoming articles too.

9. **Proclamation on Veterans Day Sent:** We all felt that Bill Scheuerman should send out an email to show his support on Veterans Day using his list serve. William found out Oct. 3 that Bill will do this.

10. **Accomplishments this Year:** So far, we have the flag displayed at the DA and the National Anthem played/sung at the DA's. We are moving forward to accomplishing some goals.

Meeting minutes written by: Gina Doty

(If you know who stated they would handle an issue, let me know the name, and the person that arrived later on, let me know this too. If something is inaccurate, let me know.)

