

## MINUTES

The meeting convened at 7:10 pm with Vice-Chairperson Bob Meola presiding.

### ROLL CALL

Present: Diana Bohn, Donald Brody, Steve Freedkin (via teleconference until 7:30pm), Peter Kafin, Mark McDonald, Bob Meola, Michael Sherman, PhoeBe ANNE sorgen, Megan Winkelman

Absent: Elliot Cohen, Steve Freedkin (signed off @ 7:30pm), Jane Litman, Thom Seaton, Anne Wagley, Jonathan Wornick

Members of  
the Public: 3

### COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- Ann Fagan Ginger, Meiklejohn Civil Liberties: Iraq Moratorium
- Nunu Kidané, Priority Africa Network: Africa Debt Cancellation
- Igor Tregub, Commission on Labor: Sweatshop-Free Ordinance

### ACTION ON MINUTES

*M/S/C (Winkelman/sorgen)* to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of June 4, 2007.  
**Ayes:** Bohn, Brody, Freedkin, McDonald, Meola, Sherman, sorgen, Winkelman; **Noes:** none;  
**Abstain:** Kafin, Sherman; **Absent:** Cohen, Litman, Seaton, Wagley, Wornick.

Commissioner Kafin abstained because he is a new commissioner and tonight is his first meeting; and Commissioner Sherman abstained because he was not present at the June meeting.

### PRESENTATION

Discussion on the Public Commons for Everyone Initiative with Jim Hynes & Lauren Lempert from the Office of the City Manager (to be continued at the October meeting).

### ACTIONS TAKEN

#### **Iraq Moratorium**

*M/S/C (Meola/Sherman)* that Council adopt a Resolution (*Attachment 1*) endorsing the Iraq Moratorium on October 19, 2007, November 16, 2007 and December 21, 2007 and every subsequent third Friday of every month until there is an end to the United States war in Iraq, and urging all of the citizens of the City of Berkeley to take the Iraq Moratorium pledge and participate in some way in the Iraq Moratorium campaign until the United States war in Iraq is ended. **Ayes:** Unanimous; **Absent:** Cohen, Freedkin, Litman, Seaton, Wagley; Wornick.

#### **Sanctuary City for Conscientious Objectors**

*M/S/C (Meola/sorgen)* that Council adopt the revised Resolution (*Attachment 2*) reaffirming the City of Berkeley as a City of Sanctuary for United States military personnel seeking Conscientious Objector Status, and extending Berkeley as a City of Sanctuary for those otherwise seeking to avoid participating in the Occupation of Iraq or in combat operations in Iraq, Afghanistan or other targets of United States wars for moral, ethical or religious reasons or out of respect for international laws, including the Nuremberg Principles, or cases where these

military personnel have been classified as AWOL or deserters. **Ayes:** Unanimous; **Absent:** Cohen, Freedkin, Litman, Seaton, Wagley, Wornick.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, October 1, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the North Berkeley Senior Center with a deadline of Friday, September 21, 2007 for submission of agenda items and materials for the October agenda packet. Dates are subject to change, please contact the Commission Secretary to confirm.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Delfina Geiken, Acting Secretary  
Peace & Justice Commission

Attachments

# ATTACHMENT 1

## ENDORING THE IRAQ MORATORIUM

WHEREAS, the Peace and Justice Commission advises the City Council on all matters relating to the City of Berkeley's role in issues of peace and social justice (Berkeley Municipal Code (BMC) Chapter 369.070); and

WHEREAS, the United States launched an illegal and immoral war of aggression on the people and territory of Iraq on March 19, 2003 and the Bush Administration sold that war to Congress and the American people based on lies and has pursued it ever since on more lies; and

WHEREAS, recent estimates put the number of Iraqis killed in this war at approximately one million and this war has caused the destruction of Iraqi society and Iraqi infrastructure, and has produced catastrophic loss of human life, both civilian and military, both Iraqi and United States, as well as physically maiming and deforming and psychologically destroying countless numbers of civilians and military personnel; and

WHEREAS, the Iraqi people are continuing to suffer and die from hunger, thirst, and disease as well as from weapons due to the infliction of this war upon them by the Bush Administration; and

WHEREAS, national polls have shown that for more than two years, approximately 70% of the American people have declared their desire to end this war, nearly 4,000 American troops have died in this war and a military victory is neither desirable nor possible in this war; and

WHEREAS, by all accounts, the 2006 election was a referendum on bringing the troops home and ending the occupation of Iraq; and

WHEREAS, the Vietnam Moratorium days in 1969 had a positive effect on helping to bring an end to the war in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, a grass roots local and national movement called IRAQ MORATORIUM is demanding that the United States end U.S. military involvement in Iraq and bring our troops home now and Iraq Moratorium asks American citizens to take the pledge, "On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of every month, I will break my daily routine and take some action, by myself or with others, to end the war in Iraq." and the first Iraq Moratorium Day was Friday, September 21, 2007; and

WHEREAS, people will participate in Iraq Moratorium in a variety of ways, including, wearing black ribbons, black arm bands, black clothing to symbolize mourning, vigils, marches, speak-outs, teach-ins, leafleting, bannering, demonstrations, music, poetry, performance art, talking to their friends, families, neighbors and co-workers, and more until there is an end to United States participation in the war in Iraq.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Peace and Justice Commission recommends that the Council of the City of Berkeley declare the City of Berkeley endorses the Iraq

Moratorium on October 19, 2007, November 16, 2007 and December 21, 2007 and every subsequent third Friday of every month until there is an end to the United States war in Iraq and that the City of Berkeley urges all of the citizens of the City of Berkeley to take the Iraq Moratorium pledge and participate in some way in the Iraq Moratorium campaign on Friday October 19, 2007 and until the United States war in Iraq is ended.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Peace and Justice Commission recommends that the Council of the City of Berkeley endorse the regional anti-war mobilization marches in ten United States cities including San Francisco, to take place on October 27, 2007, sponsored by the October 27<sup>th</sup> Coalition, which is aimed at ending the military invasion and occupation of Iraq and preventing a war with Iran.

## ATTACHMENT 2

### REAFFIRMING THE CITY OF BERKELEY AS A CITY OF REFUGE

WHEREAS, the Peace and Justice Commission advises the City Council on all matters relating to the City of Berkeley's role in issues of peace and social justice (Berkeley Municipal Code (BMC) Chapter 369.070); and

WHEREAS, Berkeley has by Resolution and Proclamation designated May 15<sup>th</sup> of every year as Berkeley Conscientious Objectors and War Resisters Day to acknowledge, honor, and celebrate all Conscientious Objectors and War Resisters, civilian and military, past, present and future; and

WHEREAS, the United States (U.S.) has a history of launching illegal, immoral and unprovoked wars of aggression and the Bush Administration launched the most recent of those wars in Iraq and is threatening the possibility of war in Iran; and

WHEREAS, these wars have produced catastrophic loss of human life, both civilian and military, as well as physically maiming and deforming and psychologically destroying countless numbers of civilians and military personnel; and

WHEREAS, the people of the City of Berkeley have long voiced their stand for peace and against unnecessary wars; and support people following their consciences to do what is morally and ethically right to resist illegitimate authority; and

WHEREAS, thousands of military personnel are currently seeking Conscientious Objector status or otherwise attempting to separate themselves from engaging in unconstitutional, illegal, immoral, undeclared wars; and

WHEREAS, the Berkeley City Council has already declared and reaffirmed Berkeley as a City of Refuge (1971 Resolution No. 44,784-N.S. and 1985, relating to Central American refugees, Resolution No. 52,596-N.S. and in 1991, Resolution No. 55,705-N.S. in which "...the City of Berkeley hereby reaffirms itself a refuge for all persons who for moral, ethical, or religious reasons cannot participate in war;" and

WHEREAS, in 1991, The City and County of San Francisco passed a resolution "Declaring the City and County of San Francisco To Be A Sanctuary For All Persons Who For Moral, Ethical, Or Religious Reasons Cannot Participate In War".

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Peace and Justice Commission recommends that the Council of the City of Berkeley reaffirm the City of Berkeley as a City of Sanctuary for U.S. military personnel seeking Conscientious Objector Status, and extend Berkeley as a City of Sanctuary for those otherwise seeking to avoid participating in the Occupation of Iraq or in combat operations in Iraq, Afghanistan or other targets of U.S. wars for moral, ethical or religious reasons or out of respect for international laws, including the Nuremberg Principles, or cases where these military personnel have been classified as AWOL or deserters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Peace and Justice Commission recommends that the Council of the City of Berkeley declare the City of Berkeley a City of Sanctuary for Draft Registration Resisters and in the event of a new draft, a City of Sanctuary for Draft Resisters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the city of Berkeley reaffirms its policy that military service and conscription is a matter of Federal jurisdiction and that City employees will not be considered responsible for implementation or enforcement of military service and conscription policies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Berkeley reaffirms its policy to decline to commit or expend any City financial, police, or other resources to assist the United States Armed Forces and the Selective Service Administration in the implementation and enforcement of the United States Armed Forces and Selective Service Law or to gather and disseminate information regarding the Military or Selective Service status of individuals living in Berkeley or their ethnic, racial or religious background that is not required by federal or state statute, regulation or court decision and that the City of Berkeley now declares that it extends this policy to also decline to commit any city financial, police or other resources to assist the Federal Bureau of Investigation or any other agency in the implementation and enforcement of the United States Armed Forces and Selective Service Law or to gather and disseminate information regarding Military or Selective Service status of individuals living in Berkeley or their ethnic, racial or religious background that is not required by federal or state statute regulation or court decision.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and the City Council of Berkeley instruct the City Manager to advise the City Boards, and Commissions and Departments of this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the implementation of the provisions of this Resolution by employees and agencies of the City of Berkeley remain consistent with federal and state statutes, ordinances, regulations or court decisions, and that the City of Berkeley is not, in adopting this Resolution, encouraging its employees and citizens and residents to violate any local, state or federal laws.