

Please scroll down to the bottom of the notes to see the final decisions:

Proposed Agenda:

1. Introductions
2. Proposals on how we'll make decisions
3. Check in on what people would like us to do/assessment of present situation
4. What unites us? Demands
5. Next meeting
6. Announcements
 1. (More or less who was there) Gay Liberation Network, CCAWR, Dupage Green Party, DSA, Peace Action and Racial Justice Task Force, Near West Citizens for Peace and Justice, Art Institute Peace Vigil, Chicago Media Action. 8th Day Center for Justice, Chicago SCS, Neighbors for Peace, ANSWER, International Socialist Organization, Witness for Peace, IL Ballot Integrity Project, Chicago 9/11 truth, Hammerhard media, CRAMMIT: Scientology Watch Group, Internationalist Socialist Organization, ILCPJE, VCNV, Northwest Indiana Coalition Against the Iraq War, Chicago Labor Against the War
 2. Modified Consensus – Try to come to an agreement, have a vote with 3/5ths majority. The group in favor of this.
 3. Check in on what people would like us to do/assessment of present situation

Proposal that people limit comments to 2 minutes/preference given to those who have not already spoken, What would we like to do?

-Lora Chamberlain- “This is Hell” Are Americans a Broken People- Compares American people to an abusive family, important to our messaging, 8 years later. We are still not a major movement. This would behoove everyone to understand this. On Thisishell.net also on Counterpunch.

- Predator Strike on Yemen Today.
- Bill Massey: I would like to propose NATIONAL ANSWER calls for National Demonstration in Washington DC on March 20th 2010. Two major calamities: Depression/Economic Tsunami having an effect on the size of demonstrations. Other is the 2008 elections: This is clear, it is not

Bushes or Obama's war – it is imperialism's war and capitalism's war. This is becoming more.

- World Cant Wait: Thompson Center: Moving of Guantanamo Detainees to Supermax in Thompson IL. Moving Guantanamo Detainees to this prison, Obama is holding a law.
- Chicago World Can't Wait: Guantanamo Getting a new zip Code. We are cosponsoring March in DC. Suggest have a March before March 20th to get people to sing on to the March in Washington.
- Don: I would hope that we would build up the amount of Military Bases in Colombia I think that they will move into Colombia.
- Women suffer the brunt of this oppression. Conditions of Women in Afghanistan.
- Police Forces are becoming Homeland Security: We worry about suppression, we have to look at Police funding and the spread of Homeland security
- Trying to Mobilize more people, Maybe people are over their hesitancy, they are more clear now. People see the need to be more active to get involved in Peace and Justice Issues. Involving many more people involved in the organized fold.
- Presumptuous that people will go to either coast for a rally in this economic climate. Important that we do this here. Needs to be a stand-alone event, for people who cant get off work or travel economically.
- Maneer Muhammad would like to offer support to this group and what we are doing. Been in contact with people from Devon Ave groups, Pakistani etc. They would be willing to entertain doing something on Devon Ave b/c Pakistan has been deeply affected by this. Open to discuss something for March 20th, make this a strong local action that can draw from around the area. Calls from the local African America Community (i.e. Pat Hill, etc.) has been extremely positive.
- Sean- International socialist organization - Clearly there is an opening with Obama's announcement with the War and Nobel Peace prize peace. Long war ahead. Depends on US casualties, Taliban, but this will be the central access of Obama's foreign policy. Key thing is for us to move beyond our sails. How can we be a peace opposition and organized response. I am sympathetic of going to DC, know that there has been some organizing around it.

- I would like to go along with Neal and mobilize more people. Bill Moyers last night talked about the foreclosure crisis in Dorchester MA and how they were able to stay in their homes and fight foreclosure. Think we need to have demonstrations in those communities to convey the message that EVERYONE is suffering due to war. Perhaps this is how we can get people to join us. Go back to the basics around the science of 911. This is where courage comes in, look at the computer and get evidence.
- Dick Reilly: In past have argued against local demos in Chicago. Important to promote that, not a one-demonstration action. It's a program that has to start on through March. Convinced that political conditions, disillusionment of Obama's base we are on New ground here. Think we need to have some focal emphasis (going to Washington and getting in people's face). Also need dialogue within the anti-war movement – groups talking now that were not talking before. Local action only if it were regional. We don't have regional demonstration in this meeting. Favor going to DC.
- Need to be straight about American Democracy at home as well. Black man elected as president with a historical foundation of slavery and genocide. Racist rhetoric has emerged because of this. Anti-war movement needs to realize that we are fighting our own taliban here. I.E. the "Family". Turn the Imperialist War into a Civil war. Its here first of all.
- We need representation from Latino Community, Religious Progressive groups against the war, Labor Unions etc. Unless these people come to the table they are not going to bring in the numbers. I think it should be on the table.
- Lora Chamberland- American People abused People – The more you rail on people on what they need to pay attention to, the more they withdrawal. Encourage folks to make this the broadest "Stand up for your neighbors for money and your needs"
- Bonnie M. West side politician talking about Afghanistan is talking about money going to Afghanistan instead of Human Needs, we need to support his campaign, very brave and support his campaign.
- Joleen- Don't care if we are in Chicago and DC as long as its big. Midwestern action is a good idea. We can make contacts with people in the Midwest. Important that the Pakistani Community get involved that we meet in a space that is inclusive-downtown is the place that is the most inclusive. I am working with people in the Southside and Woodlawn. They want to reach out to broader political movement and want to reach out. These people know what the war is doing for them. We need to be

involved in our communities. We need to be careful with Obama Campaign. They are already sad about voting for him. We don't need to rub salt in the wound.

- Heather with ANSWER coalition: We wanted to bring to this discussion: Great amount of people at this meeting, whatever we do we want it as big and relevant as possible. Supporting a National Demonstration because it is the most inclusive. We have been getting calls from people from the South, Midwest etc. A national Demo would facilitate a location to host the largest turnout, in DC. We would be able to have demo in DC. Organize people against the war. Could send information out on our list.
- We are here b/c of the war on Iraq, Afghanistan, the World. Has been going on for 100 years, is war on the capitalist class. We need a CLARITY of message- it's the role of the activist. DC is the headquarters of the political capitalist system.
- Larry Duncan-Chicago Labor Against the War: We need to look at Demonstration at DC. Washington is the Center of Government. We need to show ourselves and the rest of the world that we are "rebooting" that manifestation of the opposition. There could be local demonstrations as well and build up demos, but the big national demo should be in Washington DC at the
- E Wilson: Peace action at Racial Justice Task force in Hyde Park: I think we should have more actions in communities of color and neighborhoods of different cultures. Need to be intentional about the words we use as a means to be inclusive for different groups, ethnicities, racial backgrounds. I.E. we need to use "anti-racism" as opposed to Anti-Obama.
- We need to change our behavior as a movement. We are at war in 4 countries since 9/11. We should have emergency response demos each week until the troops are completely out of the Middle East in Asia and South America. We need to move in a more militant direction as a movement. We have been a cat threatening to scratch as opposed to actually scratching.
- Bill Massey- Its very important that we do both – (Local and Washington DC.) The majority of people are all affected by these policies – involved in fighting for jobs, health care, the prejudices, the women, immigration rights, etc. The undocumented have totally been left out of the health care bill purposefully. I think we should focus on actions here and DC action. We can create a coordinating committee for the DC protest. People come together and make a list. This is not to take away from regional demo's that should be taken here.

- Rob- Not speak against DC but throw out odd proposal that we plan and work on a Teach – In in Chicago. All of us have different focuses we work on. The system of our nation is fucked up. We have a systemic problem. We can carry that message on a Saturday to have different work shops that we can work on in March.
- Troy: National vs. Regional: Not against a national demonstration but one of the arguments is that it's the political headquarters of the ruling class in the war of Afghanistan. We have to empower people to take ownership on a local context, building relationships in people that they know and taking power in their own hands. I agree that we are not going to be “fuck obama” but he is giving the orders. No matter what we do, we have to oppose his policies.
- Beneficial if we have an anti-racist anti capitalist march. We have a lot of war profiteers here. I think instead of shipping people coast to coast have more of a militancy movement as well. In a local context.
- We communicate with each other and then we take action. When we talk about reaching out across economic and color lines, there is an element of imposition. Should we bring our message to folks who have not been a part of that transformative experience. Need to cross racial and economic lines. At the same time we have to move forward with these things. We have to balance with these things.
- I don't see any concrete analysis of this period. We are confronting the most savage parts of imperialism in history in this present time. Educators should be educated himself. There is Obama Kool-aid in this room. If we don't take over the criticism the harshest, the Right wing will take over. Obama is a sign to do the roll back . He's the smartest son of a bitch of the imperialist system.
- Hear that “it doesn't achieve anything” We need to come up with actions that are affective. We need to find targets to boycott, committees or strategizing proposals to concrete actions that we can make go national. If we get a significant percentage where people can come together and say yes that can make a difference.
- I cant speak for any particular Latino group, CAMI, In the last demonstration I realized we had a small group of Latinos, I saw fear in their face, I had small interviews with my camera. Its horrible but I can't make illusions about my people. A lot of our people are barely making it – they are struggling for their jobs, they can barely make it. We have a lot to teach others. The idea of Obama. The president represents a ruling class of this country. We don't have to be rude to a president, we cannot lie to ourselves. Lets hit the senators the mayor.

- **ANDY: Hearing a strong majority of people saying “DC march is important” and even if I can’t get there, support people who want to go there.** We are in a rebuilding phase but the reality is that the role of these demos is to get the word out and hopefully have some of these direct actions as well. I would be opposed to have an indoor conference prior to, but that is not to say that we can’t have teach ins in Feb. Germany and France will announce their own commitment to the surge, we should encourage people around the world to say that they should not participate in the surge. **Suggest that we use the sign up list for folks signing up to be on the list serve (M20 list) Strongly advocate that if our friends in the Pakistani community that we go forward with this. We have to humanize this war.** Suggest that at some point in this meeting to say that if you are willing to host it, that we are willing to work with you. I suggest that we do it on Saturday March 13th, 2010. The bombs are falling on their family members. Threats of deportation. Unique opportunity, way to humanize this war. **Propose a straw poll: This body agrees to build for a march in DC on March 20th, and a local action on March 13th. This is not to exclude teach INS etc.**
- **RESULTS OF STRAW POLL (non binding): about 36 out of 60 are in favor of Demo in DC March 20th and local March 13th.**
- **Proposal to raise money for folks to go to DC. Could form ourselves as a Chicago contingent in the march in DC. Have a series of actions and teach-ins weekly vigils**
- Proposal to have several “Teach Outs” in various ethnic communities around Chicago. Rather than asking people to come towards us.
- FACEBOOK is a great tool. Use invitation as an organizing tool.
- Support for proposal for different activities but we have 365 days in a year 52 weekends. We cant just have one activity. The importance of March 20th is that it is the anniversary of the devastation of imperialism. We are there to make a statement.
-
- Two years ago we found many people who wanted to do direct actions. We had people do direct action the day after last year and it was important. We should do a day of direct action on the 14th, give people the information and support they need. We need to form affinity groups ahead of time. People are supportive of each other. We need support a day of DIRECT ACTION.
- Emergency action we had over 60 endorsements, and we turned out 200 people. This indicates that this is not a question of organizations and

coalitions being unable to organize their own base to come and turn out. I think the remedy is to increase that number of activities. How are we going to get our voices out in the communities. The Palestinian solidarity group has a surge of activities. A lot of actions around health care, a lot of momentum around union organizing. Interesting dynamics of play. What can we do in our own organizations.

- I think we should rely on ANSWER to organize buses to go. We should create a Chicago contingent. I think we could have a banner etc. With respect to the local action. I am opposed to have it in any neighborhood besides Michigan ave, etc. I think its important to have it in Pakistani communities but perhaps in Feb. in lead up. I think that it is important to be centralized in our march.
- I see the utility of going to Michigan Ave
- Outreach- one basic problem I notice is that I went to protest on police brutality, I went there to go to the protest on this church. I think 20-30 of them were white.
- Support a day of actions developing affinity groups way ahead of time, but also support the idea of connecting the anti-war movement with the affects of capitalism and imperialism at home and abroad.
- **Suggest something in the month of February with Black History month, teach-in and forum with black history month.**
- Plenty of people are trying to cover for Obama and the right is the void. We need to develop arguments to counter Obama rhetoric. Dispell the myths. I don't want to be confused with the right. We are back at the beginning for rebuilding an anti-war movement. We have to use this actions to help develop movement on campuses and neighborhoods. People have feel like it matters what they do. People have RETHINK Afghanistan Viewings everywhere. Have Afghani soldiers come back and testify what they saw. Teach-in is a great idea. We need to do the broadest outreach. US Labors call for withdrawal really important.
- Hooshi: We want to approach communities and minorities, go to their events~ Rather than passing one person on the street in your car – go to their events. Go there and take your message to them! Go to their events/ Why don't we organize to go there events, and take it to them.
- Pat – If we are going to organize in a community we need representatives of that community in organizing body. If not we are imposing it on high.

- Chris- February forum of some time. We should go outside the well and invite Glen Ford or Bruce Dixon, two individuals who know how to be critical of this organization. I have talked with folks from Devon Ave, they are in a sit down and want to talk about what their needs are. Propose a small working group to go and talk with these folks.
- Magda- Getting people together Latino Community, we have a rub, b.c that is where the rub begins with African American community and Latino communities. The Latino has to go back to her community. This whole responsibility falls on me. It doesn't cost anything to talk with people to call people. The work comes with each and every one of us. We are dragging people here. There is no time for shyness in this room. This is a very serious topic. It affects our community. I have had people die in these wars, WWI, WWII. Self-determination to people in the community.
- **Campaign beginning today; because we all have different ideas of different actions we can do local actions. This is a campaign and not just two events.**
- Ken: there is a good chance that the M20 marches also back the idea of educational forum or outreach. I think we should have a three-person committee to find people to contact. We should have concrete plans from this committees etc. Over the last years or so we have seen reality hitting the fan, people are scattered. We need to recollect our forces before we go to Washington.
- Rob – We cant be so presumptuous to walk into a community and tell them anything.
- Joleen- All of us work on some other issue with people in our communities, it is our job to take an anti-war statement to our people. “Tax the rich, help the poor, and expand public services.” In my community the plan is to have an action on MLK day, We can get all behind that.
- I want to get away from just having one march. We should have a WAVE of actions. We should put up a number of actions for people to be as inclusive as possible. If we have a rally ask that 9/11-truth committee that we have a speaker on the podium.
- James: It is a real collaborative process to build partnerships around Chicago. In order to make these relationships last, we have to find a means to continue this structure. We need a different media structure to sustain these relationships over time. We must make our collaboration a communicative process that sustains over time.

- ANSWER is in the process of organizing busses to DC, have begun that process. We hope to begin to propose speakers from Chicago to Washington, A national demonstration uses a variety of speakers, I think we should put in our speakers from Chicago there.
- I think we can learn something from the right wing neo-fascists. They out organized us like crazy. They didn't have a mass movement. They had a few 100 right-wingers. They ran the summit on us. We can be committed individuals. Jan Shakowsky has just voted on the funding for Afghanistan. Barbara Lee didn't vote for this defense bill. Jan Shakowsky did vote for this defense bill. What about our Congressional People, Not ONE penny more. From my view of the Vietnam war, the thing that stop it is that our soldiers went into revolt. OUR soldiers are going to end this war. That means counter recruitment, underground legal support, and fight for their right, some amnesty.

Final Proposals and Conclusions.

**NEXT MEETING: Sunday January 10th at 8th Day Center for Justice
205 W. Monroe Chicago IL 60606 3pm- 5pm**

This body endorses the National March on Washington for Saturday March 20th; we have some local action on Saturday March 13th and that this body enlist a smaller group of folks to parcel out who will talk with whom locally in Chicago but also to bring proposals to mtg on January 10.

- Divide working groups based on locations: Going there and working with people.
- Propose three committee: Education Committee: Communication Committee, OUTREACH.
- Local Events committee needs a committee specifically focused on local events. This could incorporate educational etc.
- Need a committee a third world anti war outreach group, we can meet and make decisions of how we process these things. Think it should be a means of uniting us to make us part of the whole ties. There could be back up support, it would not exclude anyone but would like people of color in that committee.

- Chris Geovantis: Events organization committee will be an evolving working group, as we develop actions, In the very short term, those of us who are interested in checking in with different groups, and come to some agreement of what groups we are going to talk with right now, what they think about plugging into events that are already going on, that group spend the next week and a half checking in, meet on the fourth and create possibilities with that group on the 10th, we are looking for leadership direction guidance from the committee of people of color. I think we should get some work going in the next couple of days. We need a framework of right now for getting the work started.
- Contact Committee: Make some trouble-working group.
- Burge is going on trial and Gutierrez is putting forward a bill, there is a great deal of things going on. We need to do serious outreach to churches to troops. I think this should be the responsibility of every individual not just a specific committee.
- Dick Reilly, Need Central place to check in with what's going on. Revisiting M20 website and post on it what's going on in the next two months. We need to do things like face book etc. that people can start to log in on. We are lucky to have people like Andrew who have horizontal peace groups' ways of organizing. Groups from small towns all over Wisconsin. Instead of agonizing process of outreach using this network to ship a survey across the Midwest. (ILCPJE Website tools).
- Magda: We need to make a special invitation, if we in beginning to create a certain space for third world people, I think that we will miss the opportunity.

FINAL DECISIONS FOR PROPOSALS:

-Resurrect M20 website: YES. Andrew will do this –it will be named later. Andrew will also set out invitations to the committee's.

-3rd world anti-war outreach committee:

-Events Committee-Email can go out (Chris can take responsibility to coordinate this--Invite people to be a part of this process. We can make a plan electronically), meet on Jan. 4th somewhere)

-Education Committee:

-Direct Action Component Working Group:

-Leafleting Committee:

-Labor Committee –

We agree that as part of the function of setting of the website, invitations will be sent out inviting people to participate them. Magda will invite participation of 3rd world people on a separate list serve.

Andy will do the data entry to get all email addresses, and Andrew will help them to get it set up. If you do not get something within 48 hours. Andy's number is 773 209 1187. Send emails to CCAWR@aol.com