

Occupy CU General Assembly Minutes

Friday, May 4, 2012
Champaign Public Library

NEXT MEETING: Friday, May 18, 2012, Champaign Library, Room A, 6 pm

THERE WILL BE NO GA MEETING NEXT FRIDAY DUE TO THE JAIL MEETING!!!

In attendance: Chandler, Laura, Marcia, Chris, Sandra, Pam, Theresa, Charles, Eleanor

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ~ The Weekly Street Corner Protest for Saturday, 5/5/12, from 2 – 4 p.m., will be at Main and Neil Streets. This is the week where we protest alongside AWARE.
- ~ There will be activist training on May 26th (two part) sponsored by Eastern Illinois Jobs with Justice. This is an all-day training. Please contact the CU Jobs with Justice for more information.
- ~ The Monthly Occupy Social will be held Wednesday May 9 at Esquires at 7 p.m.
- ~ The jail expansion information meeting will be held on Friday, May 11, at 6 p.m., at 400 S. Vine Street in Urbana.

GENERAL DISCUSSIONS

As there were a couple of new people in attendance, we took the time to fill them in on some of what ocCUpy has been doing and what it concerns itself with.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Outreach Committee: Pam reported on the actions of the Outreach Committee from two weeks prior. Most of what she reported had already occurred.

Anti-Eviction Foreclosure Committee: Eleanor updated the group on the goals of the Anti-Eviction committee. She and Jesse will have a table out at the court the next time it is in session where they will meet people going in and out and distribute information to them. Eleanor disseminated the flier they developed to 5 African-American churches in the last couple of weeks. They are going to hook up with the CU Citizens for Peace and Justice in order to learn who needs a job. These same individuals may have needs as far as eviction and housing are concerned. The group meets at Urbana Free Library at 7.00 pm on Wednesdays.

G8/Nato Committee: The articles on the NATO/G8 protests authored by Chris, John, and Theresa were published in the latest issue of the Public i. Theresa and Chris will be meeting at the Occupy Social this week in order to finalize plans for the protest in Chicago in May. Theresa reported that as of now, there are approximately 23 people signed up to take the bus. In the next week, the committee will hammer out the details of when the bus will leave, where to get the bus, how to be safe in Chicago, etc.

RECAP/REPORT ON COMPLETED ACTIONS/EVENTS

1. Chris reported on the IVAW fundraiser/art for NATO protest evening at the Catholic Worker House on April 29. Many creative people attended.
2. Chandler reported on the ZineFest and how enjoyable it had been. He said that there was an ocUPy zine and it gives info on our group that is useful to those interested in the movement.
3. Chandler reported on the ocUPy garden that some of us are helping to grow. Sean has spearheaded the effort and several crops are already in the ground. Marcia shared that she has a sign in her yard that says "EAT YOUR YARD" and is committed to helping others become self-sufficient in this area.

PROPOSALS/OPEN DISCUSSION

1. Pam wondered why we had not hosted some sort of local May Day protest. There was a discussion of how it might be good to tie into larger demonstrations so that we feel greater solidarity with those outside our area.
2. Pam asked if we could use a portion of our weekly meetings to discuss national Occupy issues.
3. Charles asked how Occupy sees itself fitting into the upcoming elections. Chandler said that we have to take care not to split the group, that we need to respect all of the separate entities that make up Occupy. Chris said that ocUPy is a non-partisan movements and that we should coalesce on issues where we find agreement.
4. Marcia asked about a flier that gives general information about ocUPy and Chandler reported that one is in the works.

Check us out:

FACEBOOK <https://www.facebook.com/OccupyChampaignUrbana>

OCCUPYCU.org <http://occupyCU.org>

OCCUPYthe AIR weft.org or occupytheair.blogspot.com OR

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Occupy-the-AIR-WEFT-901-FM>