Group engaged in discussion about agenda – how to reach decisions (select method). A lot of this was semantics. Questions included:

* What does bullet 5 mean?
* ¾ ths of what – the whole Coalition? Just the people in attendance at the meeting if that is where decision matter comes up?

Method used to determine whether and which process to be used

Discussion of concensus (“Paul” gave Quaker definition)

Voting – eligibility for participation in decision making (those in attendance at the moment of need of decision only?)

Some “new” people in room and question of who is Coalition, what is structure came up. Explained 2 primary Workers Center & Syracuse Peace Counsel with peripheral such as Black Lives Matter (another name offered -missed it). Another mentioned that training would be helpful to ‘know how to talk with the other side’ (Trump supporters meant). Andy mentioned upcoming training.

Is anyone taking minutes? Feeling was needed to have meeting minutes not just emails of events being planned, etc.

Take “temp of room” on ppsl 1 (hand signals to indicate)

* Most seem ok with idea of using the consensus model just for today to move through items on agenda.
* Joe: most people here want to be lead vs lead (inferring view that Andy et al should function as ‘steering committee’?)
* Concern for process of determining which items are ‘significant’
* What kind of decisions have been made so far and how made
* What kind of decisions are we facing.

Casey – strong dissent/addressing group to decision making is premature (some support for her concern was evident).Referenced members of Moveon.org having been at previous meeting (note to self: this may not have been sufficiently understood or responded to based on comments heard around me).

Coalition (#1 Purview) Intro’d with explanation this needs work …taking comments/questions/ideas/suggestions which included:

* Any activity being sponsored by Coalition
* Press releases and media related
* Actions/guidelines (ex- non-violence)
* Incurring expenses/financial mgmt.
* 501C3 – down the road at the moment
* Coalition taking positions on particular issue
* Prioritizing of what SC and/or committees work on and need for communications between subgroups/subcommittees). Note to self: believe comment was not to express only need to prioritize but to synchronize as well
* Need to clarify what and when subcommittees need to go to Coalition.

Agenda item 3 – Dana …infrastructure/ policies a work in progress

Mentioned from floor during this time:

* Expense policy
  + Committees need $ for something – pass hat in their group or preapproval to be brought to Coalition.
  + What is process for asking/turnaround time Fundraising need to be established
    - From floor (several mentioned/ ‘sounded like’ people in general ok with this idea: pass hat at general meeting and/or ask for donations for people who can’t make it to meetings but want to support.
    - “Hat passed”. From floor a request this NOT be done again – “shaming”.
  + Volunteers signed on to begin work on policy for expense/fundraising.

Agenda items -4&5 -Eric

Comments from floor:

* Concern that not taking a stand dilutes effectiveness of (not clearly heard or understood)- “Ultimate power of any movement is getting people into office”.
* Someone asked if this meant problem with their Committee setting up meeting in April with Mayor. Andy response suggested holding off on that/coordinating with Coordinating Committee. (answer was ‘yes’)
* Semantics
  + What does “hold accountable” mean?
  + What does “healing” mean?
* Eric: we are political but not partisan.
  + Vote by hands if agreed. Hands indicated majority agree.
  + Comment from floor that minutes should reflect if feelings are not unanimous (as the issue of non-partisan seems to possibly be)
  + Concern about politicians being invited and given floor by our group or committees – don’t give them a platform at our events. Tom acknowledged this is a working concern and discussed value of being open so to be able to engage with them without committing to accepting their agendas,etc). SENSITIVE
  + Non-affiliation statement – how we interface with politicians. Separate group needed to add/develop language (names taken/volunteers) but use language for agenda for now)

4:50 pm

Andy – waiving finishing last couple items on agenda. Gave an update on upcoming events and locations.

Casey – strong objection regarding location – Lancaster Ave inaccessible to many city residents. Encouraged use of St. Lucy’s. (difference of memory of discussion about this exchanged between Tom and Casey).

Andy:

* next week here; following week at Dunbar Ctr; 3/26 community outreach; Batavia; 4/29 local march coinciding with nationwide march (environmental?); tomorrow CNY Civil Liberty – Albany; 3/18 FIRST TOWN HALL MEETING AT NOTTINGHAM 3PM.
* interaction with Katko at Blarney Stone after which he called small group of people for meeting (Fri) Feeling pressure?
* Actions taken by Coalition recently : letter of solidarity sent to kids at JCC; ref to petition/Doris.

ADJOURN