

Behind the Scenes of Don't Shoot PDX

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other phrases associated with the movement such as “Black Lives Matter” and “I Can't Breathe” in front of City Hall, the Portland Police Bureau's North Precinct, and several other random yet high profile locations.

I recently attended another Don't Shoot PDX meeting and the meeting location was apparently changed several times. I arrived at a Chinatown's Floyd's Coffee, only to find a sign taped to the ground announcing the location had been changed to Powell's City of Books café. Powell's seemingly did not mind the 30 or so extra people sitting in a large discussion group for a couple of hours.

Also at the meeting in support of the movement were mem-



Malcolm Chaddock, a Portland resident and member of Veterans of Peace, attends a meeting with the Portland activist group 'Don's Shoot PDX,' as he works to stem the rising militarism of police forces.

traffic on Southeast 82nd Avenue, in civil disobedience to a requirement to obtain a police escort by purchasing a permit from the city of Portland.

“The whole point of supporting this as a member of Veterans for Peace is to try and stem the causes of the rising militarism in the police force,” he said.

Chaddock feels his group ties in neatly with the Don't Shoot PDX movement because ever increasing militarized police forces are using surplus arms and tactics from the battles in Iraq and Afghanistan against people of color and poor people.

Keeping up the momentum and a busy schedule await Don't Shoot PDX organizers in the days ahead. You can keep abreast of their meetings and direct actions by going to their Facebook page Don't Shoot PDX.

On Twitter? Follow Mike for interesting tweets regarding local sports, international affairs and other random timely topics @IlluminatorMike

bers of Veterans for Peace as well as the Hispanic musical collective Bajo Salario which sings at protests in support of immigrant worker's rights and at immigrant advocacy meetings. The collaborations show how the Don't Shoot PDX movement is hard to pin down and is supported by people from various different communities.

One of the Veterans for Peace members, Malcolm Chaddock, was arrested on the day of the Ron Wyden visit for blocking

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Walking in the Path of Dr. Martin Luther King

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of pushing the city and society at large to recognize the downtrodden and the forgotten.

“I truly respect King as one of the biggest prophets,” she says.

In 2005, Rev. López was arrested while protesting the Afghanistan War.

“I remember back in 2001, right before 9/11, the Interfaith Council had held a day for Muslim education and further understanding between communities. Right after that, the attacks hit, and it was so important we had that connection to support our local Muslim community.”

López threw herself and her congregation into anti-war protests, praying for peace and marching in hopes of creating

more change than prayer alone.

The Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon honored López last year for her outstanding service in racial and gender equality work and the peace movement.

She serves on several community organizations, including the Albina Ministerial Alliance, Jobs with Justice, Sweatfree Portland, People of Faith for Peace, Jubilee Oregon, and Oregon Action's Citizen Committee against Police Racial Profiling.

“There's so much more work to do,” she says of the year ahead, “and I can't say necessary where it will all begin, but I do know with the inspiration of Dr. King and his mission in mind, I will always have a step forward on his path.”