

AFSCME LOCAL 448
EXECUTIVE/MEMBERSHIP MEETING
1-3-19
ROCKFORD, IL

ROLL CALL: Kathy Lane, Gail Greenblatt, Alice Sutherland, Laurie Scudder, Robin Aebly, Kenneth Simpson, Dave Beccue, Tiffany Moore, Dianne Ritter, Wyatt Dykstra, Aaron Sockwell, Tom Soresie, Louise Hrubecky, Donna Wellman

Excused: Kassy Lumsden, Tamara Shorter

Unexcused:

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Motion was made by Gail Greenblatt to accept treasurer's report subject to audit. Second was made by Wyatt Dykstra. Motion passed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Motion made by Dave Beccue to accept secretary report. Second was made by Ken Simpson. Motion passed.

STAFF REPORT: Chris Hooser

Roberta Lynch had open heart surgery in October and she is returning to work full time this week and plans on being in Springfield for negotiations at the end of the month.

Kathy: After Roberta Lynch's surgery we sent her a package with chocolates and Michelle Obama's new book.

Pritzker thus far has proved to be a man of his word and has appointed labor leaders from across the state to committees. Both Roberta Lynch and Mike Newman have both been appointed to committees.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Kathy Lane

I will give my report later in the agenda.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MEMBERSHIP: Chair: Gail Greenblatt

Members: Diane Ritter, Meliza Lester

Gail Greenblatt: We have a very small committee so if anyone wants to be on the membership committee let me know. We put packets together and other things. We need members from outlying areas to be on this committee. Meliza Lester is working on a text messaging system so that we can get information out to the members faster. You don't have to be an executive board member or even a steward. Kathy Lane has given me permission to use the local's conference line to hold meetings. We have to keep in touch with people and keep our members informed.

PEOPLE: Chair: Wyatt Dykstra

Members: Laurie Scudder,

Wyatt Dykstra: The election is over. Jake lost by a little over 1000 votes. What they didn't count on was the large turnout of republican voters. They also said there were a lot of democrats that voted republican. He expressed gratitude for all our help.

Kathy Lane: The People program is our political committee. This is the extra \$4.20 a pay period members have taken out of their checks. It is voluntary. We can't really talk to members about this at the office anymore. No union dues can go to support political activity.

The next PEOPLE conference is 1-25-19 and 1-26-19 in Springfield. We have 11 members going.

NEWSLETTER: Kathy Lane

The newsletter was sent out. Tamara is going to start working on the newsletter with me. If anyone wants something to go in the newsletter just send it to me. I would like to get back to featuring different agencies in the newsletter.

SCHOLARSHIP: Chair Ken Simpson,

Members Laurie Scudder

Kathy Lane: We had an issue with one of the scholar ships because the person was no longer in our local when they submitted the application.

Ken Simpson: You have to be a member in good standing when the application is submitted. We talked about increasing the eligibility age for member's children. Scholarship applications will be going out in May. There are other scholarships that can be applied for through Council 31 and AFSCME International. Information about those can be found on their websites.

GRIEVANCE: Chair: Tamara Shorter

Kathy Lane: Grievances have slowed down a bit because of the holidays but I am sure they will pick back up. I just talked to Ann Irving about arbitrations. CMS is down to one attorney so it will be slow going. We do have an arbitration scheduled for 2-7-19 about flex time in Ogle County DHS.

GOOD WELFARE/ENTERTAINMENT: Chair: Donna Wellman

Kathy Lane: We need to look for florists in the outlying areas where we can get accounts set up to be able send flowers when needed and they will bill us. In the Rockford area we use Broadway Florist.

HARDSHIP: Chair: Aaron Sockwell

Kathy Lane: Aaron Sockwell, Donna Wellman and Tiffany Moore will be the hardship committee since most of these come out of DHS.

ELECTIONS: Chair Alice Sutherland

Members: Wyatt Dykstra, Dave Beccue

Kathy Lane: We had elections and Alice Sutherland remains Secretary. Robin Aebly who was the IDES Chapter Chair has now has taken a job with DCFS so she can no longer be IDES Chapter Chair. Ramiro Cruz who was elected to the 1 year Trustee position has resigned from that position

because he did not want to be a steward. I have asked Robin Aebly to take over that position. She said she would. This way she will remain on the board. Alice Sutherland will take over the duties of IDES Chapter Chair but will not hold that title because you cannot hold two board positions at once.

We will have an election for Trustee in November

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Website for local 448 – Kathy Lane: Meliza Lester is trying to bring us into the new century. She is working on getting our website up and running. If you want anything specific on the website let me know.

Meliza Lester: Do we have a domain name reserved for our website or should I do that?
Discussion was held and it was determined that Meliza Lester should proceed with reserving a domain name and working on the website

- b. Texting local 448 members - Meliza Lester: I need money to get the texting started. Motion was made by Dave Beccue that we should cover the cost of the \$99.00 per month plan to set this up. Second was made by Tiffany Moore. Motion passed.
- c. Membership meetings – Kathy Lane: The executive board has been discussing that we would like to go back to quarterly membership meetings. If we do that, we **HAVE** to be out there doing our monthly site meetings. We will discuss it more at our executive board meeting later this month.
- d. Advising executive board members of a member who is hospitalization or death of a family member. Kathy Lane: Members need to make sure that they advise their agencies Chapter Chair or the executive board member in their office if we need to send flowers or a gift certificate. We do this if a member is hospitalized overnight or in the case of the death of the member or one of their immediate family members. This information is in our standing rules. Those executive board members ordering flowers from Broadway Florist need to let me know who they were sent to so I know when we get the bill.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Site meetings - Kathy Lane: Again we will talk more about this later this month.
- b. Local constitution – Kathy Lane: We have a conflict between our constitution and Council 31's constitution it has to do with holding two executive board positions. If we want to change our constitution we will have to read the proposed changes at three different membership meetings and the membership has to be given advanced notice that this will be done. Then the membership has to vote on the changes. Once that is done we have to send it to the International for approval. We will discuss this further at our executive board meeting later this month.
- c. Contract negotiations – Kathy Lane: We have a negotiations meeting on 1-25-19 in Springfield. It will be myself, Tamara Shorter and Alice Sutherland that will be representing our local through the rest of negotiations. Enus Higgins can no longer remain on the bargaining

committee because he has been retired more than two years. At the time we had our bargaining committee elections we did not elect a backup to the backup so it will be the three of us. I think it will be exciting. We will be reviewing what we already agreed on to see if there are things we want to bring back up. We are hoping to get a 4 year contract. We will probably not get a raise for the past years but we actually did get a huge raise by not having our insurance go up like Rauner wanted it to.

Kathy Lane: People get very confused about step raises and back pay. Back pay from 2011 has been paid. Step increases, and the fact that Rauner is still stalling, is still in court.

This last election was huge as far as union rights. We won a major victory, but we have to get young people involved.

Please remind people to read their newsletters.

CORRESPONDENCE: Information provided by Council 31 that was attached to newsletter

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn was made by Gail Greenblatt. Second was made by Ken Simpson. Motion to adjourn passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alice Sutherland, Recording Secretary