

**AFSCME Local 448**  
**Executive/Membership Meeting**  
**4-4-19**  
**Sterling, IL**

**PRESENT:** Kathy Lane, Alice Sutherland, Gail Greenblatt, Tamara Shorter, Wyatt Dykstra, Diane Ritter, Robin Aebly, Laurie Scudder, Dave Beccue, Tiffany Moore, Donna Wellman, Meliza Lester, Kenneth Simpson, Aaron Sockwell

**Excused:** Louis Hrubecky, Kassandra Lumsden, Alice Sutherland, Tom Soresie

**Unexcused:** N/A

**Treasurer's Report:**

Motion was made by Donna Wellman to accept Treasurer's report subject to audit. Second was made by Kenneth Simpson. Motion passed.

**Secretary's Report:**

Motion was made by Gail Greenblatt to accept Secretary's report. Second was made by Robin Aebly. Motion passed.

**Staff Report:**

No Staff report. Chris Hoosier was not in attendance

**President's Report:**

Kathy stated RPS 205 had a major victory in holding off privatization of school buses. After numerous phone calls and emails were sent to the school board, the district decided to keep the current union bus employees.

Negotiations are going well at this time. The chief negotiator is the same one from 8 years ago. There were lots of proposals dropped that would've been harmful to members. There are lots of positives, but language is the only issues being currently discussed. Economics are usually the last piece of negotiations. There are new labor management people at the table as well.

Kathy discussed the fair tax proposal that Pritzker is trying to pass in Illinois. Once information is available it will be distributed to all union members. Those meeting with members at site visits will provide specific information. Encourage members to educate themselves on this progressive tax.

Be sure to have new members sign the AFSCME Strong cards as they are now being accepted as membership cards. Also sign those up for the PEOPLE program.

## **COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

### **MEMBERSHIP:** CHAIR: Gail Greenblatt

The committee is small, but they are working on new hire packets. The packet contains information for AFSCME Advantage and discount information for flowers, insurance, legal representation. If you want to be part of this committee, let Gail know as she is planning a late April meeting.

### **PEOPLE:** CHAIR: Wyatt Dykstra

You are now able to talk to members about the PEOPLE program in the office during break times. Remind members that PEOPLE money is used for the lobbyists who work on bills that affect us as union members. The lobbyist work with the Illinois House and Senate members. There was poor turn out for the April elections. We need to work on getting people involved for the 2020 elections.

### **NEWSLETTER:** CHAIR: Kathy Lane

Encourage people to read the newsletter especially with negotiations now taking place. If someone has moved. please make sure they provide their updated address to Kathy.

### **SCHOLARSHIP:** CHAIR: Kenneth Simpson

The committee will have updated changes to the scholarship packet to be sent out in May. Remind members they have to be in good standing in order to apply for the application and receive the payouts.

### **GREIVANCE:** CHAIR: Tamara Shorter

There are several grievances that have been sent to 3<sup>rd</sup> level including those from DHS, DCFS, DNR, ISP and DJJ. Please make sure that all information is sent to Tamara Shorter for any 3<sup>rd</sup> level grievance. DHS has an arbitration regarding flex time that is scheduled for April, 2019

### **GOOD WELFARE/ENTERTAINMENT:** Chair: Donna Wellman

Motion made by Tamara Shorter to pay for 4 teams at \$75 per person and for a \$100-hole sponsor totaling \$1,300 for the annual AFSCME Golf outing. Second by Wyatt Dykstra. Motion passed.

Patti Larson had knee surgery.

Please talk with member to see how they would feel about having a Union gathering sometimes in Fall 2019 at Brandywine in Dixon. We have not had any union gathering the past 4 years with fighting Rauner hence it would be a celebratory gathering. We'd like to do this after the contract is signed.

**ELECTIONS:** CHAIR: Alice Sutherland

No elections at this time

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. Meliza Lester is working on the AFSCME Local 448 website. She is also looking into mass texting for members which could be separated out by agency. Chapter chairs and E-Board are to give phone numbers to Meliza.
- b. Membership meetings are quarterly, but if E-Board members are not doing their site visits, then the local will go back to monthly. E-Board and Chapter Chairs are to advise Gail when the site meetings are to occur including dates and times. Site meetings should be about sharing office related information with some updates if there are any issues regarding the local as a whole.
- c. Step raises are occurring on April 1, 2019, but please do not be alarmed if things are not changed right away on your personnel benefit page. It may take payroll time to enter all the information. All should be entered by 4-16-19. This does include longevity.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. We need to give those whom are retiring AFSCME retiree cards to sign. Kathy has some if you need them.
- b. As most everyone knows, Illinois State Police have had hardships with the recent state police troopers' deaths. Our local is going to show support by providing food in the next few weeks which would include all ISP locations within our local coverage area including District 16-Pecatonica, District 1-Dixon and Rockford.
- c. There was discussion on the upcoming AFSCME State Convention. The Convention is October 17-19. Kathy entertained a motion to send 20 people including 5 delegates, 5 alternates and 10 guests. A motion was made by Meliza Lester and Second by Wyatt Dykstra to send 20 people which includes 5 delegates, 5 alternates and 10 guests. Motion passed. Voting for delegates, alternates and guests will be at the August 1, 2019 union meeting in Rockford. Information will be put in the newsletter. Per constitution

members have to be notified at least 15 days before nominations and elections are held for the AFSCME State Convention. This is a good time to get new members involved.

Motion to adjourn was made by Gail Greenblatt. Second was made by Robin Aebly. Motion to adjourn passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Tamara Shorter, Vice President.