

**AFSCME LOCAL 448**  
**EXECUTIVE/MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**6-3-2021**

**Via Zoom**

**ROLL CALL:** Alice Sutherland, Diane Ritter, Laurie Scudder, Aaron Sockwell, Tom Soresie, Tanya Burns, Tina Wren, Jeff Bergstrom, Greg Duffy, Jennifer Lavasseur, Marie Reck, Chris Hooser

**Excused:** Robin Aebly, Taquisha Santos-Teague

**Unexcused:**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Motion was made by Tanya Burns to accept treasurer's report subject to audit. Second was made by Tina Wren. Motion passed.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

Motion made by Laurie Scudder. Second was made by Tanya Burns to accept secretary report as amended. Motion passed.

**STAFF REPORT: Chris Hooser**

Council 31 has a Spring/Forward Together initiative going on right now to get members together now that things are starting to open up. I know you have talked about different things, but I think it is really important to do something even if it is something small.

Jeff Bergstrom talked about re-opening email received from the Secretary of DHS

**The FY22 state budget:**

Averts layoffs in state agencies and funds scheduled pay increases.

Maintains state funding to local governments at current levels.

Provides funding for at least a \$1.50/hour wage increase for frontline workers in community disability agencies.

Closes several of the state's most costly corporate tax loopholes, saving hundreds of millions of dollars that help fund vital programs.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Alice Sutherland**

Chris talked about most of the same stuff I was going to talk about but also the AFSCME legislative team **blocked passage of all bills seeking to reduce or eliminate public employee pension benefits**. These bills were either amended to address our concerns or were not called for a vote.

PRO (Protecting the Right to Organize) Act – is still out there. This would be a major win if it were to pass. There is still opposition out there of course so there are some targeted states that calls are being made to. If anyone would like to help with that effort get me your information and I will pass it on to Sara Dorner, President of Rockford United Labor, who is coordinating efforts in our area.

Apparently, there was a resolution passed last week in Illinois to open the Unemployment offices back up to the public. Nothing has been discussed with the IDES standing committee regarding this yet.

I was asked by a member at the Rockford Regional building today if I knew anything about DOC moving into their building. I have not been contacted at all about that. I don't know what part of DOC they were talking about. If it was DJJ or Parole, but either way I don't know if there is anything we could do to stop it. If it is DJJ that would really be better for us since they are already in our local and if it is Parole, we have been trying to get them into our local for years this would just be more leverage to do so.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### **MEMBERSHIP:**

**Chair: Jenni Lavasseur**

**Committee Members: Jeff Bergstrom, Tom Soresie, Taquisha Santos-Teague**

I don't have really have anything. I did get in touch with Gail Greenblatt, and she does not have any new member packets left so I need to figure out how get some.

Chris Hooser – let me know how many you need, and I can have Council send you some. Or you can stop down to the Labor Temple and ask Cheryl to make some up. Make sure you tell her it is for the state local. She is there Monday through Friday 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM unless she is on vacation.

#### **PEOPLE:**

**Chair: Laurie Scudder**

**Committee Members: Tina Wren, Marie Reck**

Nothing to report.

#### **NEWSLETTER:**

**Chair: Alice Sutherland**

**Committee Members: All E-board**

Remember to get anything you want to go into the newsletter to Alice Sutherland by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

#### **SCHOLARSHIP:**

**Chair: Diane Ritter**

**Committee Members: Laurie Scudder, Robin Aebly, Tina Wren**

Application deadline is 7-1-21. Once we get the applications the committee will get together and review them to pick the winners.

### **GRIEVANCE:**

**Chair: Dianne Ritter**

I sent a few more grievances to 3<sup>rd</sup> level last month.

### **HARDSHIP:**

**Chair: Alice Sutherland,**

**Committee Members: Jeff Bergstrom**

We have one hardship request out of DHS that I am waiting on information from their labor relations before I respond to the member.

### **ENTERTAINMENT/ GOOD AND WELFARE:**

**Chair: Alice Sutherland**

**Committee Members: All E-board**

### **ELECTIONS:**

**Chair: Tanya Burns**

**Committee Members: Tom Soresie, Greg Duffy, Aaron Sockwell**

No elections at this time. Our next elections will be for the Council 31 State Convention to be held in October.

Alice Sutherland – the convention call has not gone out for that yet but as soon as it does, I will know when we will have this election. It will need to be at an in-person meeting. I have to look back in the minutes to see where our last in-person meeting was held to know where the next one will be.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Alice Sutherland – We need a plan to get the rest of the shirts out to members. I was hoping we could do that at our Spring/Forward Together events. However, finding suitable locations have been proving difficult if we are wanting something in June. I am willing to meet anyone at storage so they can get their shirt or the shirts for their office. Just get ahold of me and we can set something up.

Golf Outing – Golf outing went well it was a sell out this year. We had 9 teams the most we have ever had!

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Alice Sutherland - Membership committee training – Council is having in person training on June 29<sup>th</sup> in Chicago for local Presidents and Membership committee Chairs and members. I would like to attend, and I was hoping that Jennifer Lavasseur, Tanya Burns and Jeff Bergstrom would also attend since Jenni is our membership chair and Tanya and Jeff have the

largest agencies. I would entertain a motion that anyone attending be reimbursed lost time and mileage. Motion was made by Tanya Burns to reimbursed lost time and mileage for up to 10 members to attend membership training. Second was made by Tina Wren. Motion passed.

If anyone else would like to attend let Alice Sutherland know ASAP

Jenni Lavasseur – Labor Day parade and picnic and car show is scheduled to take place this year. However, there will be no pageant this year, but all local are welcome to have anyone in the princess, miss or queen categories to ride along in the parade with their local. So, if anyone is interested in doing so, you are more than welcome. And Tanya Burns, your reign as queen is over.

Alice Sutherland - They are also doing floats this year and will be judging them. I have a Grand Marshal nomination form if anyone has someone they want to nominate as well as forms for Division Marshal volunteers.

They are also looking for picnic sponsors. The sponsorship levels are bronze \$500, Silver \$1000, Gold \$2000 and Premier \$3000. The proceeds go to united way. Tanya Burns made a motion to sponsor at the Gold level. Second was made by Marie Reck. Motion passed.

Discussion was held regarding food and drink tickets. Motion was made by Tanya Burns to purchase 50 food and 50 drink tickets. To give to those who are marching in the parade and any of our members who want to participate in the picnic. Second was made by Marie Reck. Motion passed.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

### **MOTION TO ADJOURN:**

Motion to adjourn was made by Tom Soresie. Second was made by Tina Wren. Motion to adjourn passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alice Sutherland, President