

AFSCME LOCAL 517
E-BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 22, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 11:02 a.m.

1. Progressive Dues.
 - The E-Board will need to draft a constitutional amendment for reading at our May General Membership Meeting. It will need to be read again at the June meeting with voting taking place at that time. AFSCME International needs to receive our constitutional amendment no later than November 1 so we have enough time to implement on January 1.
 - It was discussed having two meetings on the 14th – one over lunch and another after work. This would give cities the opportunity to attend as this affects them too. It would also be helpful for county workers located outside the Government Center. Kathy will work on scheduling meeting rooms.
 - Jeff said he is getting questions such as how the percentage figure was determined and why we are doing this. The concept of progressive dues was presented at the last International Convention in 2008 as the current structure was viewed as outdated and antiquated. There was a resolution read to institute progressive dues by January 2011, and if not implemented by that date to deduct 2% of base wages. The resolution was approved and it is important to note that this is not a mandate from International. It was approved by delegates from AFSCME Locals nationwide, including our own Local. At last month's E-Board meeting, there was discussion on implementing a flat percentage versus hourly rate of pay. It was decided a percentage of base pay would be fair, especially since part-time employees currently pay the same dues as full-time employees. This is about implementing a progressive dues structure, not raising dues.
 - Scott suggested that an e-mail address be created so members could submit questions prior to the next meeting. Kathy will set up a new e-mail address and include that information on the next General Membership Meeting agenda.

2. International Convention. Jeff asked if the convention call has been received but it has not (International said it would be coming out in March). The convention is at the end of June in Boston, and the constitution states that we can vote for our delegates up to 120 days prior and by secret ballot. Based on our membership numbers, we can send five delegates and five alternates (the alternates cannot vote but would still attend and take the place of a delegate if necessary). A motion was made to send five delegates and three alternates. M/S/C. Since we originally budgeted for five, we will need to look at ways to reduce costs. This could include using some PTO instead of being paid a full five days of lost time.

3. Labor Management. Jeff wants to make sure that we continue to hold these meetings. He said there were some recent issues regarding OSHA and training.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Cunnien