

AFSCME LOCAL 517
E-BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 23, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 11:07 a.m.

1. Swearing In: Bob Jaqua and Brian Huffman were sworn in as E-Board Member and Trustee, respectively.
2. Day on the Hill Outcome: The event was very successful and over 1,000 gathered at the Rotunda for the 1:00 rally on Wednesday. There were a couple of great outcomes as a result: 1) The co-authors of the bill to privatize fish hatcheries have withdrawn as co-sponsors. The only one left on the bill is the original author; without any support the bill will probably die. 2) Thirty members were slated to be laid off from the CD program in Carlton. Over 3,000 calls were generated, and the Commissioner of Human Resources called AFSCME and said they will re-evaluate. The program will continue for at least six months.
 - Barb Lunn discussed their meeting with Senator Ray Vandever. When the issue of fair taxation was brought up, he said it would only take care of \$1 Billion and he believes he pays too much in taxes already. Vandever is also for privatization. Senator Vandever was 25 minutes late and that made us 5 minutes late getting to Matt Dean. Rep. Dean wouldn't meet with the group because we were late. We did have a 45 minute meeting scheduled with him, but he chose to disregard the remaining time scheduled.
 - Barb Christianson said Day on the Hill expenses came to \$2,364.16 (she believes she has received all lost time and expenses). That is approximately \$1,500.00 less than last year. We had the same number of participants (12), but last year most attended two days instead of one.
3. National Library Workers Day is April 14. AFSCME wants to promote workers by handing out a special bookmark. Judie discussed it at the Labor Management Meeting this morning. Barb Lunn will talk to her Director to get approval to give out at the branches.
4. Workers Memorial Day is April 28 and Judie would like to find some way to celebrate (vigil, rally, memorial over lunch, etc.). The theme this year is Safe Jobs Now – A Change We Need. Judy W. suggested contacting Dave Brierley about doing a table. Judie will distribute information and wants a response by the end of the week.
5. Thank LGA Campaign: A donation was requested for this campaign which would be used for communications to prevent cuts to cities and counties. There was a motion to donate \$100.00. M/S/C.
6. For the Common Good Campaign: Posters were distributed at Valley Ridge and lots of members have them displayed in their cubicles. There are still posters available plus cards that members can sign pledging their support (the cards also help in getting email addresses). Judie also has green \$1,000,000 bills that can be handed out to merchants when shopping in their stores. The bills promote "AFSCME Buying Power" and that layoffs to public employees will hurt businesses and prolong economic recovery.
7. City of Stillwater Meeting: Judie met with employees as they were concerned after hearing that Department Heads are supposed to cut 5%. They were looking for encouragement and options. They're going to do a self-audit to show how reductions would impact service levels. Carole Gerst gave them For the Common Good posters to display.
8. LULA Update: Judie faxed our information to Council 5 on March 12. Training for the E-Board will be April 24-25 and she needs a commitment from each of us by the end of this week. The majority need to be able to attend in order to move forward. The International and Council 5 pay for training, meals and double-occupancy lodging.

9. Other:

- Financial Responsibility Training is April 1. Judie and Barb Christianson will be attending the full day and Brian Huffman a half day. There was a motion to approve their lost time and mileage. M/S/C.
- The Insurance Committee Meeting met last week. Financial Concepts is the broker hired by the county. There was approval to send out RFP's. We are in good shape with HealthPartners as far as our usage is concerned. It is best to be in the 70-75% range and we are at 74%. If another company undercuts HealthPartners, then they have the opportunity to respond. Terri Lutz will be sending out an email communication.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Cunnien