

AFSCME LOCAL 517 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES September 9, 2009

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m.
2. Secretary Report: There was a motion to approve August's meeting minutes as posted on the website. M/S/C.
3. Treasurer Report: The August Financial Report was reviewed and there was a motion to approve. M/S/C.
4. Chief Steward Report: There was no report this month as Jeff Birttnen was out of town.
5. Field Rep Report:
 - Negotiations – The County is having a multi-bargaining unit meeting on Friday, September 18, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 21. The Negotiations Committee consists of Scott Grefe, Judie Atkins, Barb Lunn, Deb Myrvold, Jeff Birttnen, Barb Cysiewski, and Kathy Cunnien. The Committee will meet immediately after the County presentation.
 - Scott already sent a letter to the Bureau of Mediation Services stating our desire to enter into bargaining with the County. Scott has also contacted Kay in HR.
 - This contract's bargaining will be very different from the last. The levy is only going to be 0-1%. The State currently has an unemployment rate of 9.7%, so we need to focus on preservation of jobs. Scott just entered into bargaining with the State Department of Human Services and they are trying to change all employees to part-time status.
6. President Report:
 - Questionnaires regarding negotiations need to be distributed. Kathy brought several copies for distribution to members and it will also be available at www.local517.org. These need to be returned to any E-Board member by September 17.
 - LULA Follow-up – Judie and Barb Christianson will be attending the follow-up this Saturday in St. Cloud.
 - Tomorrow is a meet and greet at the Forest Lake City Hall from 12:00-1:00. Judie, John Ewaldt and Carole Gerst will be there. There was a motion to provide pizza. M/S/C.
 - AFL-CIO Political Conference, October 1-2, Bloomington – Judie and Jeff would like to attend and the screening for governor will take place. The Budget Committee previously met and determined we would be able to pay for this. There was a motion to approve lost time for two days, mileage and the conference fee (\$60 each). M/S/C.
 - Shar Knutson, an AFSCME member and President of the St. Paul Regional Labor Federation, was just elected the first female president of the Minnesota AFL-CIO. The Council 5 E-Board is endorsing AFSCME member Bree Halverson for the vacated position. Delegates will vote on October 14.
7. Election of Delegates to Council 5 Convention in Duluth, October 8-10: The Budget Committee determined we could send 12 delegates, excluding Jeff as he only needs our credentials and per diem. Those nominated and elected were: Judie Atkins, Barb Lunn, Barb Christianson, Deb Myrvold, Jacque Boever, Barb Cysiewski, Bob Jaqua, Brian Huffman, Christine Main and Kathy Cunnien. Nominations will be kept open as there are still openings. Judie will check with Blia

Yang as she had expressed interest in attending. There was a motion to approve lost time for two days, per diem, hotel (two to a room), and mileage (carpooling is encouraged). M/S/C.

8. Good and Welfare: None.
9. Other: Barb Cysiewski provided information on a Union Women's Luncheon and Program. It is \$35.00 per person and is on Monday, October 12, from 12:00-2:00 p.m. in Minneapolis. While there was interest in attending, it is right after the Council 5 Convention and would be difficult to take time off.

There was a motion to adjourn at 12:40 p.m. M/S/C.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Cunnien