

May 11, 2021

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by President Yee via ZOOM and was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Bauman, Cairgle, Kreklau, McCall (11:40 am), Noelke, Pendracki, Smith, Sockolosky, Wadlin, and Yee

EXCUSED: Cox

ABSENT: None

GUEST: Macdonald

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS: Brother Wadlin made the motion, properly supported by Sister Cairgle, to accept the roll call of officers. The motion carried.

Sub-Chapter 38 minutes for the Executive and Membership meetings are recorded to help the Recording Secretary to produce minutes for each meeting. Pursuant to the previous direction of the membership, these recordings shall be disposed of as soon as reasonably possible after the Sub-chapter 38 membership has approved the minutes. The minutes are not or intended to be an actual verbatim record of the proceedings but are summarized notes of the agenda items, motions, makers of the motion, votes, and lengthy discussions.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. MiARA April 2021 newsletter that included articles urging Congress to pass the PRO (Protecting the Right to Organize) Act and the For the People Act, plus the obituary for Frank Kelly. Receive and File

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Brother Sockolosky, to receive and file the correspondence. The motion carried.

READING OF MINUTES

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Brother Wadlin, to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Executive Board meeting of April 11, 2021, leaving the record open to the end of the meeting for corrections, additions, or deletions. The motion carried.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

President: Brother Yee welcomed everyone to the first Membership meeting since March 2020. There are about 15 members signed in at this time for the meeting. Brother Yee updated the Membership on the status of the possible move from TASC to MERS from a HRA system to an HSA. There are on-going problems with TASC still getting complaints from people that they are not being reimbursed. Meetings with the County on the change are on-going. Members with problems with TASC are encouraged to contact TASC at 866-678-8322.

The County unions are getting increases this year of 2.5% through their collective bargaining units. We have had our attorney send a letter to the County pursuant to the agreement which would take effective 1/1/2022, which would give the retirees an adjustment to the Medicare reimbursement in accordance with the agreement.

The Sub-Chapter does have a new email address which is: WCSC-38@att.net. Hopefully this will cut down on the amount of SPAM being received.

Chapter 255 is still planning on their convention in the fall. President Yee and Chapter 255 President Henry Lykes who agreed to have the same representation on the same committees as the last convention. We are still looking to have representation on every committee.

Motion by Brother Wadlin, properly supported by Brother Noelke, to accept the President's report as presented. The motion carried.

VICE-PRESIDENT: No report.

SECRETARY-TREASURER:

Financial Report:

Brother Noelke reported that the Sub-Chapter has \$136,511.46 in cash and investments as of April 30, 2021. There are 1,397 current members with 170 participating in the PEOPLE Plan and (141) members lost this year.

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Brother Wadlin, to accept the Treasurer report as presented. The motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PEOPLE Committee: Sister Bauman reported that there are screenings tonight for (3) days. Also, three of the four endorsed candidates for the City of Wyandotte City Council were elected. Brother Macdonald indicated that he has requested a list of endorsed candidates from Mr. Rzeppa of AFSCME. Sister Cairgle informed Sister Bauman that Sister Hyde-Shelton asked her about not getting emails. Sister Bauman informed Sister Cairgle that emails were being sent to the email address Sister Hyde-Shelton had provided and were not being returned as undeliverable.

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Sister Cairgle, to accept the PEOPLE Committee report as presented. The motion carried.

Chapter 255: Brother McCall reported that the Chapter 255 Biennial Convention is still on for October 2021. The reception will be at St. Regis Hotel, 2161 W. Grand Blvd. Detroit. Hotel reservations may be reserved at St. Regis Hotel. Tickets for the reception may be purchased through AFSCME255mi.com. Also, Chapter 255 has a Facebook page at Michigan Retirees United AFSCME Chapter 255. The Biennial Convention Committee is still looking for sponsor's advertisements for the Reception Program. This will reduce the cost of the Biennial Convention.

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Brother Wadlin to accept the Chapter 255 report as presented. The motion carried.

REPORT, COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Presented by Brother Macdonald)

Pending Arbitration Case

There were three (3) grievances filed by AFSCME and its Local Unions relating to pension issues of which one (1) is still to be decided at arbitration. That grievance is **Medical Insurance for Disability Retirees**. For (30) years, the County had a practice which was supported by the various CBAs and the pension ordinance which provided that people who retired on a duty or non-duty disability pension were entitled to medical insurance as part of their retirement. In 2010, CEO Ficano eliminated this program and the Union filed an unfair labor practice and prevailed. Oral arguments before the arbitrator were in September 2020. The arbitrator has not issued a decision due to personal issues but expects to have a decision in May or June.

PRESCRIPTION CO-PAY SETTLEMENT

Payments by Wayne County of Medicare eligible stipends appear to be consistent with the settlement agreement. The Sub-Chapter has identified a number of incorrect or omitted pre-Medicare stipend payments. The May 2021 reconciliation found a number of overpayments. Some of those who have been over-paid have decided not to participate with the grievance procedure. Legal counsel and your representatives assigned the task of monitoring the stipend programs, are communicating with Wayne County to resolve these overpayments. In spite of our continuing inquiries, Wayne County has not advised as to how they propose to deal with the overpayments. Wayne County has advised that a review of the stipend program is "almost" complete but has not provided a copy to the Sub-Chapter for review and comment. There does not appear to be any chance that Wayne County will produce such an audit considering the response to our requests.

The Sub-Chapter filed Grievance #8 on April 15, 2020, about the many problems with the Health Reimbursement Accounts (HRA) at TASC (formerly Genesis). Arbitration was held on February 7, 2020, with the arbitrator granting the grievance and ordering Wayne County to (1) meet with us "on a regular and meaningful basis to develop a stipend plan", (2) Wayne County will provide all eligible with an agreed upon summary plan document"(3) "upon implementation of the new stipend plan or March 10, 2021" "the unilateral HRA plan will be dissolved" and (4) Wayne County will compensate all Medicare-eligible class members that were harmed by the unilateral implemented plan". Legal counsel and your representatives assigned the task of monitoring the stipend programs have been participating in video conferences with Wayne County with the express purpose of resolving the inconsistencies of the current process with the settlement agreement. Wayne County has proposed the Municipal Employees' Retirement Systems (MERS) as an alternative that would maintain tax-free status for the stipends. Wayne County has provided copies of the standard MERS HSA agreement for review and comment. Wayne

County has requested that any settlement to Grievance #8 be approved by the Courts. The transition to MERS is anticipated to occur September/October 2021 and the Sub-Chapter has demanded an implementation schedule from Wayne County.

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Sister Cairgle, to accept the report of Brother Macdonald. The motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Brother Macdonald requested the Membership endorse the action of the Executive Board at its meeting to adopt a resolution designating an approved signatory for settlement agreements of grievances and other lawsuits since Brother Macdonald is no longer a member of the Executive Board and has in the past, been the designated person for all grievances and law suits.

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Sister Bauman, to adopt a resolution designating Brother Hugh Macdonald as signatory for all settlement agreements for Sub-Chapter 38. The motion carried

GOOD AND WELFARE –

Notifications that Brother Lorenzo Moner has suffered a serious stroke. Also, Jeff Buckley has died May 1st.

There was a moment of silence for deceased members.

ADJOURNMENT—

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Brother Wadlin, to adjourn the meeting at 1:35 pm. The motion carried.