

ASF Board June ZOOM Meeting

June 8, 2020

Present: Tracy Rahim, Zak Johnson, Amanda Weister, Paul Stern, Bonner Karger, Victor Cole, Jim Anderson, Lori Wynia, Jill Quandt, Troy Schmidt, Josh Lease, Tim Alcorn, Rachel Tanquist, Mel Iverson, Kristy Modrow, Sami Gabriel

Meeting called to order at 12:02 p.m. Agenda approved. Welcome to new members Paul Stern (new Winona President), Mandy Weister (new Mankato President), and Rachel Tanquist (new incoming State Secretary).

1. MOA Authorization at Metro State (Tracy Rahim)

Motion by Joshua Lease, second by Kristy Modrow to authorize MOA at Metro dealing with a layoff situation where placement into a vacant position is being allowed instead of “bumping.” Employee will maintain notice period. Motion carried.

2. Nominations & Elections Update: Membership Chair & Grievance Officer (Tim Alcorn)

Tim Alcorn reported that information was distributed to membership about openings in Grievance Officer and Membership Chair. No nominations have been received up to this point.

3. FY21 Budget Discussion/Approval (Lori Wynia)

Lori Wynia presented scenarios to be considered for FY 21. The issue of adding release time for local presidents and/or other state officers has been a consideration. There are deficits involved if we increase release time. Our initial priority was to give some release time to campus presidents. This could be done through our savings initially, but it is not sustainable on an ongoing basis. There is savings this year due to lack of travel. Concerns were raised about sustainability and also that it isn't enough to bring on someone else. It could raise expectations on campuses if we were unable to sustain this. Additionally, we may lose members due to lay-offs and non-renewals. Comments from campus Presidents generally did not support addition of release time at this point. If the Board opts not to do additional release time, there will be one-time additional funds to look at spending this upcoming year.

Based on this discussion, Lori was asked to put together a budget without release time and with anticipation of 5% membership drop. She will also create a line item for special initiative/special projects, given this year's unusual drop in expenses. She will present this prior to the end of June (end of fiscal year).

4. Teamsters Local 320 Guest Brian Aldes at 12:30pm

Brian Aldes addressed the statements by Teamsters regarding the murder of George Floyd. There were concerns about the strength of the statement related to condemning the actions of police. Brian said Local 320 really struggled with the reaction to the murder, and the riots. Initially, Local 320 didn't respond, but then felt it their responsibility. Since Local 320 is a diverse union who represents all crafts, and diversity. After the coroner's report was released, a second statement was released. Additionally, Local 320 is considering a subcommittee to advise on response to social inequality. Brian also reached out to North Mpls. NAACP to see how needs could be met. Based on that discussion, Local 320 has purchased coolers to help with storage of resources and provision of resources, so Local 320 is committed to helping with the rebuilding process.

Brian has read some comments on social media about Local 320 responses. When membership has issues made by the Executive Board, there should be discussions. Sami also spoke about joint union statement which Local 320 has also signed on to. Teamsters has always taken a hard stance against racism and this stance remains.

Question was raised about where statements will be released. Brian noted it is on Local 320 website. Tracy noted she couldn't find it. Gus has put in a support ticket to correct this. Bonner Karger suggested it would be a good idea to distribute this to members. Member concerns came down to wanting to be certain that dues are not supporting people breaking the law or being discriminatory and/or racist. Brian noted that distribution of the statement was based on survey regarding how members want to receive communication. Brian also addressed the first statement not being received well – he said the comments come from political enemies in the Teamster's union. Brian has asked that law enforcement members to have a conversation about George Floyd murder. There have been some good conversations. There is also a need to recognize the need for due process. However, no one condones the actions of the police in this incident.

We need to do the right thing, through our political leaders, lobbying and social action. While a very diverse union, we need to use our collective voice for social justice as well as protection of members.

Any additional questions can be directed to Sami or Brian.

Meeting adjourned at 1:06.

Summary prepared by Shirley Murray, ASF State Secretary