

American Federation of Teachers – Local 1839

Union Office – Rossey Hall, R-115

201-200-2116

www.aftlocal1839.org

General Meeting, AFT Local 1839

Monday, March 15, 2010

3:00PM – Hepburn Hall, room 202

MINUTES Adopted as of 4/5/10 General Membership Meeting

President J. Moskowitz asked for a motion from the floor to call the meeting to order. The motion was so moved. The meeting was called to order at 3:08 by Union President J. Moskowitz.

1. Motion to adoption of the agenda

Made by: R. Vohra

Seconded: L. Baskin. No discussion.

Voice Vote: ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED

MOTION PASSES

2. Motion to accept the minutes - Motion to approve the minutes of the General Membership meeting, February 11, 2010.

Made by: N. Wright

Seconded: B. Soohoo

No discussion. The minutes were adopted as presented.

Voice Vote: ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED

MOTION PASSES

3. President's Report:

- a. **Procedures for Plebiscite** - President Moskowitz talked about whether our Local wishes to be a member of the national AFT which would combine various AFT units into one unified state federation. This would include Rutgers AFT units, AFT PreK-12 locals, the College Council and the County College AFT units. The Executive Committee recommended we have a plebiscite. This would entail using paper ballots and voting "in favor" or "opposed". The union president presented the procedures for voting, as recommended by the Executive Committee. The local will have one information session. A handout was circulated entitled: Why an Expanded & Unified Federation? Union members were given the opportunity to cast their vote after the general meeting. The local will give union members the opportunity to vote on the referendum using a ballot vote. The union president asked for a motion to accept procedures.

- i. **Motion:** to accept procedures as described

Made by: G. Gordon

Seconded: I. Steinberg

Discussion was held to clarify that union members could vote after the general meeting, that it was indeed a paper ballot, and that there would be more discussion at a information session. H. Singer called the question.

Voice Vote: ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED

MOTION PASSES

- b. **NJCU 80th Anniversary Event** – In the interest of time, J. Moskowitz asked the union membership’s permission to merge New Business into the President’s Report and discuss the 80th Anniversary in this section. There were no objections. Local 1839 can purchase a table or quarter of a page ad for the university’s 80th Anniversary Gala event in April, 2010. The Local’s contribution would go towards the university’s foundation.
 - i. **Motion:** to make contribution of \$250 from the union treasury to the university’s scholarship fund in honor of the 80th Anniversary Gala.
Made by: H. Hoch
Seconded: Q. Gibson
Voice Vote: ALL IN FAVOR, NON OPPOSED

MOTION PASSES

4. Priority Items:

- a. **Afterthoughts Ad Hoc Committee Report** – D. Farina presented the Policies and Procedures Governing Afterthoughts, the Newsletter of the AFT Local 1839. D.Farina acknowledged and thanked the committee members: Niloofar Mina, Joseph Moskowitz, Sam Platizky, Gail Gordon.
 - i. **Motion:** to accept report as presented
Made by: G. Gordon
Seconded: L. Rosado
Discussion: Edit lines 59 and 60 in the report which states: Members will elect editors by ballot at the last membership meeting of the spring semester, to serve during the following academic year.
Motion: Members will elect the editors by ballot to serve during the following academic. Voting will take place at the last membership meeting of the spring semester and over four days, with a ballot box in the union office. Voting hours will include some evening hours at the union office.
Vote: 16 IN FAVOR, 11 OPPOSED
MOTION PASSES
 - ii. **Motion:** to accept overall report as amended
Vote: 25 ALL IN FAVOR, 2 OPPOSED
MOTION PASSES
- b. **AFT NJ- Plebiscite:** Local 1839 will vote “YES” or “NO” on the referendum to join with other AFT affiliates and build a unified state federation. The Council would be part of a larger organizing body becoming a division with four VP positions and full delegate representation. Council dues would be \$6 per month for full-time members, \$3 for half-time, and \$1.50 for adjunct faculty. The Council and AFT would share the cost for the first year: Year 1 AFT pays 80% and Council pays 20%; Year 2 AFT pays 60% and Council pays 40% and Council pays 60%, Year 3 AFT pays 40% and Council pays 60%, Year 4 AFT pays 20% and Council pays 80%. The 5th year, the Council would pay 100% and the locals’ due would increase.
- c. **Executive Committee Petition-** J. Moskowitz asked for a motion on the floor regarding the executive committee petition. Our Local calls on the NJCU administration to decide budgetary priorities for current and coming fiscal year through a campus-wide committee composed of representative of students and union employees to make real the “maximum participation and buy-in” called for in Vision 2010.

i. **Motion:** to accept the wording as presented AFT Local 1839 and Board of Trustees

Made by: H. Hoch

Seconded: D. Farina

Voice Vote: ALL IN FAVOR, NON OPPOSED

MOTION PASSES

d. **March 4 Day of Action Report by W. Calathes** – This was a two-hour student rally scheduled on March 4, 2010 where students demanded: open budgetary process, meetings with administration where students can participate, and administrative transparency. The students marched with a casket into the administration's office.

5. Officer's Report

Elections by J. Collins:

1. Final nominations were posted to AFT website on March 29th.
2. Final ballots are due to the American Arbitration Association along with electronic candidates' statements on April 5.
3. The American Arbitration Association will mail out ballots on April 10, 2010.
4. Ballots will be collected up to May 7, 2010 at 10am. Ballots will be tallied at that time. Candidates are allowed to send an observer or serve in that capacity themselves.

6. Old Business

a. **Privacy Policy** – AFT Local 1839 Proposed Privacy of Personal Information Policy was read to the union membership. Union President asked for a motion from the floor to accept the Privacy Policy.

i. **Motion:** to accept Privacy Policy

Made by: S. Kirven

Seconded: Q. Gibson

Voice Vote: ALL IN FAVOR, NON OPPOSED

MOTION PASSES

b. **1st Reading Constitutional Amendments:** The proposed changes to the Constitution per the recommendations made by the Executive Committee were distributed, and there was a first reading of them. A second reading of these amendments will take place at the next General Membership meeting along with a vote.

7. **Adjournment:** Made by: President Moskowitz at 5:09PM

Seconded: Q. Gibson

Voice Vote: All-IN-FAVOR