

American Federation of Teachers - Local 1839

Office: Rossey Hall Room 115

201-200-2216

www.aftlocal1839.org

General Membership Meeting Minutes
Approved as of 4/27/09 General Membership Meeting
Monday, March 30, 2009 3:00PM; H-202

Attendance (Please sign-in)

Draft Agenda :

- Adoption of Agenda
- Acceptance of the Minutes of the General Membership Meetings of: October 27th, 2008 (previously distributed and attached), November 17th, 2008, & February 23, 2009 (forthcoming).

1. PRIORITY/ACTION ITEM(S)

- a) Charitable and organizational Contributions Committee Report
- b) Teach-In
- c) Election of Union Representative
- d) Proposed Constitutional Amendments

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- a) Meetings with A. H. Moore Staff
- b) Response to Governor's Budget and NJ Economic Crisis
- c) Local Negotiations
- d) Preparation for Local's Budget for 2009-2010 - (See written report for additional items/activities)

3. OFFICER'S REPORTS

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

5. OLD BUSINESS

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Access to Voting Records
- b) Executive Committee Resolutions

7. Adjournment

MINUTES:

1. J. Moskowitz call meeting to order at 3:05
2. MOTION: R. Vohra: moves to add proposed constitutional changes to agenda
 - a) MOTION CARRIES: Approval of agenda with addition of proposed constitutional changes.
3. MOTION: to Accept Prior Minutes: October 27th, 2008 - prior distribution.
 - a) MOTION PASSES. Minutes As Presented Are Accepted, with possible changes to be requested by N. Mina. N. Mina will send comments regarding November 17, 2008.
 - b) REVISED MOTION: Acceptance of minutes with revisions as specified by N. Mina
 01. MOTION CARRIES
4. MOTION: Acceptance of February 23, 2009 minutes: L. Baskin; G. Boseman, with provision that future minutes contain motions only.
 - a) DISCUSSION: minutes should only contain motions and acceptance thereof
 - b) QUESTION CALLED: H. Singer: calls the question.
 01. MOTION CARRIES – to report motions only for all future membership meetings.
5. **PRIORITY/ACTION ITEM(S)**
 - a) Charitable And Organizational Contributions Committee Report: H. Singer: informs us of the application of the Botto House. We plan to award \$150.00. J. Moskowitz asks if there are any motions to oppose; none noted.
 - b) Teach-In Report: W. Calathes – refers to email notice on Teach-In previously remitted to AFT listserv. Opportunity for NJCU to coalesce. Contacts made with administration: C. Hernandez; J. Bruno. President Hernandez will present to workshop participants. There will be workshops.
 01. Each stakeholders has opportunity to raise 5 issues that are deemed most important and identify 5 action items in response.
 02. Open to every single constituency represented at NJCU: present students, alumni, faculty, staff, administration.
 03. Encourages faculty to bring classes to event
 04. J. Moskowitz: we are considering drafting a letter for participants that can be signed at event. AFT staff will then remit to appropriate representative.

c) Report on Election Of Union Representative: J. Moskowitz describes there is an opening for a representative. Former representative was an adjunct faculty. Describes that incumbent must be a full member

01. NOMINATIONS: D. Jenks: nominates – E. Cinotti; J. Ellis nominates L. Rosado. Ballots will be distributed. **L. Rosado elected.**

d) Report on Proposed Constitutional Amendments: J. Moskowitz – informs us we must discuss for two consecutive meetings and at the second meeting, a vote takes place.

Article I. Name:

Current: This organization shall be known as the New Jersey City University Professionals, Local 1839 of the American Federation of Teachers (AFL-CIO).

Proposed: This organization shall be known as the New Jersey City University Professionals, (DBA American Federation of Teachers – Local 1839).

Article II. Objectives:

This Local, as a union of professionals, unites members in a federation for mutual assistance in order to:

1.

Current: Promote and protect an atmosphere and structure of academic freedom for members and students in the pursuit and dissemination of knowledge and the acquisition and dissemination of skills.
Proposed: Promote and protect an atmosphere and structure of academic freedom for members and students in the pursuit of education, scholarship and service
2.

Current: Provide the best possible conditions for teaching and research. These conditions include work loads, salaries, fringe benefits and other relevant factors.
Proposed: Provide the best possible conditions for teaching, learning, research and service
3.

Current: Provide and guarantee appropriate job security for all members of the bargaining unit (defined in Article III).
Proposed: Promote and protect job security for all members of the bargaining unit
4.

Current: Provide and guarantee protection against arbitrary actions and ensure due process in cases of grievance.
Proposed: Provide and protect against arbitrary actions and ensure due process
5.

Current: Promote maximum participation in decision making by unit members.
Proposed: Promote maximum participation by unit members
7.

Current: Promote the interests of unit members, the teaching profession, and higher education in general.
Proposed: Promote the interests of unit members and public higher education in general
10.

Current: Support and cooperate with organized labor and to promote policies and procedures consistent with the aims of organized labor.
Proposed: Cooperate with organized labor and to promote policies and

procedures consistent with the aims of organized labor

Article IV. Officers:

4. Current: Elected officers will take office on the first day in July of the year in which they are elected and shall hold office until June 30 of the following year, unless removed from office for reasons stated in (Article V, Section 6).
Proposed: Elected officers will take office on the first day of June of the year in which they are elected and shall hold office through May 31st of the following year, unless removed from office for reasons stated in (Article V, Section 6).

Additional notes on proposed constitutional changes:

01. ARTI #1: name of or unit: have multiple names for unit. Recommend change to align and clarify name of unit promote
02. ART #2: J. Egan: get more info on his meaning: #5 if eliminate “decision making” – the Executive committee will be ascribed with decision making.
03. ART #4: S. Harnick: will send everyone the correct wording vs. what is reported
04. ART #4 item 3: R. Vohra presents the proposal and presented a petition signed by 10% of members in good standing.

Proposed Constitution Change, Article IV, item #3

Current Constitution: All Officers shall be elected for a two-year term. Officers cannot be elected to any particular office for more than three successive terms.

Proposal: All officers shall be elected for a two-year term. Officers can be re-elected to any particular office.

6. PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

- a) Meetings With A. H. Moore Staff: coordinated by Z. Shuster, *see* President’s activity report.
- b) Response to Governor’s Budget and NJ Economic Crisis and
- c) Local Negotiations
 01. J. Moskowitz: 3% of our salary can be withheld as a loan. According to our current contract, the Governor’s position has remained unchanged.
 02. CWA Unit has filed a lawsuit regarding legality of various proposed actions by governor. We have joined that suit. If the suit is successful, we will gain from that decision; if it is unsuccessful – AFT can still file another lawsuit.
 03. Legal Questions: there is a question regarding the State’s right to impose furloughs; etc.

04. CNJSCL is working with our lobbyists; references Governor's visit.
 05. J. De Brizzi: asks how many people knew Governor was on campus during his recent visit. J. De Brizzi thanked S. Harnick for coordinating student response. Complimented actions of J. Moskowitz. Referred to specific topic of support of corporate employment funding; Governor quoted: "we have an agreement". This quote is very helpful to our position.
 06. J. Moskowitz: NJN and various other public TV and radio stations; El Mundo etc. recorded the event.
 07. L. Pannaman: we need to publicize the 3% interest free loan. J. Moskowitz: will send a letter to newspapers relating to the loan.
 08. C. Carmody-Arey: questions how we knew about Governor's visit; since visit was supposed to be focused only on immigration? J. Moskowitz: asked about an administrator's calendar. From this information concluded that the Governor would be on campus. Allison Thornton made posters; she was commended. Allison Thornton and Debra Jenks are designing buttons.
 09. J. Moskowitz: asks for any other suggestions about responding to the economic crisis.
 10. S. Harnick: since we are not well loved she joined various blogs or organizations; we can make appointments to visit our legislators. Paper and email distribution will be made.
 11. R. Overton: Get email addresses of TV reporters and create a synopsis of governor's visit.
7. Preparation for Local's Budget for 2009-2010 - (See written report for additional items/activities)
 - a) J. Moskowitz: a budget proposal should be created prior to the end of the year. Will discuss at next Executive meeting and will present new budget to membership at May meeting.
 8. **Meeting adjourned at 5:00pm.**