

AFT Local 1839
Monday, November 19, 2007
H 202

General Meeting Minutes

1. Call to order—The meeting was called to order by President Sarah Harnick at 3:05 p.m.
2. Acceptance of November 19, 2007 Agenda—Motion to accept this month's meeting agenda with the addition of one change (Under Old Business, remove "Military Recruiters on Campus" and add "Report of Officer's Compensation Committee"; under New Business, add "2006 Election Committee Report") made by Sarah Harnick . Seconded by Bob Arey. Motion carried.
3. Announcements—Sarah Harnick thanked the diligent webmaster of the local for a very dynamic site. Reports of all VP's are on the back table.
4. Reading and Acceptance of September 24, 2007 Minutes—Motion to accept as amended made by Carmody-Arey. Seconded by Mort Aabdollah. Motion carried. (The September minutes were amended to add the following: Joe Moskowitz made the following motion: "The Executive Committee discuss the possibility of reducing dues for 2008-09." Seconded by Howard Singer. Gloria Boseman added the amendment: "There should be a time frame for the discussion and a report back to the general body." No second. The vote on the motion was 18 in favor, 8 opposed, 1 abstention. Motion carried.)
5. Treasurer's Report—motion to accept made by Bob Arey. Seconded by Lynn Baskin. Motion carried. (Point of order: According to Roberts Rules a la Fran Moran, the motion to accept reports is not necessary.) The item, "Executive Committee proposal regarding supplemental budge items" was tabled to the next meeting because the Recording Secretary did not have the exact wording.
6. E.C.'s recommendation to donate \$500 to Maureen O'Brien's animal shelter. Motion made by Ivan Steinberg. Vote was 13 in favor, 8 opposed, 1 abstention. Motion carried.
7. Adjunct faculty contract and local negotiations—Niloofar Mina reminded members of adjunct faculty rights to office space in the new contract. The percentage of adjuncts is up, but the number of reported courses they teach is not. This inconsistency needs to be looked into. Local negotiations should increase the amount in the negotiated contract by \$200/credit (both William Patterson and the College of New Jersey have done this).

Gail Gordon made the following motion: “The E.C. discuss whether there should be local negotiations on a regular basis as is done on the state level and report back to the general membership.” Seconded by Lilliam Rosado. The vote was 16 in favor, 1 opposed, 0 abstentions. Motion carried.

8. Old Business:

- a. Officer’s Compensation Committee Report—Some clarification: The intent of John DeBrizzi’s motion last month was to award three credits to the VP of Adjuncts for just the Fall 2007 semester. The purpose of tabling the motion by Lois Weiner was to halt all discussion of all motions, seconded or not, after the self-imposed 5:00 p.m. deadline, and re-introduce the original motion at the next meeting when there are more people present and there are bona fide meeting hours.

During the course of the clarification discussion, Lois Weiner made a motion to override the President. Seconded by Niloofar Mina. The vote was 10 in favor, 13 opposed, 1 abstention. Motion failed.

Mort Aabdullah made a motion:, “Three voting members of the Compensation Committee be given three minutes each to explain their positions.” Seconded by Anne Mabry. Fran Moran interjected a point of order: “Dissent does not require a motion to disseminate a minority opinion.” Jack Egan made a motion to move the question. That vote was 4 in favor, 24 opposed. Motion failed.

Bob Arey made a motion: “We provide a special compensation of three credits per semester for the 2007-08 year for the VP of Adjuncts due to unusual demands currently placed upon that position.” Seconded by Lilliam Rosado.

Lois Weiner made a substitute motion: “At its November 2007 meeting, AFT members will elect an adjunct organizer to help mobilize adjunct faculty. The position will be widely advertised before the November meeting. It will be a one-year appointment (for 2007-08) and provide a stipend of three credits for the year.” (Note: the original motion disappears if the substitution motion passes.) Seconded by Niloofar Mina. Fran Moran amended Lois’ motion such that the changes would not take effect until 2008. Seconded by Ivan Steinberg. The vote on the amendment to Lois’ substitute motion was 5 in favor, 15 opposed. Motion failed.

The body then moved to vote on Lois’ substitute motion. The vote was 9 in favor, 14 opposed. Motion failed.

Bob Arey made a motion to move the previous question. Seconded by Howard Singer. That vote was 20 in favor, 2 opposed. Motion carried..

The body then moved to vote on Bob's original motion. The vote was 9 in favor and 13 opposed. Motion failed.

Rubina Vohra moved to move the agenda.

- b. June 2007 Settlement between NJCU, Local 1839, and CNJSCL—Joe Moskowitz said such agreement should be undone since it was unconstitutional. (It was an individual settlement to a grievance BUT its contents as such went beyond the facts of the grievance.) Lois Weiner made a motion that the Executive Committee should be a part of any agreement in a settlement. Seconded by Gloria Boseman.
9. Adjournment—Joe Moskowitz made a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 5:01 p.m.