

**Adopted as of October 19<sup>th</sup> General Membership Meeting  
American Federation of Teachers – Local 1839  
Union Office- Rossey Hall, R-115  
201-200-2116  
[www.aftlocal1839.org](http://www.aftlocal1839.org)**

**General Meeting, AFT Local 1839  
Monday, September 21, 2009  
3:00PM – Hepburn Hall, room 202**

**MINUTES**

Meeting was called to order at 3:00pm by President Joseph Moskowitz

- **Motion to adoption the proposed agenda**  
Bill Calathes moves to amend the agenda and move the MOA issue to number 4. Motion seconded by Althea Hall. Gloria Boseman (sp?) makes an amendment to Bill's motion to move the MOA to number 1. Bill accepts the amendment. Motion is up for discussion. Motion to move the MOA to number 1 spot does not pass. Bill Calathes resubmits motion to move MOA to number 4 spot. Motion seconded by Helen Friedland. **Motion passes.** New Agenda is adopted.
- Motion to accept the minutes of the General Meeting of May 11, 2009. Motion seconded by Christine Arey. Minutes adopted as presented.

**Priority /Action Items**

- **Elections for Recording Secretary(one year term) and University Promotion Committee** (three year term without seeking promotion).
  - **Recording Secretary Position** -Matt Caulfield nominated Lilliam Rosado. Althea Hall nominated Matt Caulfield. He respectfully declined. There were no other nominations. Lilliam Rosado was voted the recording secretary. Corresponding Secretary (Debra Jenks) hands minutes over to Lilliam Rosado.
  - **University Promotion Committee** - There was a nomination from the union membership for Kenneth Good from the Sociology/Anthropology Department and Ivan Steinberg from the Economics Department. The ballots were distributed, collected and counted. Ivan Steinberg was voted to the University Promotion Committee for Arts & Sciences.
- b. Proposed Dues and Budget for 2009-2010** – R. Vohra presented the dues reduction proposal of 0.9% to 0.5% for full members.
- i. **Vote on Proposed Dues Reduction** – Dues paying union members can vote. A two-thirds majority vote is needed for the vote to pass of the members present in accordance with the constitution. R. Overton announced that the vote of must be a closed ballot.
  - ii. **Motion** - by J. Egan to keep union dues discussion to fifteen minutes from beginning to end and speak for no more than two minutes. The motion was second by J. Arroyo.
  - iii. **Amendment to the Motion-** made by M. Caulfield to allow for members to speak for two minutes but without time limit for the total discussion.

iv. **Vote:** IN FAVOR: 13, OPPOSED: 15. **Motion was defeated.**

v. **Discussion-** H. Singer made suggestion to change the discussion time to 30 minutes and members should not speak twice. J. Egan agreed to expanded time from 15 minutes to 30 minutes.

vi. **Vote on the Motion:** J. Egan's motion to keep dues discussion to 30 minutes from beginning to end and for members to speak for no more than two minutes and for no one to speak twice.

vii. Vote on J. Egan's motion: IN FAVOR = 65 **Motion passes.**

viii. **Discussion-** W. Calathes asked for more active and militant strategies within the union, which would require resources and the need to keep the 0.9%. J. Alexander-Ramos said that more dues does not equal more union services. G. Gordon suggested decreasing the dues by a small amount, evaluate the results and decrease again if needed. J. Debrizzi said that the state was weak and unable to protect membership interest thereby recommending not to reduce the union dues. Mort felt that the union money has been decreasing and the union can not afford to launch future fights.

ix. **Vote -** to reduce union dues for FY 2009-2010 from 0.9 % to 0.5%.

x. **Vote:** IN FAVOR = 45, OPPOSED = 54. **Motion was defeated.**

c. **Budget for 2009 -201**

R. Vohra reviewed the proposed budget

i. **Motion** made by M. Caulfield to add a line to the budget of \$30,000 for Ad Hoc committee with Chair who has experience with state and local levels to implement and develop strategies to respond to the situation we confront. The motion was second by J. Debrizzi.

ii. **Motion amendment** made by W. Calathes to modify the budget line to \$25,000. The amendment was accepted.

iii. **Vote on the amended motion:** to add a line of \$25,000 to proposed budget.

iv. **Vote:** IN FAVOR = minority **OPPOSED** = 45 majority.

v. Vote on proposed budget FY 2009-10 as presented by R. Vohra

vi. **Vote:** IN FAVOR = 35, OPPOSED = 11 **Motion passes.**

**New Business**

- Response to MOA and Furlough Day .
- Each full-time AFT unit member must take seven unpaid furlough days to be used by June 30, 2010. The only directed furlough day is the day after Thanksgiving. The other six days are self-directed. The dean has the authority to deny days.

**Discussion:**

Suggestion of working together with student government and connect with student body;

Whether administration will take furlough days equivalent to faculty and we should demand equality of sacrifice; How will administration use the \$1.5 million? We need accountability. How will the union keep the statewide membership from approving MOA again? The MOA did not appear necessary in NJCU.

iv. **Motion** made by I. Steinberg to extend meeting for fifteen minutes. The motion was second by E. Prosen to continue discussion.

6. **Adjournment** - 5:34PM