Delegate Assembly Minutes
January 26, 2016

Present:

BATSON  EC  GORR    BCC  MARIUS    HEO  MELTZER    MCC
BOWEN  EC  TREGLIA  BCC  MATOS    HEO  MOORMAN    MCC
COHEN  EC  UTAKIS  BCC  OKROSY    HEO  NAVARATNE    MCC
COLON  EC  BARNETT  C  PADILLA    HEO  OFFENHLOLLEY    MCC
DELATURO  EC  HUANG  C  ROBERTS    HEO  STEVENSON    MCC
DICK  EC  ABDALI  CLT  STEWART    HEO  AWOLABI    MEC
DIRAIMO  EC  BARTHOILD  CLT  WINTER    HEO  GREEN    MEC
ELLIOTT  EC  GRACIA  CLT  GEIGER    JJ  THOMPSON    MEC
FABRICANT  EC  HERTZBERG  CLT  HOVEY    JJ  LOGUERCIO    NYC
FEIGENBERG  EC  IRIGOYEN  CLT  KANG    JJ  MACDONALD    NYC
GRONOWICZ  EC  JEU  CLT  MAMELI    JJ  SHEPARD    NYC
HATCHETT  EC  RICHARDSON  CLT  NELSON    JJ  CESARANO    QCC
KISSACK  EC  BAEZ  CSI  CALLY    KCC  CLINGAN    QCC
LEBERSTEIN  EC  COPE  CSI  DILL    KCC  ROSENTHAL    QCC
LEWIS  EC  SILVERBERG  CSI  WETZEL    KCC  BALMUTH    RET
LONDON  EC  ELLIOTT-NEGRI  GS  ALEXANDER-STREET    L  BARBANEL    RET
MAJUMDAR  EC  GLICK  H  AUSLANDER    L  DISALVO    RET
PERSINGER  EC  BENCIVENNI  HCC  CAMPBELL    L  FRIEDHEIM    RET
SPEAR  EC  PIMENTEL  HCC  FARRELL    L  HYLAND    RET
TYNER-  EC  STEINBERG  HCC  MELLEN    L  KOTELCHUCK    RET
VASQUEZ  EC  BINK  HEO  COOGAN    LGCC  LILLY    RET
VAZQUEZ  EC  BROWN  HEO  DURAND    LGCC  MORAN    RET
VITALE  EC  CARAGIULO  HEO  SHEN    LGCC  PERLESTEIN    RET
DAVIS  B  CHARLES  HEO  YOUENS    LGCC  FRANK    Y
SHORTELL  B  CHITTY  HEO  GAMBS    MCC  SHEARIN    Y
SMITHSIMON  B  COLON  HEO  HUTCHISON    MCC  SHEIDLOWER    Y
WILLS  B  DIEUDONNE  HEO  ISSERLES    MCC
DIGIROLAMO  BAR  DONNE  HEO  KURTZ    MCC
PETERSEN  BAR  GALLAGHER  HEO  MEDINA    MCC

Guests:

Kristina Baines (GCC), Andy Battle (H), Lawrence Bosket (B), Tom Burgess (BMCC), Bob
Cermele (RET), Harry Cason (CSI), Erin Cully (GS), Yasmin Edwards (BCC), Connie Gemson
(RET), Marc Kagan (GS), Rafael Mutis (CSI), Christopher Natoli (GS), Immanuel Ness (B),
Marcia Newfield (MCC), Tony O’Brien (RET), Peter Santiago (KCC), Jarrod Shanahan (GS),
Nancy Silverman (GS), Gregory Snyder (BAR), Evelyn Tapaoan (HCC)

Staff:

Alladin, F.  Cheng, I.  Lewis, S.  Reilly, A.
Bell, D.  Clark, F.  Paul, A.  Rosato, D.
Bergen, D.  Gabriel, B.  Paul, E.  Young, P.
Brill, D.  Graf, B.  Pfordresher, K.  Zauderer, N.
Brown, T.  Herst, J.  Powell, E.  Zwiebach, P.
Cajuste, F.  Lasher, R.  Rasiotis, S.
I. Approvals
   A. Agenda
      MOTION: To accept the agenda  (Motion: S. Sheidlower; second: H. Meltzer)
      AMENDMENT: To move the Resolution on the Contract Organizing Campaign between Agenda items IV and V.  (Motion: L. Elliott-Negri; second: S. Shen) APPROVED.
      AMENDMENT: To shorten discussion of mayoral endorsement to 30 minutes.  (Motion: M. Spear; severally seconded). APPROVED.
      Agenda approved as amended.

   B. Minutes
      MOTION: To accept the December minutes  (Motion: B. Nelson, second: H. Meltzer)
      APPROVED.

II. President’s Remarks
   • Pres. Bowen reported that the union is not only fighting the Trump agenda, but also promoting an alternative agenda that includes increased funding for public higher education, protection of vulnerable staff, faculty and students, and the designation of sanctuary campuses. PSC is hosting bystander/upstander trainings. As part of AFT’s national AROS initiative on Jan. 19th, PSC joined a protest of local community organizations against Goldman Sachs and its influence on the Trump administration. There will be a meeting with vulnerable student groups on Monday at the union office to find out how the union can support them. Bowen congratulated delegates on the number of calls they made to senators to oppose De Vos’s nomination. The vote on her confirmation has been postponed twice. Congratulations to all those who marched on Saturday both in New York and Washington, DC.
   • International Conference: Global Resistance in the Neoliberal University on March 3-4 organized by the PSC International Committee – Register on the website.
   • PSC has launched a campaign to have members make a public commitment to stick to the union in preparation for the anticipated Supreme Court ruling on agency fee. The union will conduct a survey of the membership in March and April. Our goal is not to lose a single member.
   • The PSC contract with CUNY expires in November. In order to make a breakthrough on our basic needs, such as adjunct pay and more full-time lines, CUNY needs more public funding. About $2 billion more is needed over 4 years. The union testified this week at the joint higher ed. and budget committee hearing in Albany and advocated for full funding for CUNY phased in over four years, including 1,000 new full-time faculty positions, adjunct salary of $7,000 per course, and state matching of the $35 million the city has been asked to contribute for reduced teaching load. The proposed executive budget increases tuition and keeps state funding flat. The first thing that is needed for the new contract is money. The budget and contract campaigns are one campaign.

III. Resolutions
   • Resolution on the Right to Know Act
      MOTION: To accept the resolution as amended.  (Motion: H. Meltzer; second: T. Gronowicz) APPROVED.
      Resolved, that the PSC strongly endorses the Right to Know Act and encourages the City Council to move the bill forward.
   • Resolution calling on the DA to propose a constitutional change
MOTION: To accept the resolution on a constitutional change. (Motion: L. Elliott-Negri; second: P. Lewis)

AMENDMENT: To create an ad hoc committee to address the issue of eligibility for office after a member has been out of the bargaining unit in a managerial position or due to non-reappointment. The committee will bring the proposal to the next DA. (Motion: B. Bowen; second: J. Gallagher) APPROVED.

Resolution that the PSC oppose the Trans-Pacific Trade Agreement (TPP)

MOTION: To accept the resolution opposing the TPP and all other trade agreements that threaten public higher education and the common good. (Motion: PSC Environmental Justice Committee)

AMENDMENT: To change the title to replace TPP with Trade Agreements. (Motion: J. Gallagher; second: S. London) FAILED.

MOTION APPROVED.

Resolved, that the PSC oppose TPP because it undermines public education and fails to protect labor rights, natural resources, or protect us from extra-legal lawsuits in the corporate-dominated “private arbitration panels” of the ISDS; and be it further

Resolved, that PSC use its communications networks to inform members about the impact of such trade agreements on accelerating the privatization of public services, including education; and be it further

Resolved, that the PSC oppose any and all trade agreements, such as the TPP, that are developed and dominated by corporate interests; and that undermine workers’ rights, public health and safety, public services and local and national laws and regulations that are designed to protect the environment and insure the common good.

IV. Mayoral Endorsement – Discussion and Vote (Motion from Executive Council)

MOTION: To endorse Bill de Blasio for mayor. (Motion: PSC Legislation Committee) APPROVED.

V. Resolution on Contract Organizing Campaign

MOTION: To accept the resolution on first steps in a Contract Organizing Campaign (Motion: P. Lewis, on behalf of the Graduate Center Chapter Executive Committee)

AMENDMENT: To delete all of the whereases, which are before line 28, and the sections of the Resolved after line 34. (Motion: P. Lewis; second: L. Eliot-Negri )

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Resolved that the DA calls on the EC to schedule a one-day retreat in consultation with the chapter chairs; and be it further

Resolved, this meeting will discuss an action plan for the coming year and report to the EC (Motion: S. London; second: I. DeLutro) FAILED.

Resolved:

• That the Delegate Assembly calls on the Executive Council to hold a one-day retreat/meeting for all EC members, chapter officers, and other identified activists of the union no later than the last weekend of February or the very beginning of March;
• This meeting will discuss and develop an action plan for the coming year, including outreach and training for such a plan.
• The February Executive Council, Delegate Assembly and Chapter Chairs meetings will devote significant time to preparations for, and fine-tuning of, the retreat’s agenda.

MOTION APPROVED as amended.

VI. Administrative Items
A. Executive Director’s Report – D. Bell
D. Bell introduced Farah Cajuste, Coordinator of Contract Enforcement, and the newest member of the staff.
Elections – Printed Declaration of Candidacy Forms will be available on Feb. 2. Signed petitions are due on March 2.
The CLT chapter elected two new alternate delegates: Deborah Hertzberg replacing Ernst Gracia who moved up to delegate and Pedro Irigoyen replacing Joy Johnson who resigned.

MOTION: To receive the Elections Committee’s Report. (Motion: I. DeLutro; second: H. Meltzer) APPROVED.

B. Treasurer’s Report – S. Persinger
  Summary for the month
  Operating Income $1,534,000
  Operating Expenses $1,696,000
  Deficit ($162,000)
  
  Year-to-date (2 months)
  Operating Income $3,192,000
  Operating Expense $3,204,000
  Deficit ($12,000)
  
  A $17,000 surplus was budgeted for two months. Over two months, the union spent $98,000 less in expenses than budgeted and received $127,000 less in income than anticipated. This resulted in an unfavorable bottom line of $29,000.

  MOTION: To accept the October report. (Motion: H. Meltzer; second: S. Sheidlower) APPROVED.

  Summary for the month
  Operating Income $1,882,000
  Operating Expenses $1,479,000
  Surplus $403,000
  
  Year-to-date (3 months)
  Operating Income $5,075,000
  Operating Expense $4,683,000
  Surplus $392,000
A $26,000 surplus was budgeted for three months. Over three months, the union spent $271,000 less in expenses than budgeted and received $95,000 more income than anticipated. This resulted in a favorable bottom line of $366,000.

MOTION: To accept the November report. (Motion: I. DeLutro; second: S. Sheidlower) APPROVED.

VII. Update on retroactive pay – S. Persinger
The senior college pay date was January 19. We have been informed that all community college employees will receive their retroactive pay and salary increases on January 27. If you question whether your retroactive pay is correct, go to your HR office and request your salary history. CUNY central OHRM committed to make it available. Retro paychecks for about 3,000 adjuncts and full-time faculty overloads at senior colleges were not processed by the state. The retro will be paid in the Feb. 2nd paycheck. The union has requested a meeting with Tom DiNapoli. Separate paper paychecks have been cut for retro pay on overloads worked by F/T faculty and HEOs; check at college Bursar's Offices.

VIII. New Resolutions
- Resolution on the Opposition to the Cuomo Tax and Subsidies of Failing Nuclear Power Plants
- Resolution in Support of the Opposition to the Pilgrim Pipelines Construction
- Resolution on PSC Cooperation with the Inspector General’s Investigation

Resolutions cannot be voted on due to lack of quorum.

IX. Old Business

X. New Business
Request for NYSUT resolutions to be brought to the next DA.

XI. Adjournment
MOTION: To adjourn at 9:40 (Motion: M. Spear) APPROVED.