

WCCC Federation of Teachers

## **General Membership Meeting**

IBEW-58

Friday, October 23, 2015

1:00pm

**Present:** J. Grandys, Mary Pequinot, H. Aboubaker, J. Wilson, K. Tewel, D. Glasss, B. Radecki, M. Marquardt, C. Morrison, P. Mukkamala, P. Sutliff, F. Spencer, C. Nwamba, M. Per;man, L. Skidmore., D. Sole, K. Lawson, C. Greene, J. Bull., B. Hill, A. Anderson, J. Cook, M. Jenkins, B. Nichols, E. Robinson, B. Hall. D. Johnson, W. Matthew, B. Ewen, J. Wittbrodt, W. Peace, R. Short, E. Davis

Call to Order: President Joanne Wittbrodt

Review of prior minutes:

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved with one correction: Motion to adjourn the previous meeting was made by Michael Swope instead of Michael Wright.

**President's Report:** President Wittbrodt said that she recently attended a meeting and gave a copy of the presentation that she presented at the last Board of Trustees meeting to Mayor Mike Duggan and Congressman John Conyers. She urged the faculty to come out to the next Board of Trustees meeting. She went on to say that she heard that other unions are planning an action for the next board meeting. The report was received.

**Negotiations:** (Wittbrodt reporting for David Caddy)

President Wittbrodt said that all the details regarding negotiations have not been hatched out; not talking about money and working conditions yet; discussing bumping issues; need faculty to fill out the suggestion forms and turn them in to Dave Caddy; working to straighten out the contact hours and language to be complaint with the state law. Mr. Jackson offered this advice: "that we should be careful about making changes because they can oftentimes have unintended consequences." Wittbrodt went on to say that they are working to address the full-time issue regarding healthcare: two high-cost plans are on the table –Blue Cross and HAP. A meeting with all unions is being planned for next Friday to address this issue; need feedback from the faculty. The report was received.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President's Report**

2nd Vice-President Michael Wright said that we are at a critical juncture; right-to-work is upon us; Member-to-Member campaign has picked up momentum; has collected about 200 forms so far; asking each member to continue to talk to members at the various campuses; asking the Executive Board for a budget to invest in a bulletin board to be displayed at the campuses. The report was received.

### **Financial Report**

Treasurer Roger Short gave the financial report for the last three months. Copies of the report were distributed to all members. Mr. Short addressed members' issues and answered questions about the financial report. Motion (Ella Davis, Michael Swope) to accept the report carried.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President's Report**

1st Vice-President Christian Nwamba recognized those members who came to the meeting for the first time; asked the Stewards who were present to introduce themselves; discussed the Grievance Report and addressed issues and questions; reminded members of their bumping rights and said that the college should make whole faculty who lost classes; and that Johnny Mickels will be conducting a training for Stewards on November 7<sup>th</sup> at the AFT-MI Office from 8:30am-11:00am. Professor Adell Anderson asked about the arbitration hearing for online faculty. Dr. Nwamba said that it was cancelled due to class selection and that he is working to get it rescheduled. Copies of the Grievance Report were distributed to all members. Motion (Patrick Kelly; Derek Glass) to accept the report carried.

### **Other**

Professor Pete Sutliff read a list of items on behalf of the Negotiation Advisory Committee (see attachment) suggesting that the items be part of the 2016 contract negotiating platform.

Professor David Sole submitted a resolution to the membership on behalf of Michael Wright, JoAnn Watson, Elena Herrada, and Erin O'Mara regarding support for political prisoner Reverend Edward Pickney: "Therefore be it resolved that the American Federation of Teachers Local 2000, representing the faculty of Wayne County Community College District, goes on record in support of Rev. Edward Pickney and takes up a collection." The resolution passed with one nay. Motion (Joanne Wittbrodt, Michael Wright) to donate \$100 to Rev. Pickney's legal expenses and to post the resolution on our website carried. Professor David Sole gave a brief overview of Rev. Pickney's life and discussed what led to his arrest.

### **Announcements**

**Professor** Bruce Ewen announced that the Driscoll Berry boycott is this Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm-3:00pm at Whole Foods on Mack and John R in Detroit. He urged members to come out and support the boycott. Professor Ewen also discussed the \$15 minimum wage, and said that a demonstration will take place at the City County Building in a few weeks.

No further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50pm.

Respectfully and in solidarity,

Ella Davis

Secretary

## Attachment

The negotiation committee suggests the following items be part of a 2016 contract negotiating platform:

1. Hiring 25 full-time faculty in 2016, from internally posted vacancies, considering experience, seniority and teacher evaluations. Continue this each year until reaching a FT faculty to student ratio of \_\_\_\_\_:\_\_\_\_\_.
2. Paying adjuncts on a twice a month pay schedule, starting with an initial date of January 30<sup>th</sup>.
3. Offer basic healthcare or financial equivalent of the cost of healthcare premiums if they opt out.
4. Cost of living increases annually, in keeping with the cost of living.
5. Ten salary increase steps for adjuncts based on educational attainment and years of service or contract hours.
6. Equivalent of 5% of annual salary of adjuncts be contributed by the employer to the faculty's 401-K retirement plan.
7. Reestablish Department Chairs