

**A.F.S.C.M.E. LOCAL 2627
NYC Electronic Data Processing Personnel
General Membership Meeting
November 21st, 2006**

Agenda:

- Minutes**
- Treasurer's Report**
- President's Report**
- New & Unfinished Business**
- Good & Welfare**

President Hysyk called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Minutes:

Minutes of the September 19th, 2006 General Membership Meeting were distributed and reviewed. Florence Smith made a motion to accept the minutes. Julie Leibowitz seconded the motion and it carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Bruce Heigh distributed the Financial Reports for August 2006, September 2006 and the cumulative report for July 1 – September 30, 2006. A motion was made by Terry Dunne to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Larry Robinson seconded the motion and it carried.

President Hysyk reported that the Local has received a letter from AFSCME raising the minimum dues beginning in January 2007. The full-time dues will rise from \$19.88 to \$20.78. The part-time dues will rise from \$12.45 to \$13.15.

President's Report:

President Hysyk introduced Barbara Terrelonge, assistant director of DC 37 Research & Negotiations. He said that she is replacing Austin Childs who is no longer with DC 37. She will be handling the civil service updates and research and negotiations on unit bargaining.

The Computer Specialist (Operations) list is moving as a result of legal action taken by the Local. President Hysyk said that the number of provisionals in that title has been reduced to 3. The current number of computer specialists (Operations) is approximately 75 city-wide.. He said that appointments have been made to that position. Agencies are required to replace provisionals.

The lawsuit for the Computer Systems Manager (Prom) exam has been processed. President Hysyk said that a separate lawsuit will have to be filed for the Computer Specialist (Operations) exam.

As of the week of November 15th, 2006, there were 34 Computer Programmer Analyst Trainees city-wide. The president said that the local has been trying to discourage the City from using that title provisionally since the title has a flat rate with no longevity and no opportunity for advancement except through open competitive exams and grievances.

There is going to be a Computer Service Technician exam in May 2007. There are no other exams scheduled for the 2007 fiscal year. The computer aide exam was given in the fall and it will take 6 to 9 months before the list comes out. In the meantime some agencies are hiring computer aides provisionally.

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President Hysyk said that only 2 members from this local have expressed interest in doing a salary review. He said that the forms for the salary review are available for those who are interested. The forms are due at the end of December. He stated that if we want to justify whether a title should get a raise, a comparison would have to be made to what people on the outside are making in our titles. The comparison would have to be based on salary, hours worked, benefits, pension and other items. Ed said that this will be a tough stretch for us for the simple reason that it is harder to justify some of the costs in our titles because we do higher level work versus other titles. He said the salary review for our titles would require a lot more work. He also said that he has asked where the funding would come from since no funding stream has been identified. There is no pot of money for the locals to divide up for raises based upon the outcome of a salary review process. He said that the form was not complicated but strong justification is required when filling out the form. They were then passed out to members who wanted them.

President Hysyk stated that the MELS benefit is taxable even if a member does not use it. The IRS has said that it is taxable. The tax on the MELS benefit was \$70 but it is going up to \$105. This amount will not be on your W-2 if you live out of state.

Educational reimbursements were slow for a while since the AFSCME auditors had the local's books. Now that the books have been returned, the reimbursements will be processed at a quicker pace.

President Hysyk introduced Oscar Alvarado, assistant director for DC 37 Political Action & Legislative Department. Oscar talked about federal funding for NYCHA. He said that there have been many changes coming out of Washington D.C. in terms of regulations for NYCHA. The Political Action and Legislative department is asking that federal funding continue at its current level. Members were asked for their support by signing letters being sent to local politicians asking them for their support. Oscar talked about Intro. 452 which deals with the city's residency requirement. He asked members to call their city council person to get them to support and co-sponsor intro. 452 which allows our members to live outside of the 5 boroughs.

Ed announced that DC 37 representative Marianella Santana who represented the local in the DoHMH, DEP and HHC has been reassigned to another local. DC 37 rep Raul Martinez will be handling the out-of-title and disciplinary cases for HHC, DEP and DoHMH.

Old Business:

Secretary Cody Childs talked about the AFSCME case regarding his website that he created during the 2005 general election campaign. He stated that the hiring of the lawyer to contact him during the election was unnecessary and in his opinion was done so that the lawyer's fee could be used against him to remove him from the Executive Board. He said that the member who filed the charge against him never spoke at the AFSCME trial. Instead, 2nd vice president Gary Goff spoke on behalf of that member. Cody said that President Hysyk showed up as the witness for the member. The AFSCME trial officer heard testimony and evidence on the website issue but no evidence or testimony was heard dealing with the hiring of the lawyer or the hiring of a web designer. Cody said that he has filed an appeal with AFSCME concerning the penalty part of the decision dealing with the hiring of the lawyer and the hiring of a web designer which together totaled over \$3,000.

While waiting for his appeal to be heard, Cody said that he received a phone call from 2nd vice president Gary Goff telling him that there was a motion by the executive board requiring him to pay the \$3,000 by November 30th, 2006 and that he wanted to know his vote. Cody said that he asked him, "Who made the motion?" Gary then told President Hysyk, who was in the office at the time, that Cody wanted to know who made the motion. Cody said that President Hysyk told Gary to say that he (Gary) made the motion. Cody said that he then asked Gary, "Who seconded the motion?" Gary then told Cody that a phone motion doesn't have to have a second and wanted to know how he was voting. Cody Childs restated that a motion has to have a second and that is when Gary hung the phone up on Cody.

Cody said that after some research, he found out that there is no such thing as a "phone motion."

Ed Hysyk told the members that phone motions, as far as he was concerned, should only be used for emergencies and mainly for funding. He stated that he will recommend at the next Executive Board meeting that the motion made by Gary Goff be rescinded. He said that phone motions are for when the executive board needs money to do something. He said that any other motion should be debated before the executive board at a regular executive board meeting.

Julie Leibowitz stated that since an appeal is pending it would make sense to table any further discussion on this until the appeal is heard. She then made a motion to table any further discussion on this matter until the appeal is decided. Fred Gibson seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Secretary Cody Childs stated that if discussion on this issue is tabled, a motion could be passed by the executive board members to force him off the board if he does not come up with the \$3,000. President Hysyk said that it would be the board's decision. Michael from ACS made a friendly amendment to the motion stating that no financial penalty or other penalties be imposed by the executive board until after the appeal is done. Julie Leibowitz accepted the friendly amendment to the motion. Fred Gibson seconded the friendly amendment to the motion. A vote was taken on the motion with the friendly amendment and it passed.

New Business:

Mike Sturza (DoITT) spoke about the campaign to free Mumia Abu-Jamal and asked the local for their support in this effort. He said that numerous labor organizations have signed up to endorse the campaign to free Mumia. He then moved "that Local 2627 join these many thousands of other trade unionists and add its name to the published statement calling for freedom for Mumia Abu-Jamal and that a letter so stated be sent immediately on Local stationary to Robert Bryan, Mumia's attorney and the Partisan Defense Committee. An injury to one is an injury to all! Abolish the racist death penalty!" John Brennan (DoT) seconded the motion. Discussion and debate followed. A vote was then taken by hand. 22 voted in favor of the motion. 19 voted against it with 2 abstentions. The motion passed.

Gilbert Sambolin (DoE) asked that the local's website include information on the pension system urging provisional members to join and buy back time.

President Hysyk said that he would like DC 37 to run evening workshops for new employees so that they could see the benefits that they are entitled to. Ed said that he will approach DC 37 with this idea.

1st vice president Robert Ajaye urged members to inform new employees about benefits and union membership. He said that members have an obligation to make other members aware of all benefits and union information.

Good & Welfare:

Delois Jenkins (HRA) recently retired.

The mother of shop steward Stephanie Thomas (FDNY) passed away.

Terry Dunne (CUNY) made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ron Saunders (DoE) seconded the motion and it passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cody Childs
Secretary