

**Local 2627
District Council 37
General Membership Meeting
January 17, 2012**

The meeting was called to order at 6:20 p.m. by Robert Ajaye, President
There was a quorum.

In attendance were Executive Board Members:

Robert Ajaye, President
Michael Lanni, 1st Vice President
Gene Olmstead, 2nd Vice President
Bruce Heigh, Treasurer
Judy Briggs, Secretary
Cody Childs, Executive Board Member
Robert Fishburne, Executive Board Member
Susie Yuen, Executive Board Member

Agenda:

Minutes
Treasurers Report
Trustee's Report
Presidents Report
Old Business
New Business
Good & Welfare

Minutes

A motion to accept the November 15, 2011 minutes was made by Robert Fishburne, Executive Board Member and seconded by Mohammad Chaudry. Corrections were noted. A vote was taken. The motion passed to accept the Minutes.

Treasurer's Report

Bruce Heigh, Treasurer, made a Treasurer's Report for October 2011 and for November 2011. Charles McClain made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and Judy Briggs, Secretary seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Trustee's Report

Local 2627 Trustees Artie Kellam, Portia Perkins, and John Restrepo read the Trustees Report, including the Report of Independent Auditor, Statement of Assets, Statement of Revenue, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets, for the period ending December 10, 2010. Any questions will go to Peter DiCarlo, Auditor. Artie Kellam explained that the Trustee's Report could not be presented earlier because the figures were not ready.

A member asked if Local 2627 could do better on earning interest on revenues and savings than 0.7%. Bruce Heigh explained that the local was not allowed to invest in Bonds. He said this was not the right forum to address the topic.

Terry Dunne asked why the Trustee's Report accounting was on a calendar basis. He asked why it took so long to get a financial statement. Bruce Heigh explained that the financial statement is ready in March. It is turned over to the Auditor in June. That gives the auditor May-July to prepare the report. In September there were no trustees, because of the Election. That is why the Trustee's Report is being presented now.

A motion to accept the Trustee's Report was made by Robert Fishburne and seconded by Julie Liebowitz. A vote was taken. The Motion passed to accept the Minutes.

President's Report

Robert Ajaye explained some expenses and figures. Robert Ajaye reported that dues for retirees are turned over to the Retiree's Association 6 months after a member retires. The Local pays part of the Quality of Work Life Celebrations. The cost is split between the unions and management. In 2010 \$37,000 was spent on Education by Local 2627 on Local 2627 members. He said he is proud of this. This is a good and Local 2627 needs to be proud of it.

The City is calling from the Certified Applications Developer list now, for NYCERS. We have to be prepared. This year we had to increase the amount for education for members. When Exams come up, consultants will be taking them. Consultants want your jobs. Consultants do not have vacation days, sick days, MELS or other benefits. They want the benefits they do not have.

The City Council Local Law 35 adds to the contracting law. The language was weak in a lot of areas. It was made stronger. It will allow the union to look into any contract before it is accepted. The City Council overturned the Mayor's veto of the Accountability Act.

Twenty-five union members testified about City IT employees' ability to do the work. The City Council is with us. The Politicians work for us. We need to keep this up. Remember, Congressmen only have to be elected once and if they serve 1 day they get their pension for life. Remember, 545 people in Congress control 310,000,000 people. If they are not doing their jobs, they do not need to be there. Local 100 TW is talking about 1%, 1%, 1%. That has nothing to do with inflation. Local 2627 is 4300 strong.

There is a Bill in Congress to restructure FLSA, to take away overtime from all IT people making over \$20. hour. The IT professionals will be the only group basically excluded for overtime.

There are 40,000 troops returning. The only way to stop the people in Congress from making war on people is to go to polls. When they disbanded OTB, they took away benefits of retirees. Only 2 buses went to Albany. On Oct. 5 everybody knew they were going to lay off 700 people on Oct. 7. Only 125 people turned out for a rally on City Hall steps.

You have to get your people involved. On Oct. 7, Local 2627 lost 3 members. They could not be redeployed. They were Computer Aides and there were no provisionals in the title. Now they want to start Tier 5 and Tier 6. That is not going to affect current members, but they are trying to dismantle the unions. Why isn't New York City using cars made in America by American labor. Many of the companies they contract out to are not even in New York State. Local Law 35 is one of the tools we are going to use to stop this.

On the Repeal of the Triborough Amendment proposal, I received an article from the 1st Vice President, Mike Lanni, from *The Wall Street Journal*. It looks like they will leave the Triborough Amendment intact. In 1984 there was an Amendment added to the Contract. It says the terms of the old contract stay in place until you negotiate a new contract. The effects it would have had, if it had been repealed, would have taken away seniority, sick days and vacation days. Even salaries would have to be renegotiated. The article will be attached to the Minutes.

They say they have no money. In 2 months Aqueduct made \$90 million. Last year they made \$52 million from red light cameras. Last year they made \$48 billion from tourism. The movie industry creates another \$10-15 million. Cell phone towers make money and billboards. This was done illegally. They are after our livelihoods.

One of our members sent a picture of a meeting notes on the NYPD blackboard from a meeting had 10 items on it. The first item said they plan to privatize IT jobs. HRA had a timekeeping system in place. CUNY has a citytime system in place. CUNY got rid of DCAS. They do their own. We were talking about nepotism. here are 39,000 provisionals. They say they want to resolve it in 5 years. The first people they come after is IT. They want to reclassify titles to get rid of it. We are lucky we have John Liu and Letitia James. They have done a lot for this local and for DC 37. The Feds did not find anything on John Liu. He is coming out squeaky clean. People will make up stuff. They can make up anything because they can. If they take you off the street and take your fingerprints, please do not forget to tell your agency within 72 hours in documentation written. Tell them either in email or in a letter and send a copy to your private email. Tell them before the NYPD tells them.

Free tax preparation is available for people making under a certain amount. If you call 311, you can find out how much you need to make to qualify.

Ray Standa, DC 37 Pension Committee, sent a memo to DC 37 saying there is not enough information at this time for the unions to make any decision let alone make any commitment. The most solid of them is the NYCERS systems. NYCERS would be bailing out the Police and Firemen, Teachers and Corrections pension systems. DC 27 is not listening to that.

We have been dealing for over a year now with HHC. HHC has been trying to dismantle Goldwater on Roosevelt Island. Mayor Bloomberg just announced that Roosevelt Island will be taken over by Cornell University. In 7 years Mayor Bloomberg was able to increase his wealth by \$7 billion according to Forbes.

Old Business

Florence Smith raised a Citytime objection. When you are 1 minute late, they take 15 minutes. Later, she reported that when you come in early, they do not give you the extra 15 minutes. Robert Ajaye explained that they have to address this in the contract negotiations. We will be addressing this in the contract. They will be addressing the language used for Standby time. It is time for a new contract and a new booklet rather than amendments. When you have a contract that has been going on for 25 years, you have to go through little sheets of paper and cannot see it all at once. We cannot address it as a whole. We can only address it as members bring it to us.

Any problem you have with the DC 37 office, find out who you are talking to. Take a name. When you get frustrated, let us get frustrated. With Enrollment Eligibility with medical, dental, eyeglasses, if they don't answer or with a problem, let the Local 2627 office know about it. If you need medications, you need them now. We will take care of it.

Local 2627 will be the next 5% local of DC 37 in this building. That means a local that has over 5% of the population of DC 37. We have 4300 members. The next largest locals have 26,000, 18,000, 7,000 members. Local 2627 is the 6th largest local. Call the President or 1st Vice President of Local 2626 if there is a problem. We run a 365 day 24/7 shop. I return calls.

Mike Zamblonski, DOT, raised a problem with grievances. The pay on a grievance won for a promotion is only paid from the time the grievance was filed. What if you worked for a year before filing a grievance, he asked. He said he feels that part of the contract has to be changed. Gene Olmstead, 2nd Vice President, said not to wait and to file a grievance as soon as you notice a problem.

Robert Ajaye said there were a lot of problems with the contracts. He said they are working on a lot of problems in the contracts. He said if it was up to him he would negotiate a separate contract. He would have his own unit contracts for Local 2627 if he could, because the difference in salary is great and what satisfies members of different locals is different. The contract is old; it was done in 1981.

A member raised a question about DC 37 legal fees. Bruce Heigh said it is added on to the W-2. Robert Ajaye said members pay the tax only on it.

A member from DoITT said Met Life stopped taking new people for LTC. VIP (Voluntary Insurance Program) is now offering it to new people, Robert Ajaye reported.

A member reported another problem with Citytime. Robert Ajaye noted that they gave a grace period. We are finding a trend most people use the hand scanner on the way in and the web clock on the way out. The grace period is something we have to work on.

Every two or three days we are getting notification of new members coming into FISA. New people are coming in. Some of the salaries are really nice.

A member said he should get the same pay as someone who has the same functional title. Robert Ajaye asked who has the most experience. He said that is a sticky area. The question is are you doing more work that your title allows. File a grievance. We have lawyers. In house titles are irrelevant. Payroll titles are what counts. Who is your shop steward, Robert Ajaye asked. He suggested, call the office. Sit down with one of the reps and see if you can file a grievance. I will put you in contact with Jon Ng.

Florence Smith said some members are doing the same task for different pay. Robert Ajaye again explained about the factor of experience. New people are not going to come in at the salary the new person made 18 years ago.

Paul Banyon, DOE, asked if you are doing the same thing as people who are making more money, what can you do. Robert Ajaye explained that is when you do your job and behave. Most disciplinaries are from people who have worked 25 years, he said. They forget they work for somebody – saying what they shouldn't be saying. We don't have problems with young people coming in. You have to think about what you are asking for; is it reasonable. If I think personally something can be done about it, I will refer you to Jon Ng. What do you want the union to do for you. Come and talk to us. Artie Kellam said to look around you and see what level people around you are working at. If they are working at a higher level and you are doing the same work, then you can file a grievance. Robert Ajaye said we are the only local that let's anyone go to arbitration past step 3. It costs the union but we let everybody have their day in court. Rudy Corman suggested a member change agencies to make more money. Robert Ajaye explained that the hiring freeze and pause was taken off December 8, 2011.

A member from DoITT asked the reason they postponed Telecommunications Exam. Robert Ajaye said he thinks it is a way to prevent people from getting permanent titles. Most of the people in the title are provisionals.

New Business

Terry Dunne said he would like to make a motion for further action against the previous Secretary, Peter Jablin. The previous secretary owes the local some equipment. Someone owes the local some money for tickets. He made a motion that until the member pays back the \$100. due, he gets no tickets. The motion was seconded by Robert Fishburne. A vote was taken. One nay and one abstention. The vote passed.

The Audit could not take place because there were no minutes. There were tapes to be transcribed. Each set is being transcribed. All the Executive Board minutes have been done. Three sets of membership minutes remain to be transcribed. As soon as there is a bill, or a full accounting, of all charges spent on transcribing these minutes, we will bring him up on charges so we may recoup the monies. The equipment was never turned over. It was requested. This will all be documented in the charges. AFSCME found him guilty and not allowed to hold office. He was removed from office. He was out anyway. When we have all the minutes, a motion will be made. The general membership minutes will be put up on the website. We will have to assume that they are correct from the transcriptions.

At the next general membership meeting, we will be taking votes on who will attend the AFSCME International Meeting. You have to use your own time. We will be gone for a week. It is from June 18-22, 2012. You will be voting on the next AFSCME International President. This local will probably endorse Lee Saunders.

Artie Kellam asked for everybody on the next Labor Day Parade to turn out.

Cody Childs announced the Black History Event that will honor Marvin Gaye and Sam Cooke on February 10, 2012. He said to come early to get good seats.

Remember March 9th is the last day for your child to sign up to receive one of the DC 37 scholarships. You can find out by calling the DC 37 Education Department. Robert Ajaye said the membership needs to discuss Local 2627 giving a scholarship of our own to members' children. He said the union can afford it.

Remember to update your beneficiaries at DC 37, at NYCERS and at your Agency. There have been cases where beneficiaries were not updated and the member had remarried and the first wife got the money. Robert Ajaye reported a case where a hospital recently called the office on a member in a coma. Please update your information. Sometimes if you change your title, you get kicked out of the system. At your Agency, you have a right to see what is in your Personnel Folder at least once a year.

Good & Welfare

Michael Lanni reported that the Local had sent good and welfare to these members.

Sandra Smith (ACS)	Her sister passed away
Carmen Burgess (DC 37)	Henry Garrido's secretary. Her sister passed away.
Beatrice Everett (DC 37)	Beatrice has been ill. Secretary for Local 768 President Fitz Reid
Eileen Muller (DC 37)	Local 1482 President. She has been out sick.
Jim Lou (HRA)	He had an accident.
Olga Zimlin (HRA)	She had an operation.
Damaras Castillo (NYCHA)	She had a death in her family.
Robert Muller (NYPD)	He had an auto accident

Robert Fishburne made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Terry Dunne seconded the motion. A vote was taken. The vote passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Briggs
Local 2627, Secretary

Attachments:

Treasurer's Report, for October 2011 and November 2011.
Trustee's Report for Period Ending December 31, 2010
Article: *Wall Street Journal*, "Triborough Labor Law Likely to Survive"
Black History Month Celebration 2012 Flyer

WALL STREET JOURNAL -
from Mike Rodgers

Triborough Labor Law Likely to Survive

By JACOB GERSHMAN

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo has promised to relieve local governments of huge, state-mandated costs this year.

But people familiar with the Cuomo administration's thinking said the governor won't pursue a potent weapon in that effort—repealing a law that keeps public-employee union contracts in effect even after they expire.

New York state's Conference of Mayors, school districts and other groups have urged Mr. Cuomo to scrap or at least scale back what's known as the Tri-

borough Amendment. Critics of the 30-year-old law have argued it gives unions less incentive to compromise on a new contract.

The pay increases guaranteed to public-school teachers under the law add nearly \$300 million a year to school budgets around the state, according to a new report issued Wednesday by the Empire Center for New York State Policy, a conservative research group.

While accepting a three-year freeze of base salaries last year, state-government union workers are entitled to automatic pay increases that cost the state \$140

million a year, the report said. "This is probably the single most important mandate-relief issue the governor can tackle. It doesn't cost anything to do this," said E.J. McMahon, a co-author of the Empire Center report. "The only cost is political in terms of union opposition."

Union leaders say the Triborough Amendment is crucial to their bargaining rights. The law amended the 1967 Taylor Act, which gave public-sector workers the right to organize, reaffirmed a ban on government union strikes and labor officials argue allowed management to

impose wage cuts unilaterally by stalling negotiations until a contract expired.

"The notion that freezing step increases would somehow balance out negotiations at the bargaining table is very cynical," said Carl Korn, a spokesman for New York State United Teachers. "We all know that if salaries and steps were frozen, there would be no incentive for school boards to come to the table and negotiate in good faith."

But David Albert, a spokesman for the New York State School Boards Association, said the law "acts as a disincentive

for employees to make difficult choices or agree to concessions."

"School boards already have an incentive to negotiate in good faith," he said. "It's the law."

In his State of the State speech last week, Mr. Cuomo, a Democrat, said he would push to "enact mandate relief." But beyond backing a plan to reduce long-term pension costs, the governor didn't present specific proposals.

People familiar with the administration's thinking said the governor's office has indicated that it would leave the Triborough Amendment intact.

Repealing the law hasn't gotten much traction with Republicans who control the state Senate. The Democratic-controlled Assembly supports the law.

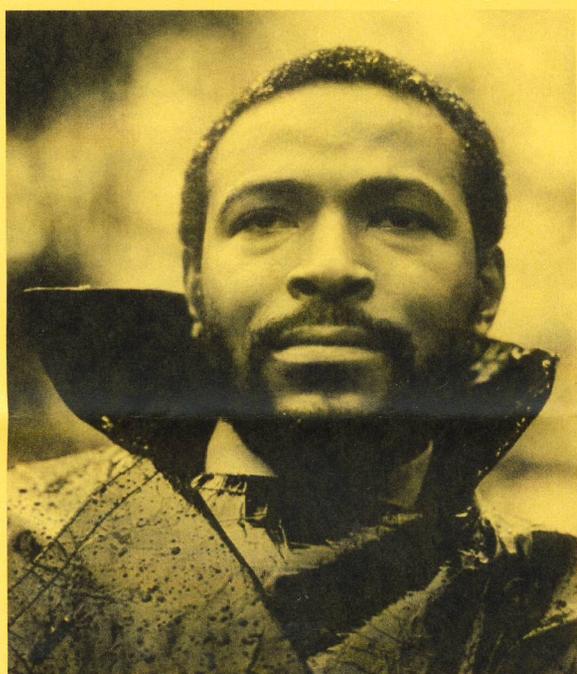
In the past year, Assemblyman Robert Castelli, a Republican from White Plains, introduced a pair of bills repealing or temporarily scaling back the Triborough Amendment. A few Republicans endorsed the bill, but not a single Democrat joined him as a co-sponsor. "I'm not an anti-union guy," Mr. Castelli said. "I just saw this as a matter of responsible government and fiscal conservatism in a bad economy."

2012 Black History Month Celebration

LOCAL 2627

PRESENTS

The Musical Legacy of
Marvin Gaye & Sam Cooke



Featuring The Soul Legends Band on Friday, Feb. 10, 5:45p.m.

DC 37 Headquarters

125 Barclay, Rooms 1- 3, New York, New York 10007

This celebration includes biographical notes on the lives of the singers and a live performance of many of their signature songs such as Gaye's "Stubborn Kind of Fellow", "Ain't That Peculiar", "How Sweet It Is", "Ain't Nothing Like the Real Thing", "What's Going On?", "Mercy, Mercy Me" and Cooke's "A Change is Gonna Come", "Chain Gang", "You Send Me", "Cupid", "Another Saturday Night", "Having a Party", "Twisting the Night Away", "Wonderful World" and "Shake".

General Seating

Lite Refreshments