

1 **Local 2627**

2 **District Council 37**

3 **AFSCME AFL-CIO**

4 **General Membership Meeting**

5 **March 17, 2015**

6 **Minutes**

7 **Treasurers Report**

8 **2015 Budget**

9 **Presidents Report**

10 **Old Business**

11 **New Business**

12 **Good and Welfare**

13 President Ajaye called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM. there was a quorum.

14 • **Minutes**

15 President Ajaye asked for a motion to accept the minutes for the January 20, 2015 General
16 Membership Meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Sister Andrea Simon (HRA).
17 Brother Anthony Medias (DCAS) seconded. A vote to accept the minutes with corrections was taken
18 and passed.

19 • **Treasurers Report**

20 There are 4 months of reports. Some items are missing but all of the income and expenses from
21 DC37 are present. This is because it was necessary to go back to Amalgamated Bank to get the
22 missing data. That takes time. .The months being reported on are September 2014, October 2014,
23 November 2014 and December 2014. The net operating loss was very high on the December 2014
24 statement. The local received the billing for the election in December and the education
25 reimbursement payments that were given out exceeded \$12,000.

26 Sister Andrea Simon had a question regarding the balances, and was reminded that some items still
27 have not come in and it will be reflected. Brother Bruce Heigh (HRA) was questioning the category
28 item "cell". In the past there was just a single line of reimbursed expenses. To make it easier for the
29 members to understand how the money is being spent, the report will now have specific fields.

30 Bruce stated that when he was treasurer American Express would remove the late charges if called.

31 It was explained that the reports reflect when the payments are actually being paid. Some bills
32 come in at different times, but the treasurers' report reflects when the actual bills are paid. This is
33 how it has always been done. If anyone has questions about any expense, they can ask for the
34 details and it will be provided. Bruce was questioning another line on the report regarding a

35 payment for the line category "carfare". The local does not regularly use carfare. The \$10 payment
36 was given to Bruce when he went to make deposits at Amalgamated. He was reminded that the
37 statement reflects when the reimbursement took place, not the date of the action.

38 Bruce then informed Treasurer Dunne that the quarterly statements need to go to AFSCME. He will
39 be sending an email with the contact information so the local will be in compliance.

40 President Ajaye reminded the membership that Treasurer Dunne had to go all of the way back to
41 August and it has been a major accomplishment for him to get this far this fast. By the next General
42 Membership meeting we should have everything.

43 A Motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Brother Brian Wonserver (DHS) and
44 seconded by Mohammed Miah (BMCC). A vote was taken and the motion passed.

45 • **2015 Budget**

46 The estimated budget is based on 5,000 members. There was an error with the October and
47 November numbers and it will be corrected. It was explained that even with growth, the local
48 sees very little money. The majority of the money goes to AFSCME and DC37.

49
50 There was some discussion about shopping around for other banks that will give the local better
51 interest and services. There was discussion on this topic, however President Ajaye spoke to
52 Executive Director Henry Garrido, and Henry requested that we wait before making any
53 decisions while he is talking to the bank.

54
55 Brother Bruce Heigh relayed the information that the per caps increased in January 2015. It will
56 be looked into.

57
58 Brother Jim Pennisten (DOF) reminded the membership and Brother Dunne that there are 27
59 pay periods in 2015 so there might be a little bit more money.

60
61 The budget was explained to the membership and there was discussion. All budgets are
62 projected. This budget uses the same verbiage as the old budget. It is created using past history
63 and an average on what we have already been doing.

64
65 Brother Artie Kellam suggested that the line item for Insurance be eliminated. President Ajaye
66 explained to him why it would be negligent to remove that expense. Robin Roache, the General
67 Council of DC37, informed Treasurer Dunne that it would be crazy to eliminate the insurance
68 when he questioned her on this issue. By not having the insurance, it can put the local in
69 jeopardy. Sister Julie Leibowitz added that it also protects the elected officers from being
70 blackmailed with the threat of malicious legal action. She relayed this insurance protects the
71 membership and the local. The local will continue to keep the insurance.

72
73 Sister Leibowitz made a motion to accept the 2015 Budget. It was seconded. A vote was taken
74 and the motion passed.

75
76 • **Presidents Report**

77 The overtime caps went up when the contract was signed. The current cap is \$77,469. When
78 you get over this cap you don't have to sign it. A lunch time meeting was held at NYPD and this
79 was explained to them. If you are over the cap you do not have to clock in. Adian Gelineau
80 (NYPD) was having issues in NYPD and Jon Ng tried to break it down. If you are over the cap
81 and you do not clock in you will get straight time. If you want to get paid cash you must clock in.
82 Additional discussion will have to happen with NYPD. A question was asked about signing in.
83 Sister Leibowitz also explained the difference between a weekly time sheet and a daily timesheet.
84 Over the cap employees have the option of filling out the timesheet at any point during the week,
85 but every employee is expected to sign in and out daily.

86 The Agencies are not allowed to change your schedule to avoid paying overtime.

87 Sister Veronica Taylor (DDC) wanted to know if the leave balances she has when she retires is
88 pensionable. They are not. Sister Leibowitz discussed terminal leave and President Ajaye
89 informed Veronica of the necessary waiver letter that is required in order to keep your time.

90 It was recommended that during the months of Sept/Oct members with a lot of time put in a
91 request for leave for the month of December. The Agency will deny it and then they have to give
92 you the waiver for the next year.

93 There is no movement on the CUNY contract. This is due to the State wanting the same contract
94 that they negotiated for the State Employees. The State Employees got zeroes, furlough days
95 etc. We are still waiting to hear from CUNY for a date.

96 President Ajaye was relaying information from the retreat that the Presidents attended. 63% of
97 the DC37 employees are females. DC37 has about 170,000 members between active and
98 retirees. Of the 170,000 members, 85,000 are not registered to vote. That is why we can't get
99 legislation passed.

100 President Ajaye was relaying different stories regarding immigration and non-registered voters
101 within DC37. First Vice President Mike Lanni informed the membership that about 17% actually
102 vote. Discussion about why it's important continued. Sister Leibowitz encouraged the members
103 to go to community meetings and be involved. President Ajaye reminded the membership that
104 we only give member benefits if they are an active member of the local. If they do not fill out the
105 green card they are not eligible to receive benefits.

106 President Ajaye was discussing the Right to Work States and how it will affect the local.
107 Everyone needs to participate more. When DC37 had buses for OTB the bulk of the people who
108 attended were DC37 staff and not the affected members. Sister Leibowitz spoke about
109 contributing to PEOPLE because we need to work on getting better participation. She spoke
110 about how things were in the past and how complacent people are now. People cards will be
111 distributed at the next GM Meeting.

112 President Ajaye informed the membership that Sister Julie Leibowitz was appointed as Secretary
113 of the local vacating her Executive Board position. Brother Brian Wonserver was appointed as
114 Executive Board Member.

115 Sister Leibowitz informed the membership that for NON Problems there is a new email address.
116 Secretarylocal2627@gmail.com. This is for address verification and for general questions,
117 suggestions and involvement. Anything relating to issues at work, grievances etc go to President
118 Ajaye and First Vice President Mike Lanni.

119 Sister Veronica Taylor has an issue with DC37 Health and Security with out of pocket expenses
120 for oral implants. There is an opportunity to get additional supplemental insurance with VIP. The
121 link is currently on the 2627 web page because there are 1500 members in 2627 who are
122 currently enrolled in VIP.

123 President Ajaye discussed broad-banding – collapsing some titles. This gives flexibility to some
124 of these titles. Computer Specialist Software job description dates back to 1991. The needs
125 have changed and so far the proposed changes seem beneficial for our members. There is a
126 meeting set for a few weeks.

127 Certified IT Administrator is being combined for LAN and WAN. It will still have 4 Levels but it will
128 not say WAN or LAN. This will be one title that covers both. They will use the selective
129 certification to reflect the job specifications. Since the salaries are identical it will make it easier.
130 The job description has not been updated since 2006

131 Computer Service Tech will have the duties expanded.

132 Computer Associate Software has to be updated since there were no websites in the past. These
133 titles are being revised to reflect what the members are currently doing instead of being held to
134 expired tasks.

135 There was discussion regarding the job descriptions, levels and step programs. The exam being
136 modified to reflect the current environment is still better than converting our titles to Non-
137 Competitive titles. President Ajaye encouraged the membership to continue to stay current with
138 their training. There is a lot of work to be done with this new administration. It will take a lot to
139 undo what has happened under the prior administration.

140 President Ajaye reminded the membership that it is critical to be honest when relaying your
141 problems/issues to the local. They are not able to properly represent the members if the
142 members do not tell the truth.

143 There was encouragement from President Ajaye to get the younger members involved.

144 Keisha Hogans (Comptroller) relayed issues that she believed was going on in her site.
145 President Ajaye tried to explain to her the processes and there was discussion. President Ajaye
146 tried to explain that if the local would ever make any type of agreement, it would be in writing.
147 Additionally, if there is no disciplinary action taken against our members nothing can be done.
148 She was not happy.

149 • **Old Business**

150 None

151 • **New Business**

152

153 Artie Kellam (Trustee) announced that the scholarship committee will announce changes at the
154 May GM Meeting

155

156 **Good and Welfare – Mike will email.**

Flavio Guillermo CUNY BMCC New baby in their family.

Arthur Dimaya FDNY Member passed away.

Andrea Sanders L2627 She is recovering from surgery.

Michelle Smith DOHMH Death in her family.

Harrell Perkins	NYPD	Harrell got married.
Gene Olmstead	HRA	His mother is recovering from an injury.
Sabrina Powell	HRA	Her husband passed away.
Lorna Moore	DC37	Wife of Geoffrey Moore DC37.
Maria Vasertriger	NYPD	Her mother passed away.
Randy Bowen	CUNY Brklyn	Randy's father passed away.
Evelyn Seinfeld	DC37	She is recovering from surgery.
Faina Goelik	DOF	She is recovering from surgery.
Sofia Grinshpun	DOF	She is recovering from surgery.
Beth Hillelsohn	HRA	She is recovering from an injury.
Danny Lam	ACS	There is a new baby in the family.
Alfreda Lewis	NYCHA	She is recovering from an injury.
Miguel Bernard	CUNY York	New baby in their family.

157 President Ajaye asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion to adjourn was made by Brother Dunne.
158 Mohammed Chowdhury seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed. The meeting was
159 adjourned at 8:37 PM.