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Local 2627

District Council 37

AFSCME AFL-CIO

General Membership Meeting

January 19, 2016

Minutes

Treasurers Report

Trustee's Report

Special Presentation – Financial/Retirement Planning

President's Report

Old Business

New Business

Good and Welfare

President Ajaye called the meeting to order at 6:14 P.M. There was a quorum.

• **Minutes**

Brother Jim Ryan (CUNY) made the motion to accept the November 17th minutes. It was seconded. The motion to accept the November 17th minutes with corrections passed.

• **Treasurer's Report**

Sister Julie Leibowitz (HPD) made the motion to accept the November 17th Treasurer's Report. It was seconded. The motion to accept the November 17th Treasurer's Report with no corrections passed.

• **Trustee's Report**

President Ajaye turned over the meeting to the Trustees: Artie Kellam, Frank Durham and Kalpesh Patel.

The Trustees presented their report to the membership. There was discussion. Brother Charles McLean made the motion to accept the Trustees Report. It was seconded. The motion passed

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- **Special Presentation – Financial / Retirement Planning**

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- **Presidents Report**

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President Ajaye thanked the representatives from American Funds for the refreshments served at the meeting. Mr. Sawyer and another representative made a presentation to the membership regarding financial and retirement planning. Folders were distributed with information to assist the members with their financial planning and goals. The representatives talked about the importance of saving and investing in the future. The representatives answered the member's questions while trying to keep things generic and relevant to the group. The Representatives explained that each person has specific needs and they recommended making an appointment to talk one on one. This way it can be catered to the specific needs of the member. Mr. Sawyer encouraged the members to call him without the pressure of feeling they needed to purchase or agree to anything. He would like to try to help with financial planning.

President Ajaye encouraged the members to give thought to their future and how they want to live in retirement. He even noted that some members take their contractual raises and put it towards retirement savings.

The Local received a thank-you letter from Jeannie McMorrow one of the scholarship recipients.

President Ajaye reported on the Friedrich's Case. The way the current trend is going, it does not look good for the Unions. The Supreme Court Justices that the Unions thought supported labor are bailing on labor. There was discussion as to why Labor is losing and what that means to the members. As people know, there has already been a \$0.80 dues increase. This increase was from AFSCME. They need to offset some of the losses because of the 26 Right-to-Work States. 99% of the Union Members from Right-to-Work States have opted out. If this passes, DC37 will have extremely reduced services.

It is critical that the members go out, vote and elect representatives that have the member's best interest in mind. President Ajaye even mentioned that only 10% of the residents of NYCHA voted while they have horrible conditions. A major reason these bad conditions exist is due to the politicians having no fear losing an election because the people do not vote. Our members need to talk to their friends, family and anyone who will listen. The middle class is at risk. Our pensions are at risk. President Ajaye reminded the members about what happened to OTB. All of this is because the wrong politicians have been elected to office. Voting is serious.

President Ajaye gave a shout out to Leo Morris and Jon Ng.

The DC37 Housing Seminar will be held on January 29th. There will be many representatives there including some from Real Estate, Attorneys, and Banks. He also reminded the membership that the DC37 Mortgage Program is free.

78 President Ajaye stated that MELS (Municipal Employees Legal Services) is
79 greatly underused. They represent the members for most legal things except
80 criminal charges. He encouraged the membership to take advantage of these
81 services.

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83 President Ajaye spoke of the hardships facing people in NY right now. He was
84 explaining to the members that these situations are as bad as they are because
85 of the people who were elected into office. Currently there is work being done to
86 try to undo a lot of this. Much of this happened during the Bloomberg
87 Administration. The examples he used were: there are about 500 Members in
88 DC37 that live in shelters, there are people in DC37 that make less than \$15.00
89 an hour and there is still no CUNY contract.

90
91 President Ajaye reported about the status of the Computer Associate Software
92 and Computer Specialist Software exams. There is no information. He clarified
93 that the Promotional List gets used before the Open Competitive List. Brother
94 Paul Gaynor (DOE) asked a question regarding utilizing the existing members to
95 assist with the exam. President Ajaye explained that the Local has no idea what
96 is going to be on the exam. Brother Adian Gellineau (DOIOTT) was talking about
97 the different criteria of the exam and how they should be properly proportioned.
98 President Ajaye reminded the membership that Non IT people design and
99 develop these exams.

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101 Sister Julie Leibowitz (HPD) mentioned some loopholes regarding the
102 Promotional List. The Promotional List is Agency Specific. So if your Agency
103 does not have a Promotional List, you can get picked up from the Open
104 Competitive List. If another Agency calls your number, you should let your HR
105 person know so they can send you with a letter which will enable you to get
106 picked up and sent back to your agency. This is at the discretion of the Agency
107 and they do not have to do this. Additionally, if you get a notice that you are not
108 eligible to take the exam you can appeal the decision. There is a 30 day window
109 to appeal. Notify the Local so they can help you. She also mentioned the ability
110 to challenge a specific question. That is also time sensitive. You should contact
111 the Local if you want to appeal or challenge anything regarding the exam.

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113 A question was raised about suing DCAS. President Ajaye informed the
114 members that the Local cannot make any moves until after the exam is being
115 given. There was additional discussion on this topic. President Ajaye did let the
116 membership know that there is a new DCAS Commissioner. No meeting has
117 been set yet.

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119 Brother Jim Ryan offered to bring Voter Registration forms in for the next
120 meeting.

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- **Old Business**

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The Local's Black History Celebration is going to be at DC37 on Friday February

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12th. There will be live music and the topic is The History of Motown. Please

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come to the event. Food will be served and the event is free. Volunteers are

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needed. Please see Brother Cody Childs at the end of the meeting.

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- **New Business**

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Richard Bergen (MTA IT) talked about stoping the TPP (Trans Pacific Partnership)

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and spoke to the members about this. He read a statement regarding this. He

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is asking for the members to contact their congressman to vote no on this issue.

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Good and Welfare

Pamela Fulweiler

NYPD

She is recovering from an injury.

Cheryl Jones

HRA

Her father passed away.

Rose Cabbie

DC37

Her mother passed away.

Frank Holt

HRA

His mother passed away.

Bernard Lobel

HRA

His mother-in-law passed away.

Sam Feldman

FDNY

His mother-in-law passed away.

Amjad Mughal

HRA

His mother passed away.

Peter Miceli

NYCHA

His wife passed away.

Vamshidar Tammanagari

HRA

This member passed away.

Srini Ramanujam

NYCHA

His father passed away.

Nazimul Huq

Doitt

Nas's family had a new baby.

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Brother Terrence Dunne made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded. The meeting

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ended at 7:42 PM.