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Local 2627

District Council 37

AFSCME AFL-CIO

General Membership Meeting

May 16, 2017

Minutes

Treasurers Report

Discretionary Money

Presidents Report

Nominations

Old Business

New Business

Good and Welfare

President Ajaye called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. There was a quorum. President Ajaye started off the meeting informing the membership of the recent developments. Brother Dunne resigned as Treasurer effective May 12, 2017 due to personal reasons. The Executive Board voted unanimously to elect Brother Mohammad Choudhury to fill the vacant position of Treasurer. The Executive Board voted unanimously to elect Sister Barbara McCarthy to fill the vacant position of Executive Board Member. Both newly elected Executive Board Members were sworn in at the start of this meeting by DC37 Rep. Dana Tilghman.

Prior to the minutes, Brother Ohlmstead requested that the agenda be reversed item #3 and item # 4. He made a motion to do this. He also wanted to speak on the issue regarding the discretionary money. The issue regarding the discretionary money has been discussed for 3 meetings already and on this meeting there was just a vote. He had previously requested that a statement on his thoughts be read, but was told that he needed to present his issues in person. Brother Ohlmstead presented his statement to the members at the meeting. That was satisfactory. The motion to switch the agenda was seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

29• Minutes

President Ajaye asked for a motion to accept the minutes for the March 21, 2017 meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Sister Susie Yuen. Sister Veronica Taylor seconded it. A vote to accept the minutes was taken and passed.

President Ajaye wanted to thank Brother Mitch Goldberg for pointing out an error on the process with the discretionary money. He is moving the vote for the discretionary money to the May General Membership meeting. There will also be nominations for the Officers during that meeting.

37• **Treasurers Report**

38 Brother Mohammad Chowdhury presented the current Treasurer's report. Brother Dunne
39 presented the outstanding November Treasurer's report.

40 Brother Brian Wonserver made a motion to accept the March 2017 & April 2017 Treasurers
41 Reports. Brother George Villegas seconded. A vote was taken and passed.

42 Brother Jim Ryan (York College) made a motion to accept the November 2016 Treasurer's report.
43 Brother George Villegas seconded. A vote was taken and passed.

44• **Discretionary Money**

45 President Ajaye brought up the Discretionary money issue. The Local has had the same
46 allocation of discretionary money for the last 25 years where the President can only spend \$100
47 without Executive Board approval. President Ajaye had requested an increase of \$150 to bring
48 up the Discretionary Money total to \$250. There has been discussion about this issue for 3
49 meetings and today is the vote. Brother Ohlmstead made an objection based on the nature of the
50 term discretionary. He believed it was for specific things and should not be up to the President to
51 decide. President Ajaye stated that the term "discretionary" means at the discretion of the
52 President. There are no set definitions on how that money should or can be used. A vote was
53 taken and the decision to increase the President's Discretionary Allowance from \$100 to \$250
54 was approved unanimously. Brother Ohlmstead did not vote on this issue.

55• **Presidents Report**

56 President Ajaye wanted to acknowledge the White Collar Division Director Tyler Hemmingway.
57 Local 2627 has moved from the Professional Division to the White Collar Division.

58 President Ajaye mentioned the news report that Ford laid off 10% of their workers today. All
59 workers laid off were non-union.

60 An e-alert was sent out to the members addressing the members' frustration about the email
61 responses to the office. Present Ajaye wanted to remind the membership that this time last year
62 the Local had 5 reps assigned. This year, Dana Tilghman is the only rep assigned to the Local.
63 He also reminded the membership that the Local is 5600 members strong. Emails come in at a
64 rapid rate and will not be responded to as quickly as people expect. President Ajaye reiterated to
65 the members to CALL THE OFFICE. He is always reachable. DO NOT COMMUNICATE VIA
66 EMAIL ONLY.

67 President Ajaye stated that if any member has an issue, they must CALL the office. Do not send
68 an email as the only contact to the office. Phone calls are answered and addressed first.
69 Anonymous mail should never be sent to anyone in the Local. If there is no way to verify the
70 information, it will not be addressed. These anonymous issues will be thrown out. Any
71 submission to the Local must have a contact name and number.

72 President Ajaye reported on the status of the contract extension vote. 90,000 members were
73 eligible to vote. Approximately 23,000 people returned the ballots. 22,000 people said yea and
74 1,100 people said nay. There were some groups who would not receive a ballot such as CUNY,
75 Transit and DOE. The extension of 2 months and 23 days keeps our benefits in tact until the next
76 contract negotiation. It is important to understand the issues and what you are voting for.

77 President Ajaye discussed the upcoming vote for the Constitutional Convention. There will be a
78 question on what do you want to do with the Constitutional Convention. They can change your

79 PENSION and Civil Service Law. The Governor wants to try to get OUR MONEY. We MUST
80 **VOTE NO** to the Constitution Convention.

81 President Ajaye discussed what Sister Leibowitz reported to him from the Civil Service committee
82 meeting when the Commissioner of DCAS was present. He had requested that sister Leibowitz
83 bring up the Local's issues regarding hard to recruit titles such as the Telecom titles. This is due
84 to the fact that members are refusing promotional opportunities because they would have to
85 move back to the city. Sister Leibowitz was able to bring this issue and other issues up to the
86 Commissioner. The Commissioner stated that she never heard about this issue and wanted an
87 email regarding the issue so she could address it. She seemed very cooperative. However,
88 upon reporting this to President Ajaye, he stated that she has an entire email chain regarding this
89 issue. Their correspondence has been going back and forth about 12 times regarding this.

90 DOE still has members working out of title doing work like searching people, working in the
91 cafeteria, setting up hair dryers etc. President Ajaye wrote a letter with no responses. Nancy
92 Garillo and Spencer Hayes avoid talking to him. They say they will get back but don't. They are
93 even requiring members to annual leave for the summer break and Easter breaks. President
94 Ajaye spoke to Moira Dolen from Research & Negotiations and she sent out an email with cc's to
95 a lot of management. Nancy Garillo finally returned the phone call regarding this.

96 Dana Tilghman, the Local's council rep. passed out post cards regarding the No Vote for the
97 possibility of a Constitutional Convention. This post card will be mailed back to the members in
98 NYS as a reminder of what to do during Election Day. Sister Leibowitz encouraged the members
99 to tell everyone who lives in NYS to vote no, use all social media accounts. The vote to open up
100 the Constitutional Convention takes place every 20 years and is for NY State residents only.

101 Dana Tilghman also reported on the Legislation was introduced to make every State a right-to-
102 work State. So many things are impacted. "Your ability to vote is your voice." Our pension is a
103 defined pension. That means it is guaranteed. NYS Local 707 thought they had a guaranteed
104 pension but it wasn't. A retiree making \$3,500 a month is now making \$500 a month. There was
105 discussion.

106 Brother Adian Gellineau stated that he didn't think it was fair for DCAS to use the last 4 digits of a
107 person's SSN. Sister Leibowitz, Lisa Riccio (Research & Negotiations) and President Ajaye
108 explained that everyone is considered number 1 for list purposes. Using the SSN is just so
109 people can read the names since you can't put 800 people on one line. Lisa confirmed that this is
110 how you are ranked just to get on the list. For consideration, everyone is being considered
111 number 1. Lisa explained to the members what the Agency must do and can do. Provisionals
112 **must be replaced**. Vacancies are arbitrary. The agency doesn't have to fill those slots. Lisa
113 explained that the selective certification lists go first. There was discussion.

114 Sister Leibowitz informed the membership that at the bottom of the Notice of Examination (NOE)
115 there is a phone number. It is the responsibility of the member to call DCAS and ask the status of
116 the list and make sure that your number did not get passed over. President Ajaye reminded the
117 members that they have to ask to get reinstated back on the list if they have been removed.

118 There were additional questions regarding Civil Service exams and titles. Brother Dan Kelly
119 asked about the CSM titles. President Ajaye informed him that DC37 is working on accreting
120 these titles. A question was asked regarding the Qualifying Incumbent Exam (QIE). Lisa
121 reported that the schedule is posted from now to June 30th. The schedule for July 1-Dec 31 has
122 not been submitted yet. Sister Leibowitz stated that you have to file for the QIE the same way

123 you file for the Open Competitive and Promotional exams. The members must go on the DCAS
124 website to see if your exam is scheduled and when. There was additional discussion.

125• **Nominations**

126 President Ajaye introduced Brother Terry Dunne as the Election Chair. Brother Ohlmstead had
127 an objection citing the election manual about the the election committee. He mentioned
128 something regarding "it is recommended" but as was pointed out, "recommended" is not required
129 as President Ajaye pointed out. (the secretary was unable to totally hear the issue. Brother
130 Ohlmstead was very low and very far away. It was not clear.)

131 Brother Dunne introduced the other two members of the Election Committee. Mohammad Mia
132 and Matthew Conway. Brother Dunn is asking everyone to make sure to fill out the nomination
133 ballot clearly and accurately. Nominations are listed below.

134 President

Nominator	Candidate
Mike Lanni	Robert Ajaye
Artie Kellam	Eugene Olmstead

135

136 1st Vice President

Nominator	Candidate
Robert Ajaye	Mike Lanni
Eugene Olmstead	Robert Benjamin

137

138 Second Vice President

Nominator	Candidate
George Villigas	Cody Childs
Cheryl Jones	Frank Durhan

139

140 Treasurer

Nominator	Candidate
George Villigas	Mohammad Chowdhury
Angel Caludio	Artie Kellam

141

142 Secretary

Nominator	Candidate
Barbara McCarthy	Julie Leibowitz
Kalpesh Patel	Moises Hidalgo

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144 Executive Board

Nominator	Candidate
Julie Leibowitz	Barbara McCarthy
Sarah Chan	Susie Yuen
Cody Childs	Charles McClain
Artie Kellam	Kalpesh Patel
Yvette Hernandez	Michelle Hodelin
Cody Childs	Brian Wonserver
Eugene Ohlmstead	Tom Engeldrum
Robert Benjamin	Collin Retemeyer

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148 Trustees

Nominator	Candidate
?? Couldn't make out the name	Adian Gellineau
Artie Kellam	Angel Claudio
?? Couldn't make out the name	George Villegas
	Frank Durham Declined trustee nomination to accept the Executive Board nomination.

149

150 Delegate to DC37

Nominator	Candidate
Barbara McCarthy	Julie Leibowitz
Veronica Taylor	Susie Yuen
??	George Villegas
Leonard Days	Charles McClain
Artie Kellam	Robert Benjamin
George Villegas	Mohammad Chowdhury
Susie Yuen	Veronica Taylor
Brian Wonserver	Cody Childs
Moises Hidalgo	Collin Retemeyer
	Mike Lanni
Eugene Ohlmstead	Artie Kellam
Robert Ajaye	Barbara McCarthy
Artie Kellam	Kalpesh Patel
Yvette Hernandez	Michelle Hodelin
??	Mitchel Goldberg
??	Frank Durham
Eugene Ohlmstead	Tom Engeldrum
Robert Ajaye	Noel Ramos

151

152 Delegate for Central Labor Council

Nominator	Candidate
Eugene Ohlmstead	Kalpesh Patel
George Villegas	Mohammad Chowdhury
Robert Ajaye	Noel Ramos
Robert Ajaye	George Villegas
Charles McClean	Mike Lanni

153

154 Brother Dunn closed nominations and explained how the secret ballot is done. He also informed
 155 the members that you must follow the instructions on the section voting. You can only vote for
 156 the maximum amount of the people eligible. For example if there are 3 people you can vote for
 157 you cannot vote for 4 people. That would make that section of the ballot ineligible.

158 Brother Kellam asked when the ballots are going out. President Ajaye and Brother Dunne stated
 159 June 2nd if possible. Brother Dunne informed the members that if that is the case, the results will
 160 be announced at the June meeting. Brother Ohlmstead had an issue regarding the election
 161 committee. President Ajaye informed him that the issue he brought up is not required.

162• Old Business

163 None

164

165• **New Business**

166 Sister Susie Yuen announced the DC37 Asian Heritage event this Friday, May 19th. 6-9pm.
167 Located at DC37 Rooms 1-2. Please attend.

168 A question was posed about who was responsible for the updating of the Web page and he
169 requested that the minutes be updated to the page.

170 Brother Ohlmstead had an issue regarding the consultants. President Ajaye tried to explain to
171 him that DC37 holds the bargaining certificate and the Local along with DC37 has been working
172 on this issue. There was additional discussion.

173 Brother Days asked the status of the merit raises at HRA. President Ajaye asked everyone in the
174 room how many people received "merit" raises. No one in the room has received one. President
175 Ajaye mentioned that whenever a member from HRA wins a grievance and they are required to
176 cease and desist the members do not. This practice will continue to happen unless the members
177 cease and desist. There was additional discussion also including personal responsibility.

178 President Ajaye mentioned the importance of Union participation, and the importance of attending
179 meetings and parades. The Local is not able to vote via web broadcasting. You must be in
180 attendance.

181 There will be CUNY exams scheduled. These exams will be recurring.

182 President Ajaye reported on the status of the .52 increase. This will be turned in to a RIP
183 (recurring increment payment). The longevity will still be there. All of the Presidents in this
184 contract group need to agree. The RIP increases with the same percentage as the contract. The
185 current longevity does not have that automatic increase. The members will have the longevity as
186 well as the RIP. This benefits all members.

187 Brother Kellam asked if there was going to be a place on the ballot to see if the members wanted
188 to change the name of the Local.

189 **Good and Welfare**

<u>Member Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Description</u>
Yadira Arroyo	EMT	She was the EMT who was run over by Ambulance.
Wing Chau	Transit	His mother-in-law passed away.
Gary Leunis	DEP	His father passed away.
Norman Schuster	Comptroller	The member passed away.
Sam Saripalli	NYCHA	His wife passed away.
Miguel Correa	NYCHA	His mother passed away.
David Severino	NYCHA	New baby boy.
Cristopher Devlin	NYPD	New baby girl.

190

191 Sister Julie Leibowitz made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Jim Ryan A vote
192 was taken and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.