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**Local 2627**  
**District Council 37**  
**AFSCME AFL-CIO**  
**General Membership Special Meeting**  
**July 28, 2020**

- Election Committee**
- Amendment for Teleconference**
- Constitutional Ammendments**
- Presidents Report**
- Delta Dental Presentation**

President Morand called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M. There was a quorum. President Morand instructed the members how to participate with this virtual meeting. She will be monitoring the questions and the raise hand function. The Minutes and the Treasurers reports will be submitted during the September meeting.

**Election Committee**

The Election Committee consists of Sister Anne George, Brother Ronald J. Dillon and Sister Diane Gourdes.

Brother Ron asked how the motion was going to be made and how people can vote and discuss the motions. He was concerned as to how the votes would be counted. President Morand explained the hand raising feature will be used to count the votes as well. Sister Allison had a question regarding two of the amendments. President Morand elaborated on the amendments.

Election Committee Chair Sister George explained how the Committee was formed and what they were instructed to do. She explained how the election was carried out and the entire process. The results will be published on the Local's website. The election was conducted under the supervision of AAA, the outside source to count the ballots. There was one challenge of a nominee. The membership department validated the member. The challenger accepted the ruling. The following positions were contested: 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Executive Board Member and Delegate to DC37. All ballots had to be back by 7/17/20. Ballots were counted at the Philadelphia office of AAA. The Election Committee monitored the counting remotely and one observer was in attendance.

**Uncontested Elected Officers**

President - Laura Morand; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President - Cody Childs; Secretary - Julie Leibowitz; Treasurer - Artie Kellam; Trustee - Kennard Gopaul; Central Labor Council (CLC) Delegate – Mohammad Chowdhury; CLC Delegate – Noel Ramos; CLC Delegate – Marie Jeremie.

**Contested Elected Officers**

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - Susie Yuen;  
Executive Board – Charles McClain; Mohammad Chowdhury; Aidian Gellineau; George Villegas.  
Delegate to DC37 – Susie Yuen; Julie Leibowitz; Robert Benjamin; Veronica Taylor; Charles McClain; Michael Childs; Mohammad Chowdhury; Artie Kellam; Arnold Andino

40 Sister George made suggestions on how to improve the election process.  
41 5,433 ballots were sent out on 6/26/20. Ballot secrecy was maintained. The counting of the  
42 ballots took place on 7/17/20. 794 ballots were received. Details will be available to read on the  
43 website later.  
44 The results for the contested positions:  
45 Second Vice President – John Adam Devincenzo 263; **Susie Yuen 516**.  
46 Executive Board Members – **Mohammad Chowdhury 458**; Sree Dudi 297; **Aidian Gellineau**  
47 **475**; **Charles McClain 591**; Kalpesh Patel 323; **George Villegas 571**.  
48 Delegate to DC37 – **Arnold Andino 391**; **Robert Benjamin 541**; **Michael Childs 401**,  
49 **Mohammad Chowdhury 395**; Anthony Escalona 367; Aidian Gellineau 386; Omari Holtz 262;  
50 **Artie Kellam 395**; **Julie Leibowitz 565**; **Charles McClain 478**; Kalpesh Patel 324; **Veronica**  
51 **Taylor 537**; **Susie Yuen 580**; Mohammad Zaman 213.  
52 Sister Nathifa Lewis (DSNY) made a motion to accept the election report as presented. Carol  
53 Chodes (FDNY) seconded the motion. A vote was taken, the motion passed. Yea: 22 Nay: 0  
54 Natasha Isma swore everyone in.  
55 President Morand disbanded the election committee.

#### 56 **Teleconference Resolution**

57 President Morand read the resolution regarding the adoption of a policy regarding audio / video /  
58 teleconference for General Membership meetings during this state of emergency due to this  
59 pandemic.

#### 60 **RESOLUTION FOR ADOPTING A POLICY FOR CONDUCTING AUDIO/VIDEO TELECONFERENCING** 61 **MEETINGS OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP OF LOCAL 2627, DISTRICT COUNCIL 37, AFSCME,** 62 **AFL-CIO**

63 WHEREAS, the State of New York and the City of New York Governor have been severely impacted the  
64 COVID-19 Pandemic CRISIS;  
65 WHEREAS, in the face of the crisis, the Governor of New York, Andrew M. Cuomo, declared a state of  
66 emergency and has promulgated Executive Orders that have strictly prohibit gatherings of any sort and  
67 requires business concerns, except those that are essential services or provide essential services must  
68 adopt and implement procedures that allow percent of their workforce to work remotely from their homes;  
69 WHEREAS, the International Union, the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees  
70 (AFSCME) has established procedures for subordinate bodies to conduct virtual meetings pursuant to  
71 Article IX, Section 51 and Appendix E of the International Constitution;  
72 WHEREAS, Local 2627 has sent notice to the members regarding the instant virtual meeting. The notice  
73 contained the means by which attendees will participate in the meeting by asking questions, making  
74 comments, giving reports, voting and otherwise participate in the democratic process on all matters affecting  
75 the union;  
76 NOW BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Local 2627 hereby adopts the instant policy allowing for the convening of  
77 General Membership meetings by virtual means, i.e., audio and/or video- conferencing;  
78 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; The Local 2627 Secretary will take the minutes of such virtual meeting in the  
79 same manner as minutes of in-person meetings are done. All members of Local 2627 participating in the  
80 meeting shall be counted towards the quorum of the meeting;  
81 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that prior to taking a vote on any motion, the presiding officer shall inquire as  
82 to the continued presence of any participating member during the virtual meeting; If a member is no longer  
83 on the call, including because of equipment malfunction or technological malfunction, voluntary  
84 discontinuance or electronic connections, the member will not be counted as being present in the meeting  
85 for that motion.  
86 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED Each member participating in the virtual meeting has the right to raise points  
87 of order, seek recognition to speak and submit motions for consideration;  
88 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: This policy shall not take precedence over or replace the gathering of  
89 regularly scheduled of

90 Local 2627 General Membership Meeting once the emergency period is lifted  
91 This policy may be amended as the Local 2627 membership deems necessary.  
92 RESOLVED: this 28th day of July 2020.

93 Sister Leibowitz made the motion to accept this amendment. Sister Lewis seconded. Sister  
94 Leibowitz accepted the friendly amendment from Sister Lewis to include everything that was  
95 discussed and accepted from the start of this meeting. A vote was taken yay – 17 Nay – 0. The  
96 resolution passed.

#### 97 **Constitutional Amendments**

98 First reading : Brother McClain mentioned that amendments 2 and 3 were cosmetic changes to  
99 bring things up to the current numbers. He then discussed Amendment #1. This amendment is  
100 to make the First Vice President, the Second Vice President, the Secretary and the Treasurer  
101 become automatic delegates to DC37 along with the President upon election. Sister Lewis made  
102 a motion to accept the constitutional amendments as read with the typo corrected. Brother Childs  
103 seconded. Brother Dillon had questions regarding the dues amount in the constitution and  
104 suggested taking the dues out completely.

105 Robin Roach stated that there needs to be two reads so during this reading there is no motion.  
106 Robin stated that Brother Dillon's request to remove the dues is something that AFSCME  
107 requires and cannot be taken out.

#### 108 **President's Report**

109 It's official that the CSM and Comp Operation Manager as of 9/14/20. There is no cash OT.  
110 They will get CT. They will have our drug and dental plan. The DC37 dental plan will change.  
111 Brother Dillon (DOHMH) asked if there was going to be a meeting with these members so the  
112 benefits will be explained to them. President Morand stated a letter is being drafted and dates  
113 are going to be set up to meet with these members. There are about 700 people coming into this  
114 title. There was discussion.

115 There is no new information regarding layoffs. The Mayor was talking about 22,000 and it is  
116 possible that the number will be reduced to 2,200. The Union is hoping that enough people will  
117 take advantage of the early retirement incentive so layoffs can be lessened.

#### 118 **Dental**

119 Jody Goodman, Michael Lopez and Angelo Discoli discussed the Delta Dental plan that will be in  
120 effect as of 9/1/20.

121 Sister Julie Leibowitz made the motion to adjourn. Brother Artie Kellam seconded. The meeting  
122 was adjourned at 7:58 pm.