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Local 2627
District Council 37
AFSCME AFL-CIO
Virtual General Membership Meeting
September 21, 2021

Minutes

Treasurers Report

Trustee Election

Presidents Report

Old / New Business

President Morand called the meeting to order at 6:17P.M. There was a quorum. President Morand informed the members that everyone is going to be muted. The raise your hand feature will be used. You must wait until your name is called to speak.

Minutes

Brother Childs made a motion to accept the accept the June 15, 2021 minutes. Brother McLean seconded. A vote was taken. The minutes were approved.

Treasurers Report

Due to the full nature of business, Brother Christopher Smith made a motion to table the Treasurers report. Brother Kalpesh Patel seconded. A vote was taken. The motion passes and the Treasurers report is tabled.

Presidents Report

President Morand informed the membership the status of the return to work and what the Union is doing. An Improper Practice lawsuit has been filed. Currently there is no news on the status of this lawsuit. President Morand will send out the status once she is informed. The DC37 members should not be treated like guinea pigs. Their safety matters. There is another lawsuit that was filed with the MLC prior to September 13th regarding the vaccine mandate / termination for DOE and HHC with no testing option. Due to that lawsuit, there is a temporary restraining order for DOE only. As of September 27th, HHC members will be placed on leave without pay if they do not show vaccination. There are no provisions for medical or religious accommodations.

CUNY has not decided yet when employees will return to work. Members will be updated.

There is a grievance with NYPD because they brought all the members back in May. This lawsuit is going over.

HRA had Legionnaires at the Harlem site. Members should be allowed to work from home at this site. Please inform the Local if anyone is not working from home at that site or if members have not been informed. HRA is also supposed to provide bottled water for the employees.

Legal has reported that as of 9/14 over 270 health and safety inspections have been done to ensure it is safe to return to work. An improper practice has been filed at OCB on the basis of health and safety. OCB will not be meeting to the second week of October.

39 There is a City Council meeting on 9/30. The Union is looking for people to testify regarding
40 mandates. This is for HHC only.

41 FDNY and other agencies are stating that they cannot bring member's back full time. The
42 members should inform the Local if their agency is not prepared i.e., no running water, not clean,
43 no AC, etc. If this is the situation request a safety and health inspection.

44 President Morand opened the floor for questions. She read and answered questions in the chat.
45 There was discussion regarding paid family leave, return to work, covid exposure, vaccination
46 rate and infection at the agency level. If you are vaccinated and do not show symptoms you are
47 required to report to work. There was a lot of discussion.

48 The reason that there was a delay regarding the time it took DC37 to file the lawsuits was due
49 because the Mayor went to the press and contraindicated what he told the Unions.

50 Sister Leibowitz informed the membership that if members are being told that reasonable
51 accommodations are only being given for covid that is not correct. They should let the union
52 know. There is a lot of questionable things going on now and it is important to speak to the union.

53 President Morand went back to answering chat questions.

54 Regarding being promoted to a CSM and not passing probation: can the member go back to their
55 old title. It depends on what agencies are involved and the length of separation of service. You
56 need to talk to the Local. This can also affect your longevity.

57 Question about the salary increase. New hires are hired at a 15% salary reduction. The bump up
58 to the incumbent rate happens after 2 years. If you are higher than the base you may not get the
59 bump up. The next increase would be the longevity increases.

60 Question regarding the social distance barriers being taken down and the lack of social distancing
61 requirements being a part of the lawsuits filed. President Morand will check up on that and there
62 are safety and health inspections scheduled at the sites that have been reporting this. There was
63 discussion. David Boyd stated that the only mandate in place is the mask mandates.

64 Question – regarding CUNY IT Support Exams. For CUNY members only. On September 15th
65 CUNY released the IT Support Assistant exam due to the Local filing a lawsuit. The first exam
66 from CUNY is the IT Support Assistant. If any CUNY Member does not have a permanent title,
67 they MUST take this exam, this includes members with a higher title. If members do not take this
68 exam, they can find themselves bumped or terminated. This exam is going to be the only exam
69 that is open competitive. If members are IT Senior Associates without a permanent title, they
70 MUST take this exam. Next year the IT Assistant exam will be promotional only. The other
71 exams will be promotional only as well. Members should verify with HR to make sure they are
72 permanent. President Morand explained in detail at what point members should take these
73 exams while provisional in higher titles.

74 Any member who passed an exam and is not getting picked up should let their agency know they
75 are on the list. The Local cannot make an Agency pick a specific member off of the list.

76 Question from a member working in HRA regarding not getting tested and reasonable
77 accommodation: If you don't get tested, you are placed on leave without pay. If anyone gets

78 suspended or has the threat of termination, they should call the Union immediately. If a member
79 in HRA files a reasonable accommodation request, they can stay home while the request is being
80 processed. This is for HRA only. Members are supposed to get weekly testing if they are
81 unvaccinated and working from home. David Boyd will follow up on this issue and he will let
82 President Morand know. President Morand will place the information on the website.

83 Question regarding member being charged \$250 for fingerprinting in DOE: There is a charge for
84 investigation and fingerprinting. \$250 for investigation and \$105 for fingerprints. It is taken out of
85 the first check.

86 President Morand continued to answer a variety of questions in the chat. There was discussion.

87 Members should get up to 3 hours to get vaccinated for Mayoral Agencies. There is a question
88 regarding time off to get tested. There was no definitive answer on the testing time off.

89 DOH members are allowed to work remotely with supervisor approval until their EEO review.

90 Sister Leibowitz mentioned the delay with NYCERS in getting an appointment due to the office
91 being closed. She also wanted members to know that once you retire, you will only get 40% of
92 the money you are expecting to receive. NYCERS must do their final calculation and that is
93 about a year. She informed members to make sure they have enough money to survive while
94 they are waiting for their full pension check. NYCERS are not bringing their staff back until the
95 beginning of the year.

96 President Morand, Natasha Isma, David Boyd, and the attorney Samuel Jackson attended a
97 PERB hearing regarding bringing in the CSMs and COMs to DOE. The Local has to the end of
98 the month to work out the details. DOE is trying to protest this.

99 President Morand mentioned the union is fighting to get the members the same agreement that
100 DOE received based on the get vaccinated or get terminated mandate. The teachers had 3
101 options. This is not for our members yet but there is a fight to get the same benefits.

102 Question: is there Mandatory enrollment in NYCERS if you are permanent after 6 months? Yes,
103 if permanent. No if provisional. Members can buy back time including 6 years if military.

104 Question: can members be allowed to telework in inclement weather. There was discussion.

105 President Morand mentioned that there are no voter rights for green card holder. Not allowed to
106 vote in city state and federal elections. There is a City Council bill to change that.

107 **Old Business – None**

108 **New Business – None**

109 Sister Leibowitz made a motion to adjourn. Brother Mohammad Chowdhury seconded. A vote
110 was taken, and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 pm.