

AFSCME LOCAL 517 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES November 12, 2008

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:02 p.m.
2. Secretary's Report: There was a motion to approve the October minutes as posted on our website: www.local517.org. M/S/C.
3. Treasurer's Report: Copies of the October Financial Report were distributed for review. There was a motion to approve. M/S/C.
4. Chief Steward Report:
 - Jeff is catching up on a couple of grievances. He thanked all the stewards for helping out during his absence.
 - Jeff also thanked everyone who assisted during the campaign process with door knocks and phone banks. Our Local had a presence at the Council 5 phone bank every week. Last Thursday there were 55 people from various Locals doing phone calling. There weren't enough phone lines going out so cell phones had to be used. Karen Ritter also took election day off to help.
 - There will be upcoming meetings with Commissioners Kriesel and Hegberg. Commissioner Kriesel wants to work with us during the upcoming legislative session.
 - Work will soon begin on the 2010 elections. Two candidates are needed for the County Board.
 - As of August we had 558 dues paying members with 56 of those contributing to PEOPLE (10.04%). John Ewaldt (of Ramsey County) is being funded to next November to work on this program. Informational meetings will be set up in the future at our other locations – the cities, service centers and libraries.
5. President's Report:
 - Thank you to everyone for assisting during elections.
 - Summer internships are available next year with AFSCME for sophomore and junior high school students. More information can be obtained from the Council 5 website (www.afscmemn.org).
 - The City of Duluth workers are marching on City Hall on November 17 at 11:30 a.m. If anyone is interested, a carpool could be formed. In September there were 22 workers displaced, and now the City is violating a court order by privatizing the city zoo.
 - Judie has financial reports from the AFL-CIO if anyone is interested.
 - There is no Business Rep Report this week as Scott was not able to attend the meeting.
6. Old Business: None.
7. New Business:
 - 2009 Budget Approval – A copy of the proposed budget was distributed, which was based on estimated incoming dues for 2009. After budgeting for the more important line items (such as training and attendance at meetings/conventions), the remaining amount was allocated to contract negotiations. Our biggest expense is paying lost time and we will need to look at ways to reduce that cost while increasing membership participation. The budget did not include any cashing in of CDs (one is maturing in January). There was a motion made to accept the budget with the notation that it is a working document that can be changed at will by the membership. M/S/C. The budget will be posted on our website.

- Holiday Parties –
 - i. The St. Croix Valley Assembly Holiday Party is December 3 at the Stillwater Senior Center. There is a short meeting at 5:00 p.m. and food is being served at 5:30. Pasta and beverages are provided and you may bring a dish to share if you wish. Everyone is welcome to attend (it used to only be delegates).
 - ii. The Local 517 Holiday Party is December 11, starting at 4:30 p.m., at the Bayport Legion. There will be a brief meeting at 5:00 with dinner to follow. Food will be provided and it is a cash bar. There will be plenty of door prizes!
 - iii. Just an FYI that there are two monthly meetings that are now open to all members: The St. Paul Labor Assembly meets the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at 411 Main St. (near the Xcel Energy Center), and the St. Croix Valley Central Labor meets the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Government Center-Room 20. There is always a calendar of meetings/events posted on our website.

8. Good and Welfare: None.

There was a motion to adjourn at 12:52 p.m. M/S/C.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Cunnien