

UUP Albany Chapter Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

2/15/2012

Attendees: P. Abraham, L. Bickmore, E. Briere, S. D'Alessandro, S. Dearing, C. Fox, R. Friedman, M. Grosshandler, J. Hanifan, J. Harton, T. Hoey, C. Jewell, S. Kudzin, D. LaComb, D. LaFond, G. Landsman, D. Lewis, M. Manjak, C. Merbler, A. Olin, G. Petry, P. Romain, R. See, M. Seidel, K. Sprague, I. Steen, E. Torgersen, B. Trachtenberg, E. Warnke, B. Ziman, K. Thompson-LaPerle

The meeting commenced at 12:25 pm.

- I. Approval of minutes from the 1/25/2012 Executive Committee Meeting.
Briere moved, Petry seconded. Vote carries; 3 abstentions.
Waive approval of minutes from the 10/19/2011 Executive Committee Meeting. Briere moved, Steen seconded. Vote carries.

II. Reports

A. Officers

1. **President** Merbler went over her report:

- Thank you for your participation at the DA.
- Outreach continues. Please sign up and get colleagues to go as well. Blast email will be forthcoming.
- Knapp agreed to be retiree liaison to COARM.
- More part timers are agency-fee payers.
- We gave \$25 from Good & Welfare in memory of Alfonsin.
- Phil Smith will not be able to attend the General Membership Meeting on 2/27. Please bring any donated items for the raffle to the Chapter Office prior to 2/23/12.
- Leadership Workshops upcoming in Saratoga, at The Gideon on March 2-3, 2012. Merbler sent many names in; longest list ever. This is not officers only; it's also for all new leaders. Hanifan urged people to attend. Abraham: It's a good way to meet people from other chapters.

Questions:

- Hoey asked if we can use Good & Welfare money to buy a restaurant meal to raffle off. Discussion ensued and Hoey

removed request after learning that we send all proceeds to the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York.

2. **Vice President for Academics:** Collins: absent; report is in your packet.
3. **Vice President for Professionals:** Abraham:
 - Fielding questions from the membership;
 - Professionals Workshop to be held in April 11, 2012. Will be held from noon until 2pm in CC 375.
 - Petry thanked Abraham for being a great resource regarding grievances.
 - Briere asked about AAUP. Abraham explained the situation. Discussion. Abraham feels decision should be left to Smith, to determine if Abraham will still run. Hanifan doesn't think the "divorce" will be final. Abraham gave more background on this issue. Briere: issue was mentioned in a Chronicle article.
4. **Secretary:** Jewell:
 - With the exception of the October 2011 minutes, the minutes are up to date.
5. **Treasurer:** Olin:
 - A budget planning document is in your packet. Olin explained how to read the document. While we have a healthy balance year after year, we have been spending more money than we are taking in, over the last several years and possibly for the next budget year, as well. The cushion is around \$20,000; we can't ask for additional allocations until we run out of money, first. Brief discussion. Some figures come from UUP; others are based on previous years.
 - Olin moved that the Committee approve the proposed budget; Romain seconded. Vote carried unanimously. Thank you.
6. **Officer for Contingents:** Hanifan:
 - We are working on 2 handbooks: one for Contingent Officers, and one for Contingent members.

- We received some information about the PT Dashboard at Labor/Management. 110 more people are on payroll.
- More are moving to longer appointments, especially from one semester to 1 year (i.e., 10 months).
- LaFond asked a question about deactivations vis-a-vis PTimers. Hanifan did not think it was relevant. Discussion. Abraham encouraged lobbying efforts on Tuesdays. Merbler said many PTimers are actually graduate students. More discussion.

II. Standing Committees

- **Outreach:** Steen: It's really important to attend the sessions. Candy sends reminders, and there is info on the UUP website. UUP finally has come out with an expanded list for a legislative agenda. Steen briefly went over the items on the agenda. Steen also gave information about the hospital situation downstate. There are many associated complex issues, not the least of which would be the loss of thousands of members and their dues. Steen also gave some information about capital construction. LaComb added some information about the stadium and improvements to the track, etc. Discussion.
- **Newsletter:** Manjak: we are making progress, will put to bed he end of this week, get me articles ASAP. LaFond asked what info about the DA will go into the newsletter. Manjak said there would be information about the resolutions. Abraham said all info is on the Statewide UUP website. LaFond volunteered to provide some information to Manjak for the newsletter.

III. Ad Hoc Committees

- **By-Laws:** See: We are open to suggestions for changes. Merbler said Section 4.3.2 needs a correction, at the end of the paragraph, 2 years. Also, Section 7.2.2, we have not had a Grievance Committee, because of issues of confidentiality, for several years. In practice, we just have a Grievance Officer. Now we will have some wiggle room, if needed. Article 8.2.2, Merbler says the last sentence is in opposition to UUP Statewide policy, in that there are no designees. Discussion. More on this later. Applause for the Committee. Commendations from Merbler. Section 7.4.1, Manjak asked if we need to look at what

the approval process is. Discussion. Abraham suggested some wording changes; please send wording changes to See. More discussion. Hanifan said we should keep policies that work, that by-laws amendments are not necessarily needed for certain sections; rather, resolutions could be brought at Executive Committee meetings. More discussion. The phrase "consultation with the membership" provoked prolonged heated discussion. Jewell asked for clarification about 4.2.4. Merbler gave clarification, which See will incorporate with a colon. Seidel asked for clarification about 4.3.4. See said that it does not mean that people could not then hold office at another time; I will revise; please send me suggested wording. Merbler has been trying to appoint standing Committee meeting members for 2 year terms. This should hold for ad hoc committee members, too. In 5.4.3, Seidel asked Officers for a point of clarification about what constitutes a quorum. Discussion. 7.4.3, Mike had a question about 1 year vs completion of the charge; whichever is sooner? Merbler said this is changing to 2 years. Merbler will send out an email so that the Executive Committee members can discuss "clarification" issues only before the next bylaws meeting.

IV. Old Business: Good & Welfare Guidelines – tabled until future meeting.

V. New Business

- Merbler moved the resolution and funding of items to the next meeting, in the interest of time. All agreed.

There was a motion to end and the meeting concluded at 2:07 pm.

Respectively submitted,
Carol H. Jewell,
Secretary