

UUP Albany Chapter Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2010

Attendees: P. Abraham, A. Olin, C. Merbler, C. Jewell, M. Grosshandler, L. Bickmore, J. Collins, M. Seidel, N. Keelen, G. Petry, B. Shadrick, C. Bischoff, T. Hoey, R. See, F. Jaquez, P. Romain, J. Hanifan, K. Thompson-LaPerle

The meeting commenced at 12:28 pm. President Merbler welcomed new UUP EAP Rep., Chris Bischoff. Applause and welcome!

- I. Waive approval of minutes from 1/27/2010 Executive Committee Meeting:
Abraham moved, Bickmore seconded; the vote carries.

- II. Reports
 - A. **Officers**
 1. **President**
 1. PHEEIA: Merbler spoke briefly about this issue and some game-playing and propaganda that are going on. She also spoke on UUP talking points and President Smith's letter to the Membership.
 2. Three coupons to help raise funds for NYSTI are attached to this President's report. Share with your Clifton Park and Saratoga friends.
 3. UUP made an error on our rebate check. We are awaiting a replacement.
 4. Collins and others will speak on this (Faculty Forum on PHEEIA).
 5. AFLAC reps will come to discuss 2 policies benefits.
 6. Advocacy/Constituency Day: Merbler encouraged folks to sign up. We need a big showing on 3/2March 23rd.
 7. Kelly spent all day at UA Advocacy Day. Thank you and applause to Kelly for her work on a wonderful powerpoint presentation.
 8. Workshop ideas will be discussed under New Business.

Add-ons

1. Letters were sent to eligible applicants (800+) for UUP scholarship via email. Mike and Rob set up a listserv for this. Merbler thanked them for their assistance.
2. Thank you for your support at the DA.
3. Nominations are due on 4/15/10 for the Nina Mitchell award and 2010 Fayez award. Merbler has the paperwork.

Questions

1. Keelen: on March 23rd, do we get to go with an experienced person? Merbler: We work as a team. Contact UUP Central for more information.
2. Collins: Have you heard about when the NYS Legislature will vote on PHEEIA? Merbler: No, but there are a lot of mixed messages about this. This is really a divisive issue. Seidel: There's been a lot of negative press. Brief discussion. [At this point in the meeting, Merbler took a phone call and ceded the chair temporarily to Abraham.] More discussion. [Merbler returned to the room and resumed the Chair.] Still more discussion. Collins: I propose that we have a Forum on this issue, 3/23 or, preferably, 3/25, in the evening; 3 or 4 legislators to speak, i.e., Glick, President Philip, Provost or Chancellor, a Union person to explain the effects of this, such as Fred Floss or Statewide Globalization person from Buffalo, and Frank morrow or his assistant, on fiscal policy; 7-9 pm; on campus. This proposal comes from the Peace & Justice AND Solidarity Committees. Bickmore seconded. Collins: either recital hall (in PAC) or CC Assembly Hall; Kelly to check; requesting up to \$500 to fund. Merbler: If a legislator is present, we can serve tap water only. Discussion. Romain: I have a friendly amendment: start at 7:30 and have it 1 week earlier, before Advocacy Day. Petry said Tom Tucker has offered to come back and we should reach out to him. More discussion. Collins will revisit the date, 3/18. Merbler to Kelly: Get room availability this afternoon and tell Collins, Bickmore and Merbler. Merbler to Collins: Invite the people and tell me who they are and assist me in writing a flyer. Seidel: Statewide needs to be notified also, because legislator(s) will be here. Hoey: What about Page Hall? Collins: It would be a good 3rd choice. Motion on the floor: forum for membership, time and date and place TBD → vote carries.
2. **VP for Academics:** Steen at a conference.
3. **VP for Professionals:** Abraham had no formal report. He is dealing with questions from members. The HAS Gala is 3/6/10, at the Century House, for Haitian relief. All are invited, 8pm-1am. Romain and Abraham are selling tickets (currently sold out). 3/5 and 3/6: also Leadership meetings. Brief discussion on who might be going.
4. **Secretary:** Jewell is still working on the minutes.
5. **Treasurer:** January report is in your packet. She went over some figures. Annual report out soon. Saving money lately, printing costs down.
6. **Part Time Concerns Representative:** Hanifan- nothing specific except general complaint about "poor working conditions for Part Timers." Hanifan to post to Strategic Planning Wiki today.

B. Standing Committees

1. **Grievance:** Seidel: Writing a brief due 3/11/10, with decision expected shortly afterward. Also working on other cases; 1 other case going to Article 33.
2. **EAP:** Bischoff: There are State EAP Bylaws revisions, UUP's weight on the Committee will diminish, but other Labor members will be added. Brief discussion. Merbler: What will our numbers be? Bischoff: UUP will still have 2 spots; Committee becomes bigger, with more Labor spots. He is sending around 2 flyers for 2 workshops. Seidel: LRSs never get this info (flyers, etc.) and they, as well as CSEA and PEF, should. Bischoff: bulletin boards have been put up for employees without computers. Seidel: Snail mail to Labor regional offices. Bischoff: Good point. Merbler asked Seidel to speak to Martin Coffey about this issue, as well. Applause for Bischoff's first report.

C. Ad Hoc Committees

1. **Peace & Justice:** Collins said a video on the cost of the Afghan War is available; possible to show first week of March 2010. No expense to UUP. 1 hour showing. Merbler: flyer can say we are sponsoring, even if we don't spend money. Collins to send draft to Merbler. Seconded by See. Vote carries. Contact Collins or Bret Benjamin for more information.

III. **Old Business:** None

IV. **New Business**

1. Funding for Flexibility Forum (see under President's report)
2. Good & Welfare Expenditure for UA Day (\$16 Parking for Chapter Asst): Can we pay from Good and Welfare? Romain: I move that we do so. Hanifan seconded. Discussion. Collins asked Olin to talk to Rowena about related questions/data. Olin agreed to do so. Vote carries.

Jewell moved to adjourn and the meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol H. Jewell,
Secretary