

UUP Albany Chapter Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

March 9, 2011

Attendees: P. Abraham, L. Bickmore, J. Collins, S. D'Alessandro, J. Gendron, M. Grosshandler, T. Hoey, F. Jaquez, C. Jewell, M. Knee, S. Kudzin, D. LaComb, G. Landsman, C. Merbler, A. Olin, G. Petry, C. Quinn, P. Romain, R. See, B. Shadrick, I. Steen, J. Uppal, L. Wittner, S. Knapp, K. Thompson-LaPerle, E. Briere (Guest)

The meeting commenced at 12:30 p.m.

Approval of minutes from 12/16/11 Executive Committee meeting: Hoey asked that the following be added to #4: "We need contested elections to get membership involved at the end of the election..." The vote carries.

Eloise Briere was a guest. Intros all around.

I. Reports

A. Officers

1. President-Merbler went over her report.
2. The sign-up form for the spring DA is in your packet. Fill out and return to Kelly today! Thank you!
3. General membership meeting is 4/1/11. Flyers will be in mailboxes within a few days. Delegates were asked to bring raffle donations.
4. Tuesday, March 15th, there will be a major rally in downtown Albany. "Stop the Cuts to Higher Education." Blast email to go out between 3 and 6 today. If you want to go, contact Michelle Carter at UUP. Lobbying is part of the day and the rally/speeches are at 2:30. They hope to have thousands of people at the rally.
5. Keep making noise! Emails and faxes from your *home* computers. You need to personally be a leader and get colleagues to do the same. Go downtown and put heavy pressure on the Legislature. Call your neighbors, relatives and friends, and send them to SaveSUNY.org ! Discussion on so-called "millionaires tax."
6. Pre DA luncheon details TBA.
7. Thank you to Hanifan, in absentia, and Petry. Applause! Hoey: For next election, the Forum needs to go out at same time as ballots, not 2 weeks later. Merbler: When blast email went out about the print version, the e-Forum immediately went up on the website. Petry: It's great to get it out earlier, but feel free to volunteer to help putting it together!
8. Family Leave/Work-Life Services Guide intended mostly for Chapter Officers. Will be mentioned in next newsletter. Also on main UUP website.
9. Merbler reiterated the policy about inviting guests to Executive Committee meetings.

ADD-ONS

1. NYSUT RA is in early April; Abraham, Merbler, and Hoey to attend.
2. April 20th Executive Committee meeting is during break and Passover. Will be changed to 4/27/11, will send a notice out.
3. Gendron described Briere's visits to Financial Aid. No campaigning or politicking is allowed on campus and Briere should not have been behind locked Financial Aid doors. Briere to Gendron: Thank you for telling me. I didn't know I was breaking any laws. Merbler: I knew about the visits and saw to it that the memo went out from Administration. Merbler reiterated the rules against campaigning on campus. Violations "could result in criminal prosecution or loss of employment." Discussion. Wittner said that Kreh said campus computers could not be used, but one-on-one conversations with colleagues was ok, as long as it did not interfere with work. That is Kreh's interpretation. Merbler: Kreh is correct. I can talk during lunch or passing someone on campus. The difference is a candidate went into offices during regular business hours and interfered. Collins: We need to learn how to talk and where to talk freely to our own members. Merbler: knowing that elections were going on, I'm surprised that this didn't go out as a blast email from Administration. Deans and Directors got it, but I don't know how they disseminated the information. More discussion. Hoey to Steen: Taylor Law went into effect in 1967. Still more discussion.

QUESTIONS FOR THE PRESIDENT

1. **Hoey:** Search for VP for Finance and Business? Merbler: It is a failed search. Beditz is reluctantly staying in that role and Mancuso has been promoted to Assistant VP for Human Resources; Beditz still retains the previous title.
2. **VP for Academics:** Steen: I have basically already given my report in the previous discussions, above.
3. **VP for Professionals:** Abraham: I continue to do work regarding performance programs, DSI, etc. Going to VP & P meeting in Saratoga, 3/17-3/18. Going to lobby on Tuesday. Brief discussion about mailing (or lack of) from UUP Central re: leadership meetings. See said he did not receive it.
4. **Secretary:** Jewell: The minutes are up to date. Merbler: Thank you.
5. **Treasurer:** Olin: Advocacy training in Feb 2011 was in Membership, instead of Workshops, due to my error. I also made this error on the last page of the report. The balances are accurate, however. Olin made other remarks about her report. There was a brief discussion about terminology and how to present the estimated budget to the Membership. The Agency Fee Rebatable increased (by UUP Central) to \$1292. Discussion on how the allotment is determined. Olin: With corrections to workshops, I propose this as our 2011-2012 budget. Shadrick: Seconded. The vote carries. Thank you very much to Olin!
6. **Part-time Concerns Rep:** Hanifan: Absent.

B. Standing Committees:

1. Solidarity: Wittner: Albany City Labor Council had elections recently. Bill Ritchie is new President; new Executive Secretary is Wittner.

C. Ad Hoc Committees:

1. Peace & Justice: Collins: one of our members, Barbara Sutton, will moderate the panel (at the Social Action Conference, on this campus) on anti-war and costs, on 4/2/11.

II. Old Business: None.

III. New Business:

1. Romain moved to appropriate enough funds for the Pre DA luncheon. Uppal seconded. The vote carries, with 1 “nay” and 1 abstention..

Uppal moved to adjourn, Romain seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 1:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol H. Jewell,
Secretary