



MINUTES

UUP Binghamton Executive Board / General Meeting

Wednesday, February 14, 2024

Executive Board: 11:30 - 11:50 a.m. General Members Meeting: 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

UJW-324

PRESENT: R. Andrews, S. Atav, H. Becker, T. Chadha, R. Collier, B. Cornick, P. Doyle, L. Gallagher, F. Goldman, C. Ignarri, C. Kovacs, D. Kunkel, S. L’Hommedieu, S. Massey, B. McGovern, A. Morris, T. Norton, J. Starks, D. Stone, A. Wang, M. Weiland

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING REMOTELY: C. Gelderloos, B. Polzin

GUESTS ATTENDING IN PERSON: C. Sielaff, Labor Relations Specialist, N. Alfarano, K. Cummings, C. Dancer, M. Gunter, R. Harrison, M. Kelly, C. Konnick, J. Lethbridge, S. Lewis, M. Lopez, M. Lorusso, R. McGuire, M. Mehta, A. Messersmith-Mars, F. Reichert, P. Valenta, M. Vinluan, E. Wright

GUESTS ATTENDING REMOTELY: M. Albanese, S. Casanova, R. Cope, N. Eggleston, A. Irvine, G. Jimenez-Munoz, P. Malone, K. Murphy, K. Santiago-Valles

Brendan McGovern called the meeting to order at approximately 11:35 a.m. and welcomed all to the February meeting.

Executive Board Meeting

1. Approve Minutes from December 6, 2023, Executive Board Meeting (attached)
Alan Wang **MOVED TO APPROVE** the December 6, 2023, Executive Board / General Meeting Minutes. **SECONDED** by David Stone. **MOTION PASSED WITHOUT DISSENT.** (19 AYE, 0 NAY, 0 ABSTAIN)
2. Passing the Hat for the Sunshine Fund (Brendan)
The Sunshine Fund was set up to use for purposes that would not be covered by the Chapter Allocation, such as get-well gifts and retirement gifts. The Executive Board has been passing the hat for the last nine years (unless meetings were held virtually). It is voluntary and up to members if they want to contribute or not. \$44.00 was collected at the February 14, 2024, meeting.
3. Treasurer’s Report (Alan):
Treasurer Alan Wang reported the Chapter received an allocation from Statewide and the quarterly audit was completed. He explained the Chapter is spending a little more than normal but is engaging more members with various events. He asked for comments or questions. David Stone **MOVED TO APPROVE** the December 2023 and January 2024

Monthly Treasurer's Reports. **SECONDED** by Courtney Ignarri. **MOTION PASSED WITHOUT DISSENT.** (19 AYE, 0 NAY, 0 ABSTAIN)

4. New Business

- a. Buffalo Resolution: Faculty Work Obligation Payroll Date Discrepancy (attached)
Brendan reported the Buffalo Resolution: Faculty Work Obligation Payroll Date Discrepancy was sent to Chapters for review and asked as many Chapters as possible to sign to get it on the 2024 Spring Delegate Assembly Agenda to be discussed and voted on. Donald Kunkel **MOVED TO ACCEPT** the Buffalo Resolution: Faculty Work Obligation Payroll Date Discrepancy. **SECONDED** by Serdar Atav. **MOTION TO ACCEPT PASSED WITHOUT DISSENT.** (19 AYE, 0 NAY, 0 ABSTAIN)

- b. UUP Binghamton Chapter 2024-2025 Budget (attached)
Brendan announced Courtney Ignarri broke down the 2024-2025 budget in a more readable way than Statewide requests it. Claire Kovacs **MOVED TO APPROVE** the 2024-2025 Budget. **SECONDED** by Sean Massey. Discussion followed over whether there are concerns about proposed increases in spending. Stuart asked, "what is the return on our investment with the addition of several Chapter events." Brendan stated we have a large reserve, and Statewide distributes its funds to Chapters based on how much they are doing and what their need is, adding he was told directly by Fred Kowal to spend down those reserves. Labor Relations Specialist Chris Sielaff explained the intent of the allocation of money in any year is that amount of money will be spent in that year. Statewide hasn't taken money back, but they can sweep it back. It is UUP's money not the individual chapters. The intent is to budget wisely, and each year spend the money you are allocated. Brendan added there has been growth in membership since 2019 and through our outreach we are increasing our members at Binghamton. **MOTION PASSED** (18 AYE, 1 NAY, 0 ABSTAIN)

General Meeting

Brendan announced Binghamton's special election for academics is currently being held, and reminded academics that ballots must be received in Albany by 5 p.m. on February 19.

1. President's Report (Brendan)
 - a. Outreach / Advocacy – Statewide Outreach Committee Chair, Pamela Malone
See attached Report from UUP Chapter President Brendan McGovern.

2. Chapter Officers' Report:
 - a. Acting Vice-President, Academics (Carl)
Acting Vice-President for Academics, Carl Gelderloos stated he has nothing to report.

 - b. Vice-President, Professionals (Claire)

Vice President for Professionals, Claire Kovacs reported there was a department representative meeting on February 8, and another is scheduled for April 17, adding the Chapter is still looking for representatives. She explained database issues are being worked on, as well as how to organize our rep system. Claire thanked the department representatives, stating she is very appreciative of the work they are doing. She announced members are welcome to join “Lunch and Labor” which meets monthly and encouraged professionals to reach out to her to navigate issues that relate to your jobs.

- c. Officer for Contingents (Renee)
Officer for Contingents, Renee Andrews stated she has nothing to report.
- d. Officer for Retirees (Bob)
Chapter President Brendan McGovern explained Officer for Retirees, Robert Mess is at a Statewide DEI Committee Meeting and unable to attend today. Prior to the meeting, he informed Brendan he has nothing to report.

3. Committee Reports:

- a. Membership (Don)
Chapter Membership Development Officer, Donald Kunkel reported he continues to attend bi-weekly New Employee Orientations, with good membership sign-ups at these events. He thanked Courtney Ignarri for updating the Chapter’s slide deck and history of our union and why it is important to join. Brendan added NEO’s are very important and encouraged anyone who would like to participate to reach out to Don.
- b. Communications (Kitty, Marjorie, Troy)
 - i. Chapter Notes biweekly newsletter (Marjorie)
 - ii. Spring 2024 newsletter (Troy)
 - 1. Seeking E-Board members (or general members) to write on the following topics:
 - a. Spring 2024 Delegate Assembly coverage.
 - b. Union activity/wins beyond UUP.
 - c. Special elections coverage.
 - d. Delegate/E-Board member highlights.
 - e. Outline of UUP Binghamton approach to engaging in University community.
 - f. Interview with Statewide member (perhaps Bret Benjamin) putting contract wins in practical terms.
 - g. State of higher education, especially SUNY.
 - h. Piece on what members have done (e.g., supporting members needing leave donations).
 - 2. Email Troy Norton at tnorton@binghamton.edu by 8:30a Mon 3/4 to confirm what topic you're interested in (memo to follow in Mon 2/26 Chapter Notes).
 - 3. Call for independent topics will be made at Weds 3/13 E-Board/ General Meeting (memo to follow in Weds 3/25 Chapter Notes).

Troy Norton announced the information listed above regarding the Spring 2024 Newsletter, stating a memo will be going out next Monday, February 26 in the Chapter Notes. A call for independent topics will be made at the March 13 Executive Board meeting and a memo will follow after that.

- c. Outreach (Brendan)
Political activity was discussed in General Meeting 1.a.
 - d. IDA (Don/Brendan)
Individual Development Award Committee member, Donald Kunkel stated he has nothing to report.
 - e. Events & Hospitality (Allie/Tejpreet)
Events and Hospitality Co-Chair, Allie Messersmith-Mars reported the coffee and breakfast bites events are a big hit, with an increase in members joining in. The next one is scheduled for Thursday, March 7 in U UW-325. She announced one is scheduled for March 19 from 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. in the Pharmacy Building Atrium. Brendan added the coffee and breakfast bites events are increasing in attendance with members coming in to discuss IDA's, the Space Available Program, and other topics. A lot of Chapter business is happening at these meetings. Brendan thanked Events and Hospitality Co-Chairs, Allie Messersmith-Mars and Tejpreet Chadra for organizing these events. Brendan also thanked Chapter Assistant, Linda O'Branski for her assistance with "Beat the Winter Blues."
4. Chapter Business:
- a. Database (Courtney)
Courtney Ignarri reported the Chapter is in the process of updating the Chapter Database to include building and room numbers, adding she is grateful for the team assisting in this effort. If anyone would like to help, please contact Courtney at cignarri@binghamton.edu. Brendan thanked Courtney and the team for their efforts.
 - b. Resolution calling for UUP Solidarity with Palestinians (Claire/Carl)
Brendan reported a Resolution calling for UUP Solidarity with Palestinians was brought up by Claire and Carl and asked if they would like to respond. Claire Kovacs stated EBoard members should have this information, adding this began in mid-November and sent to the rank and file in UUP across the State to ask UUP leaders to take action and to make sure that UUP stands with this. Sixty-five signatures have been received in support of the Resolution. Carl Gelderloos added this is a very important resolution, as organized labor has long been fighting for justice. Claire Kovacs **MOVED TO APPROVE** the Resolution calling for UUP Solidarity with Palestinians. **SECONDED** by David Stone. After considerable discussion both for and against support of this Resolution, Stuart L'Hommedieu called the motion. **MOTION TO SUPPORT FAILED.** (5 AYE, 12 NAY, 2 ABSTAIN)
5. New business/questions/comments/issues from the floor

6. Announcements
7. Adjourn – Alan Wang **MOVED TO ADJOURN. SECONDED** by David Stone. The meeting was adjourned at 1:04 p.m.

The next Executive Board / General Meeting will be held on Wednesday March 13 at 11:30 a.m. in UUW- 324.

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