

UUP New Paltz Chapter – Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

11:00 am September 21st, 2011

In Attendance:

Executive Committee members: Peter Brown, Linda Smith, Jeff Miller, Ed Felton, Rachel Rigolino, Donna Goodman, A.J. Williams-Meyers, Maryalice Citera, John Sharp, Glenn McNitt, Alan Dunefsky, Beth Wilson, John Hain, Beth Thomas, Ed Hanley

Others: LRS William Capowski, Chapter Assistant Mary Thompson

Proposed agenda for the day's meeting approved as submitted, though McNitt did state that he would like to see agendas with more substance in the future. Minutes of the 090711 Executive Committee meeting approved as submitted.

President's Report:

Brown commented that our recent chapter meeting went extremely well and echoed UUP President Phil Smith's remarks about the need to "stand firm" with respect to our ongoing contract negotiations. Members need to be firmly behind our negotiations team. Brown recapped the post-Irene meeting he and VP Smith had with VP DiStefano concerning environmental conditions in the buildings that flooded. Members working in these building can complain to PESH [Public Employees Safety and Health Bureau] if they deem conditions to be unsafe/unsatisfactory. Brown asked VP Smith if conditions in the affected buildings were on the Campus Health & Safety Committee's agenda. Secretary Hanley – who attended the committee's most recent meeting in Smith's place – stated they were not. Only two major issues has been discussed: the possibility of SUNY New Paltz becoming a "smoke free" campus and the ADA issues in Old Main. Note: all ADA issues identified by the union are reportedly being addressed.

Brown reviewed the seven chapter committees now being formed or reenergized and asked McNitt to chair the Legislative/Political Action Committee; McNitt accepted. Brown made a motion that the committee affirm the list of members who have volunteered to serve on chapter committees. Motion seconded by Williams-Meyers and passed unanimously.

Noting that New Paltz representation at the upcoming Fall Delegate Assembly will not be at full strength, Brown encouraged members to participate in future DA's when possible. He also noted that our proposed constitutional amendments are in flux at the moment. Most have been reworked/reworded by the Statewide Executive Board. The revised versions have been offered as substitutes for the originals.

Officer Reports:

VP Smith: noted that DSI for professionals was not included in President Christian's recent correspondence on the subject. Some professionals feel they are being overlooked and may not get DSI at all. Further, workload for professionals has increased. Members feel their departments are not being "rightsized" – administration claims to that effect

notwithstanding. Smith asked for feedback regarding the recently distributed SUNY “Strategic Technology Initiative.” Thus far, only one response has been received.

VP Miller: provided a draft report on the faculty mentoring program. A discussion of the program ensued. Brown indicated that, going forward, this should become more of a team effort now that Miller has laid the groundwork for the initiative.

VP Felton: informed the committee that the next Part-Time Labor-Management meeting is scheduled for Monday Sep 26th; the agenda will focus on compensation, job security, and appointment of lecturers. He outlined his concerns with the present name of the Part-Time Concerns Committee (PTCC). Brown indicated that we can call the committee anything we choose. After some discussion, the name was changed to “Contingent Concerns Committee.” The change was approved unanimously. Felton then outlined several upcoming events and made a motion that the committee approve the expenditure of up to \$1,200.00 to support of those events. Motion seconded by Dunefsky and unanimously approved.

Grievance Officer Rigolino: observed that she has not yet encountered any new member issues which could be grieved officially. She also noted most member issues can be resolved by working with the member’s supervisor.

Secretary Hanley: nothing to report.

Old Business: none

New Business:

Goodman noted the chapter’s anti-war committee seems to have “dropped off the radar” and needs to be reinvigorated along with other chapter committees. She proposed tabling once a month in order to get it back in the public eye again. She also mentioned that a statewide effort to unionize Sodexo workers is likely and that we (New Paltz) may have a role to play in that effort. Rigolino stated that the chapter’s Communications Committee may meet virtually rather than physically. Brown recommended that all committees actually meet in person – at least to get organized and divide up the committee’s responsibilities. Citera observed that the lack of on-campus parking - always problematic - is getting worse. Brown suggested this might be an appropriate agenda item for the October Labor-Management meeting.

Upcoming events:

Labor-Management Meeting – September 21st 4 PM
UUP Fall Delegate Assembly – September 23-24, Albany, NY.
Part-Time Labor Management meeting – September 26th 11 AM
Contingent’s Open Forum – September 28th, 11 AM in LC3A
Professionals’ Workshop – October 5th, 12:00 in SUB 418

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Hanley
Chapter Secretary