

WA-WMEA Executive Board Meeting

Minutes from October 4, 2006

Executive Board Present: Beth Ludeman, Linda Weaver, Greg Wall, Michelle Daavettila, Nancy Nienhuis, Peg Oberbeck, Kathy Ceel, Angela Bina, Lynn Herbst, Sandy Nass, Chris Morrissey, Kathy Popa, Julie Stringer, Lynn Malloy, Chad Lehman, LuAnn Livingston, Jeff Sikich

Meeting called to order by President Ludeman at 4:09 PM

Minutes from the August 29, 2006 Executive Board Meeting were accepted as printed.

President Ludeman

- In order to allow District Administrators to attend events and ceremonies held by DPI recognizing five WA-WM Schools, the Labor Management Cooperation Committee meeting originally scheduled for October 10th will be held at 4 pm at the Administration Building one week later, on October 17th.
- There is a conflict between the December RA Meeting and West Allis Central Parent-Teacher Conferences on 12/13/06. The RA will be asked to take action on this at the next RA Meeting.
- The WEAC Bargaining Goals Committee meets Wednesday, October 25, 7-9 pm at the Sheraton in Madison (dinner at 6 pm), with a follow-up to be scheduled in December.
- Beth received the information for the Released Time grant through WEAC and NEA; this will be discussed further under new business in preparation for bringing it forward to the RA.
- Nominations are being requested for the 2007 NEA Human and Civil Rights Awards. Beth shared the categories to see whether our association wants to identify any nominees to bring forward to the RA.
- A concern has been raised regarding the "Expulsion School" and the obligations teachers have in meeting the needs of students assigned to the program. This will be brought forward to Labor Management.
- Asked Executive Board Members to sign up for 2 School Board Meetings this year.

WSC President Linda Weaver

- WEAC & WSC recommend Gov. Doyle for re-election
- Political Action Fest- Monday, 10/23, UEP Building at 4:30 pm. A BIG turnout is needed for this event!!! Not limited to only WSC delegates. Flyers will go out next week.
- Extremely high stakes election
- Public education under Green administration would suffer huge losses
- WEAC & WSC also recommend Jim Sullivan for 5th District State Senate (running against incumbent Leah Vukmir)

Vice President Michelle Daavettila

- No Report

PR&R Chair-Secondary Peggy Oberbeck

- Check your paychecks and be sure you are receiving the correct, salary, unit stipend, and longevity, etc. based on your contract.
- Better communication from the administration of sudden summer job openings is needed.
- The contract currently allows teachers to submit a transfer request for consideration in future job openings. Submitting a request for a transfer could result in difficulties for teachers at some schools.
- The contract also requires the district to post openings (paper copy and on the district web site). It does not require any personal communication to current staff regarding an unexpected opening. This places the responsibility on teachers to monitor the job openings during the summer.
- This will be discussed further by the Executive Board with possible referral to Labor Management.
- It would be beneficial if all secondary building representatives would send Peggy a monthly update of issues that have been dealt with at their buildings so she can see any patterns of situations that should be discussed further.

PR&R Chair-Elementary Nancy Nienhuis

- Discussed SAGE guidelines requiring 2 regular education teachers for class sizes approaching 30 students. A regular ed-certified building substitute at Pershing will be used to staff the SAGE class for core classes where another regular education teacher is needed in order to avoid moving special education teachers across the District.

Negotiations Chair Chad Lehman

- Chad will be attending the WEAC Bargaining Goals Committee on October 25th in Madison.

Treasurer Greg Wall

- Discussed budget and new procedures we need to follow for the 2006-07 Fiscal Year. Greg will keep us updated about the current budget status at each Executive Board Meeting.

Political Action/Legislative Chair Kathy Ceel

- The rally on Saturday, September 30th had about 150 people turn out to hear Doyle, Falk and Sullivan, etc. The people who attended were rejuvenated.
- Gwen Moore's appearance on Monday October 2, 2006 was discussed.
- Reminder to everyone about the Sullivan/Reynold's debate on October 4th at 7:30 pm at Grace Lutheran Church on 84th and Beloit Road.
- Reminder about a major canvassing effort for Doyle on Saturday, October 7th at Milwaukee North Democratic Party Office at 2010 West Capitol Drive.

- Anyone who has not given Kathy their home e-mail please do so. Then updates can be forwarded to you.
- Mark Green was on NPR and was strongly advocating merit pay for teachers!!! We need to get involved!!!

Membership Chair Angela Bina

- THANK YOU to all Building Representatives who helped in getting membership information passed out to all members and returned to me promptly! My job was made much easier because of your diligence.
- The final report for our Membership Update is due October 16th.
- Please continue to update Angela with changes in teacher employment status as well as personal information (i.e. address or phone number changes, etc.)

Public Relations Chair Lynn Herbst

- No Report

Executive Director Sandy Nass

- No Report

Director Chris Morrissey

- No Report

Director LuAnn Livingston

- LuAnn will continue with the Friends of Education Award this year.

Director Kathy Popa

- Deadline for "The Word" is 10/22/06
- Please remember that this Newsletter is prior to the elections so don't miss the opportunity in your articles (if possible) to encourage people to vote for those candidates who are interested in promoting public education not destroying it.

Director Jeff Sikich

- No Report

Parliamentarian/Elections Chair Julie Stringer

- Discussed the possibility of doing a survey to see whether we would like to have an electronic ballot in the future through the WEAC site. Julie will talk to Angela Bina and Chad Lehman about helping get the survey set up.

Unfinished Business

- Director's responsibilities were discussed. Jeff and Chris will work on the Recognition Dinner and Scholarship Fundraiser together.
- Discussion occurred about Strategic Planning Focus/ Agenda Restructuring. Getting reports ahead of time will help the meetings run smoother.

- Discussion ensued about Committee Involvement/Recruitment. Would like to get wide spread participation across the district. Would like to send out a flyer to determine interest. Chris Morrissey will work on the flyer.
- Discussed having Ads for members by members in the Newsletter as a possibility to raise money for the scholarship fundraiser. Lynn Herbst, Kathy Popa and Julie Stringer will research this and bring back the information to the Executive Board.

New Business

- Guidelines on PAC Dues Refund Requests were discussed. Our PAC dues are \$2.00 used for School Board elections. WSC PAC dues are \$3.00 used for state races. WEAC PAC dues are \$19.99 used for state races also. A request for a refund needs to be in writing to the individual affiliates.
- GOTV/Organizing & Mobilizing the Membership for the upcoming elections. Need to remind members to vote in the upcoming elections. Would like to have time during next weeks RA Meeting to let building representatives have time to organize their building lists to encourage people to get out and vote.
- Release Time Grant Application was discussed. There is a December 11th deadline for this grant. Beth, Greg and Sandy will work on the Grant Application process. Would like to discuss the Release Time Grant Application at next weeks RA Meeting.
- Reviewed election law rules

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Michelle Daavettila and second by Kathy Ceel. Motion to adjourn the meeting passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:08 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lynn Malloy, Secretary