

WA-WMEA Executive Board Meeting

Minutes from September 7, 2011

Executive Board Present: Angela Bina, Sandy Nass, Ben Anderson, Lynn Malloy, Michelle Daavettila, Dave Weiss, Ann Gerencir, Kris Herman, Jessica Thimm

Meeting called to order by President Bina at 4:10 PM

Minutes from the May 25, 2011 and August 24, 2011 Executive Board Meetings were accepted as printed.

President Angela Bina

- *More thank-you letters from retired members
- *Trainings/workshops that are coming up:
 - Saturday, September 17 from 9 – 3 at the CLUE office in Slinger (lunch included)
Topics include Union Rights, Individual Rights, Recertification Campaigns (and anti-recertification campaigns), Influencing School Boards, and Education Reform
 - Saturday, September 24 from 9 – 3 at the UEP office in Brookfield (lunch included)
Same workshop topics as above
 - Monday, September 26 from 5 – 6:30 the SE Regional Negotiators meeting
- *Labor Management meeting on Tuesday, September 13 at 4:00 has been cancelled.
- *WAWMEA is in need of a Head Negotiator and a Negotiating Team. If you are interested, please try to attend one of the trainings listed above (especially the one on Monday, Sept. 26). Please let Angela know if you are interested and we will make sure you are signed up.
- *WAWMEA is in need of another Director; please contact Angela Bina if you are interested in filling this position.
- *WAWMEA is in need of a WA-WM PTA Council liaison; meetings are usually the 1st Wednesday of each month. A representative would need to update the membership on the PTA Council's activities, etc. at the RA meetings each month.
- *The major membership drive is completed; hoping to have final numbers to report ASAP. Building Reps will receive a list of members in their buildings as soon as we can get it done. We are at 69.1% membership so far.
- *Angela is looking in to starting a Yahoo! or Google group in order to facilitate sending updates to home addresses. Once this is up and running, you will receive an email at your home address inviting you to join the group. After you join, you will receive an email notifying you when documents are uploaded or if there is a new message. Please get in to the habit of checking this weekly.
- *Please continue to utilize our website at <http://www.wawmea.org>
- Many thanks to Julie Stringer for continuing to update our site for us.

- Angela has a facebook group page listed as **West Allis - West Milwaukee Education Association.**

Vice President/Membership Linda Wamboldt - Absent

- No Report

PR&R Chair-Secondary Ben Anderson

- Ben presented the questions he received from members. Discussion ensued.

PR&R Chair-Intermediate Lynn Burke - Absent

- No Report

PR&R Chair-Elementary Amy Graff - Absent, Dave Weiss, Ann Gerencir

- No Report

Negotiations Chair – to be determined

- Please let Angela know if you are interested in this position.

Treasurer Ryan Rutz - Absent

- Angela presented Ryan's report. A motion was made by Jessica Thimm and seconded by Ben Anderson to move the budget forward for discussion and action to the Representative Assembly on September 14, 2011. Motion passed.

Political Action/Legislative Chair Michelle Daavettila

- Today I won't encourage political activism. Today I seek a higher charge. Folks, after all we've been through, now is the time to take care of each other. Yes, we have always encouraged it, especially when you recognize a colleague is under not only extraordinary family stress, or other events that we all have our share of time in. Today I ask that you reach out to each other. To that coworker, who in your mind you had written off as unapproachable; to the one that always seems to have ideas that are way off in left field (God forbid if you're dealing with those in right field!); to the one who never seems to have it all together; to the one who comes in red-eyed from too little sleep caused by a crying infant; to the one who single-handedly attempts this career and raises children...alone; and to the one who works more than one job...because our new pay-schedule cannot allow them to make their mortgage payments and certainly, nobody wants to sell with housing prices being at their current low. It seems everywhere you look...someone adds to your stress...rereading my own article up to this point, makes me feel more stressed too!

Ok, time for the turn-around. Colleagues, now is when the strong truly shine. When we realize we better start recognizing each other...because honestly...who else is??? Everywhere we turn we are somebody's new favorite punching bag! Who knows better than us what makes this well-oiled machine work? WE DO! Our ability to embrace difference has always been the greatest hallmark of educators...we are the ones who seek to find that special something in our students...NOW IT IS TIME TO DO IT FOR EACH OTHER!

Tomorrow...pay one compliment to a coworker...perhaps someone you don't normally notice, or better yet, maybe you don't always get along with. Take notice of your surroundings. Some may have already stopped reading...written me off as the idealist that I am...for those who choose to "Be There" (or here, as the case may be) for once I am not the pie-in-the-sky dreamer that my own favorite educators artistically sculpted me to be. I think the impact of this can be monumental. When we are there for each other, supporting and practicing all that we know to be the best for us, we truly are there for our students as well. Paying it forward works...especially when you know that the compliments you pay will be sincere and with true regard for the art and craft of education. You know how to do it...who does it better than we do?

Most of all, get started on this now...next month I'll be on my regular path...being the village nag and pleading for your help.

With most heartfelt solidarity,

~ Michelle

Executive Director Sandy Nass

- Sandy updated the executive board on current questions/concerns.
- An employee arbitration/termination meeting is scheduled on September 15th.

Community Outreach/Public Relations Kris Herman

- No Report

Director/Events & Activities Jessica Thimm

- No Report

Communications/Newsletter – to be determined

- Please let Angela know if you are interested in this position.

Parliamentarian/Elections – to be determined

- Please let Angela know if you are interested in this position.

Unfinished Business

- Think about what we want to accomplish this year and bring ideas to future Executive Board Meetings.
- The Constitution and By-Laws will need to be looked at this year. Develop a plan in the future.

New Business

- *Stipend for Building Representatives will be brought up during the budget discussion at the RA Meeting on September 14th.
- *Executive Board roles/responsibilities will be addressed in the future.
- Question was brought forward if the association website should be a member's only site. This will be discussed at a later date.

- A motion was made by Kris Herman and seconded by Michelle Daavetilla to recommend recertification to the Representative Assembly on September 14^t. Motion passed

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jessica Thimm and seconded by Kris Herman. Motion to adjourn the meeting passed. Meeting adjourned at 5:58 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lynn Malloy, Appointed Secretary