

**CWA Local 4730**

**Membership Meeting Minutes**

**March 26, 2009**

**Present:** Su Cowling, Terry Stigall, Bryce Smedley, Charle Lancaster, Monica (Nora) Kelly, Bernadette R. Kinzer, Victor Kinzer, Ed Vasquez, Michael Berndt, Peter K.

**Call to Order:** 5:37pm

Meeting was suspended so Steve Foster could speak on Health Care Reform and America Free Choice Act. A group discussion followed and we were invited to attend a discussion on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at the public library.

**Role Call of Officers:**

**Minutes:** Minutes from February's meeting were not available to approve.

**Treasurer Report:** \$4086.89 general account, 346.35 Postal account

**Committee Reports:**

**Safety Committee:** Joint Safety Committee met Feb. 5, 2009. Status Report on major projects for lead, asbestos and mold abatement was tabled at this meeting.

2008 OSHA report shows 38 injuries, 48 missed days of work.

**PA Council Meeting:** Peter attended this meeting where IU Trustee Sue Talbott spoke on the "State of IU". She said IU is stable considering the current economic crisis. Salaries are frozen on some Administrative positions over \$100K. Looks like State will fund Capital projects and other projects. Outsourcing has proven to show the cost of outsourcing is spread far and wide in smaller amounts so it makes it difficult to see whether it really is effective or not.

PAO classified staff will go to bi-weekly TIME system in August. This is to fix the 38% error rate in accurately recording their time.

Prescription drugs; Carol Daines reports we are not tied to one or two prescription drug vendors and she encourages everyone to shop around for the best price for prescriptions because the prices are not fixed and vary widely from store to store.

**TPAC:** Did not meet

**WRCLC:** Su Cowling did not attend, no report

**Parking Appeals:** Neil attended, nothing new to report

**Election** No meeting

**Membership:** Su Cowling is distributing CWA tent cards so members can display their membership on their desks. Membership drive is on hold because tabling events did not attract new members. Su wants to start a 'Stewards Council' group to promote camaraderie and hopes this council can also serve as a means to work toward increasing membership. 6 new members has joined that brings the membership total to 182.

**Communications:** Website; good response to poll questions, newsletter posted on website draws many to read it there. The Local's Facebook page is up and running with good activity. Union PLUS Benefits posted on website.

**Mutual Gains:** Will meet next week, inviting any topics and issues to be brought up in addition to what they have already. A suggestion was made to place a box to post or email address on the website so staff can place concerns and questions there so the Mutual Gains committee and bring these things to the table when they meet with HR.

**Other:**

**Indiana University Website Committee:** IU is webmaster is asking for comments on the new website design for IU. Contact: rcknight @indiana.edu to leave comments.

**NO SWEAT Committee:** Michael Brendt presented their current issues to IU concerning Coke's contract and allegations that Coke over water issues in India and union member deaths in Columbia. He said he is uncertain whether Pepsi is any better of a choice to go with. Russell Athletics makes licensed IU products violated workers rights in Honduras. Asked IU purchasing to drop this vendor's contract, they only provide 3% of IU logo products. Purdue dropped them.

**Committee Review on Dean of Education:** Nora Kelly is on this committee and asked for input on what support staff would like to see the work or advocate for. Several suggestions and topics were discussed for her to present. A big suggestion to bring up is employee opportunity to seek a higher level of education.

**Campaign for Wages:** Peter's President's Letter to Trustees is being finalized and will be sent out next week. Bryce Smedley said President Mc Robbie's email to everyone generated a lot of concern and opened a need for a forum to post open discussion responses to his message. Either an email tree, or group mail to post a message to go to Facebook page or Union website discussion forum. Bryce said he will work out some ideas to get this communication on issues started as a "rapid Fire" response forum to University issues like the President's message. Peter talked on WHFB firehouse talk about the need for decent employee wages and raises.

**Solidarity Now Newsletter:** Was mailed out to all staff. If anyone knows of any support staff not getting their copy to let Bernadette know and she will get it to them.

**LABOR RALLY FOR ALL WORKERS:** Everyone is invited at the **MONROE COUNTY COURTHOUSE ; SATURDAY, APRIL 25th 11:00 AM**

**Meeting Adjourned: 7:13**