

**GENERAL MEETING
NORWOOD LEGION
11150 - 82 Street
June 3, 2008 at 5:30 p.m.**

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER** at 5:35 p.m. by Marion Leskiw, President

2. **WELCOME** to all members and guests present.

3. **ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA**

3.1 **8.2 Food Choices – Laurie Montgomery**

4. **CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES** of May 6, 2008.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of May 6, 2008 with changes.

MADE BY: Amanda Hall

SECOND: Darlene Woodham

MOTION CARRIED

4.1 **error – 7.11 – the Centennial Gala is planned for September 12, 2009.**

4.2 **error – page 3, 7.9 Discipline Committee – Amanda Hall – should read: Amanda reported there were no disciplines at this time.**

5. **BUSINESS ARISING**

5.1 **General Meeting Minutes** (blue sheets)

5.1.1 **Meeting Attendance Qualifications for Elections – Marion Leskiw**

Marion said he requested a legal opinion of Tamara Chivers, In-House Legal Counsel, on the issue of meeting attendance qualifications for election to Negotiation Committees. Marion said that at the March 2008 General Membership Meeting past practice of the last sixteen (16) years was changed for the election to the City of Edmonton Negotiation Committee.

Tamara said it is her understanding that the Negotiations Committee has, in the past, been elected as an ad hoc Committee and that the qualifications of attending the last 4 out of 6 General Membership meetings has not been applied to the nomination of members for the Negotiations Committee.

Tamara defined an ad hoc committee as a committee appointed for a specific purpose or task and then disbanded. Tamara stated that it is her opinion that the qualifications in the Bylaws, Article 5.02 (a), apply to the Executive Board and the Standing Committees defined in Article 6.01 of the Constitution.

Tamara explained that past practice and reasonable interpretation of the Constitution & Bylaws is the basis for her opinion that 5.02 (a) (ii) of the Bylaws would not apply to the election of an ad hoc committee such as a Negotiations Committee.

A member brought forward 8.02 of the Constitution, Other Representatives and Delegates. Tamara said she does not interpret this Article as applying to the Committees. Lanny Coulson, Parliamentarian, concurred with Tamara regarding Article 8.02 saying that Article does not have anything to do with election or function of committees, but rather refers to delegates and representatives attending conventions and other events.

Tamara explained that Constitution & Bylaws are written by a layperson therefore past practice may be taken into account. Tamara said she is aware that past practice has been occurring for at least fifteen (15) years.

Tamara said based on her interpretation of the Bylaws and Constitution, the Negotiations Committee should be elected from within the specific Bargaining Unit only.

Pierre Blanchette said he made a motion at the November 2007 General Membership Meeting for a review of election qualification by the Executive Board which has not been followed up on by the Executive Board. Marion said that issue will be added to the agenda of the June 10, 2008 Executive Board meeting and the Executive Board will consider whether a motion should be brought forward to change the qualifications for all Committee positions other than Executive Board positions.

ACTION: RECORDING SECRETARY

Marion said the Negotiation Committees particularly need members who have a strong interest or expertise in bargaining. Marion said this discussion has no inference that the City of Edmonton Negotiation Committee elected in March is not formed of very capable and dedicated members and is a fine committee.

Tamara said another valid reason brought forward to dispense with meeting attendance election qualifications is to allow new members to participate in Union business.

- 5.2 **Executive Board minutes** (salmon/orange sheets).
There was no business arising.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence.

7. **REPORTS**

7.1 **Office Report – Marion Leskiw**

Marion announced the newest Administrative Assistant in the Union Office has resigned so there is a job posting for an Administrative Support II.

Marion said the firefighters have settled for 5% for this year and next year so that is a good baseline for future negotiations.

Marion said the Coalition will be working with Calgary Civic Unions for the best interests of Civic Unions in Alberta.

Marion said there have been an increasing number of grievances in all units. Marion said he has met with City of Edmonton management to discuss the reasons for this increase. He said there are a number of new HR people who have some very different interpretations of our Collective Agreements.

A member asked if the articles in the media regarding unions would affect our Union in any way. Marion said these articles refer to construction unions that have very poor relations with the Government of Alberta and it has been suggested this situation is retaliation. Marion reminded us that Alberta Labour Laws are very weak.

7.2 **Treasurer’s Report – Leo Derkach**

Leo asked that any Committee budget adjustments come in as soon as possible.

7.3 **Trustee’s Report – Randy Rogiani**

We, the Trustees, met and examined the income and expenses of the Civic Service Union 52 and in our opinion they accurately reflect the business for the month of April 2008.

7.4 **Education Committee – Lanny Chudyk**

Lanny reported the Committee met May 26, 2008. The committee had no requests for reimbursement but discussed ongoing educational opportunities that the Committee may be considering.

7.5 **Grievance Appeal Committee – Kim Woolgar**

Kim reported there were no grievances for the past month but the Committee will be commencing a grievance on June 18, 2008.

7.6 Social Committee – Maria Halushka

Maria reported a notice regarding the Waterpark social activity of September 28, 2008 will come out soon so members are aware of the function before they go on vacation. Maria said a poster will follow in August. Maria said if this function is a success it may be a yearly event.

7.7 Sports & Activities Committee – Randy Rogiani

Randy reported the committee met last month and all requests were approved. A couple of requests were for Corporate Challenge.

7.8 Constitution & Bylaws Committee

There was no report.

7.9 Discipline Committee – Amanda Hall

Amanda reported that there were no disciplines at this time.

7.10 .Social Justice Committee

There was no report to the meeting.

7.11 History Committee – Leslee Stout

A brief meeting was held by the History Committee on May 20th with Leta Gagliardi of the Public Relations Committee and Carrie Coffin of the Social Committee in attendance. A discussion took place regarding the venue for the September 2009 gala and the implementation of a Project Progression Chart based on the Gantt Chart. This Project Chart will formalize the time lines and responsibilities of the three Committees involved in the Centennial Celebration.

Thank you to Judith Basisty who provided the History Committee with a detailed report on the Edmonton Public Library's history from 1904 to 2002. Historical pictures were also included in the report. The report states in 1989 Civic Service Union 52 donated two decoders for closed captioned videos for the hearing impaired to the Library's Audio Visual Division.

To date the Union office has not received any submissions for the Logo Contest or the Event Ideas suggestions. Please do not be shy about your drawing skills. The History Committee will be providing a graphics artist to render the winning Logo design. The contest runs until the end of June.

Leslee Stout, Chair
Waldo Ponce, Co-Chair
Zonia Wuschenny, Treasurer
Lil Cook – Secretary
Geordie Cardinal, Co-Secretary

Marion reminded the Committee that Edmonton Telephones employees were CSU 52 members before 1997 or so and were a major part of our union. Marion said there should be lots interesting information at the Union Office on Edmonton Telephones.

Gary reported the Terms of Reference for this Committee will be discussed at the June Executive Board meeting.

7.12 Public Relations Committee – Laurie Montgomery

Laurie reported a draft copy of the Advocate has been submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

7.13 Contractual Unit Representatives

7.13.1 City of Edmonton – Therese Doucet

Therese reported the Committee is waiting to hear from the City regarding sending the survey out electronically. Therese said the Committee is working well together and enjoying working together. Therese extended an apology on behalf the assembly to Shelley Cornfield and Marlene Walsh who were nominated to the Negotiation Committee at the March 2008 General Membership meeting but did not meet the meeting attendance qualifications at that time. Therese went on to say either one would have been a great asset to the Committee and it was unfortunate that some members wished to change the rules for that election.

Amanda Hall from the library enquired if library members are asked what they wish to have in the benefit package negotiated for the City of Edmonton as the Library generally gets an identical package. Marion explained a library member sits in on the portion of negotiation concerning benefits. Amanda Hall said she appreciated that the medical services covered were in a nice list available to members.

7.13.2 Telus World of Science – Darren Chivers

Darren reported there are about seventy new staff hired. He reported the Bodyworks show will go to mid-October. Darren said visits must be booked and are booking up quickly. Marion said everyone should try to see this world class show.

7.13.3 Edmonton Public Library – Judith Basisty

I've sent out a call for nominations to the EPL Negotiating Committee. The deadline for submissions to the Union Office is Friday, June 13, 2008.

We will have a special meeting to elect members to the Negotiating Committee, on Tuesday, June 24 at 6:30 P.M. in Room 7 on the 6th Floor of the Stanley A. Milner Library. At this time, all interested

candidates will be asked to give a brief presentation which will be followed by the election.

Once the team has been chosen, we'll meet with Tamara Chivers and begin preparing our membership survey. As with the last round of bargaining, the Negotiating Committee will send out regular Communiqués to our members to keep everyone up to date.

7.13.4 EPCOR, Edmonton – Waldo Ponce

Waldo reported during negotiations the company and the Union agreed to form an ad hoc committee to deal with the ATs to A3 classes be incorporated in the APFR system to be considered for the STIP or EPCOR Incentive pay rather than getting a lump sum as is the current practice.

Waldo said Audrey Tosh and Cathy Beck met last Friday to set the ground rules for this committee which has not yet been struck.

Waldo reported he attended the May 2008 Calgary EPCOR General Membership meeting along with a number of other Executive Board members. Waldo and Marion agreed it was a very successful meeting and things seem to be going well. Gary mentioned it was gratifying to see some new members attending. Marion said there are still concerns at the Call Centre which the Executive Board members were able to hear about first hand.

7.14 Other Reports

7.14.1 Coalition Report – Gary Iskiw

Gary reported the Coalition met at CSU 52 Office on May 23, 2008. Gary said one item brought up at City Council, adopting their Code of Conduct, with several councilors not supporting a Code. Gary said this is rather ironic as all City of Edmonton employees are guided by a Code of Conduct.

Union recognition for benevolent activities was discussed but the coalition needs more information from the members and community support Committee.

The Coalition requires new signing authorities.

Gary reported other issues brought up were with HR. Issues which need to be resolved.

Gary said the Coalition is working to have a website.

Gary said the Duty to Accommodate was also discussed.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Motion to cancel the General Membership Meetings of July and August 2008

MOTION: To cancel the General Membership Meetings of July and August 2008.

MADE BY: Amanda Hall

SECONDED: Milo Buryska

MOTION CARRIED

8.2 Food Choices – Laurie Montgomery

MOTION: To review varieties of food offered at the meetings.

MADE BY: Laurie Montgomery

SECONDED: Kim Woolgar

MOTION CARRIED

ACTION: TRUSTEE COMMITTEE

9. GOOD AND WELFARE

9.1 Next Meeting

The next General Meeting shall be held on Tuesday, September 2, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. at the Norwood Legion.

9.2 Door Prizes

Prizes were won by Diana Kinnear, Darren Chivers, Darlene Kutnikoff, Lanny Chudyk, Judith Basisty and Donna Demyen.

9.3 Union Recognition – Carrie Coffin

Carrie reported that our Union was recognized in the Edmonton Sun for the Members and Community Support Committee supporting the education award in the YWCA Women of Distinction Awards to be presented on June 19, 2008.

10. Sergeant-at-Arms Committee

2 guests
1 member
53 Shop Stewards

For a Total of 56

MOTION: To approve the Sergeant-at-Arms Report
MADE BY: Carrie Coffin
SECONDED: Kim Woolgar
MOTION CARRIED

Carrie reported there was one attendee who left early.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To adjourn the General Membership meeting at 6:30 p.m.
MADE BY: Tim Wilson
SECONDED: Leslee Stout
MOTION CARRIED

Karen Miller
Recording Secretary