

UNAPPROVED minutes of the AFT2121 General Membership Meeting 10/26/10

ATTENDANCE Delegates: Charles Belbin, Kate Connell, Terry Doyle, Mike Estrada, Beth Freedman, Billington Mbolo, Patricia Mitchell, Bob Price, Susmita Sengupta, John Verosky, Jennifer Worley, Howard K. Yu. Executive Board Members: Rosemary Brinson, Allan Fisher, Stephen Goldston, Gus Goldstein, Chris Hanzo (Executive Director), Jim McKinney, Alisa Messer, Rodger Scott, Kovak Williamson. Members: Anthony Costa, Ana Fisher, Marc Kitchel, Debra Wilensky. Guests: Izzy Alvaran and Powell deGange (Unite HERE Local 2)

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. at Ocean Campus, Arts 307.

MINUTES: The minutes of 3/23/10 were approved with the following changes: Under "President's Report, the California Democracy Act would change the two-thirds vote requirement to a simple majority for passage of the budget" and not legislative actions. We approved \$30k toward buses but it should be clarified that we won't pay the full cost of all the buses.

BUDGET REPORT: The Local does not agree with the District's view that salary steps cost more. A balance is struck by people retiring and leaving, while new faculty are generally hired at a lower step. Marc Kitchel distributed and reviewed and updated us on the budget. We have been on a preliminary budget, which had to be met by June, in order to operate. A final budget should be passed by October. To avoid a downward spiral in funding, we have to come back to base (meet FTES requirements) by adding more sections and bring our programs back to normal sizes.

HOTELWORKERS LOCAL 2 ACTION REPORT: Local 2 leaders Izzy Alvaran and Powell deGange gave us an overview their local's campaign for hotel workers. Their contract expired last August, and the Blackstone Group, which bought the Hilton franchise, is trying to drive wages into a recession mode. The economic crisis is being used to bust unions. Local 2, joined at times by AFT2121 and other locals, has done a lot of picketing. STRS has a lot of pension money invested in Blackstone and we should be pressuring STRS to move the money into more union-friendly investments. Strikes are taking place in three cities, and hotels are being boycotted (see onedaylongersf.org) including the SF Hilton and the St. Francis Hotels. Contact ialvarez@unitedhere2.org 415 863 1142 if you would like to get further information and/or join the fight. As teachers, we should see this as an avenue to get students involved in the fight against corporate greed. We might include work for Local 2 as part of a syllabus. They also have a student internship program.

AFT 2121 BUDGET REPORT: Kovak reviewed copies of the Local's 2010/11 budget for our approval. A slight deficit was proposed in order to continue to function as a full-service local. The deficit is not a result of increased local spending, but of increases in per caps (per member fees for CFT and AFT affiliation). Although we have a substantial reserve built up, we are using some reserves to cover increases in affiliation fees since we lost revenue when classes were cut while per caps to CFT/AFT increased. We expect revenue to increase a bit as classes are reinstated. We are not spending money over budget but at the same time we must pay the increase in per caps according to the AFT constitution. At this point, we are not passing through the increased costs to the membership with a dues increase; instead we are using our surplus to pay per caps, but we will eventually have to raise dues slightly to cover the increases as required by the constitution. We also went over budget on contributions in 2009-10 because we financed a class at \$6,000. However, contributions amount to less than 1% of our Local's budget. We discussed the pros and cons of financing a class for next semester, with some feeling that it was a good symbolic gesture, while others felt that teachers paying for classes was wrong in principle, especially since corporations are not paying their fair share and substantial and increasing percentage of our federal budget is going toward military spending and war.

Motion: *We should pass the AFT 2121 budget and include and additional \$6k to fund a class.* **Yes: 10. No: 4. Motion seconded and passed.**

GET OUT THE VOTE UPDATE: We succeeded in getting enough volunteers for the campaign. This push is the biggest one for our local as in locals all over the state. With the help of our field organizers, volunteers, and CFT's support, we have surpassed our goal of member IDs and contacts. We still need to work on Props J, B, and N. We applauded those who worked the phone banks and walked precincts.

NEGOTIATIONS: We are making progress in the temporary upgrade procedure. We have continued to make it clear that the 1% salary cut will return next year and that restoring the missing salary step is a priority. It's time to take a militant posture. Bob Price reminded us that we should continue negotiating for reaching the goal of 1.0 (lecture) load factor for science lab hours.

Motion: *We should open a COPE meeting.* **Seconded and passed.**

Motion: *We should contribute \$2000 to the SF Labor Council for COPE-related work.* **Seconded and passed.**

We have used the SFLC's office, phones, and SFLC signs. We are not making large contributions since we contribute to state and national elections through CFT/AFT dues.

Motion: *We should contribute \$250 to the Kim-Shree Maufas campaign for SF School Board.*

Seconded and passed.

Motion: *We should contribute \$500 to the Tom Ammiano campaign for State Assembly.* **Seconded and passed.**

Tom was a CCSF instructor and member of the Local. He has been supportive of CCSF.

Motion: *We should contribute \$500 to the Prop 25 campaign.* **: Yes: 13. No: 1. Seconded and passed.**

Motion: *We should contribute \$300 to the Anita Grier campaign for Community College Board.* **Yes: 6. No: 4. Seconded and passed.**

So we can improve our effectiveness when the political stakes are high, Allan Fisher recommended that we put on the ballot in the next AFT2121 election the rescinding of the article in the AFT 2121 COPE constitution that puts a \$100 limit on COPE contributions the Executive Board can make to an issue or candidate.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Goldston, Secretary