

NALC BRANCH 111
Minutes of the Regular Union Meeting
March 9, 2023

Convened at 6:36 pm

The meeting was also broadcast over Zoom for those unable to attend in person.

Conducting: Mike Wahlquist, President

Pledge of Allegiance conducted by Mike Simonsen

Moment of Silence for Dale Bennett who passed away.

Roll Call by Steve McNees

Minutes of the February 2023 union meeting were posted. Without objection, they will be filed for future reference.

Reading of the Communications – Steve McNees

- Received an extension of the National dispensation for branches and state meetings and elections through June 30, 2023.
- Three carriers in the Downtown Station received notice that changes to their bid string assignments were being made. They had previously agreed to the changes.
- Jay Reupena and Stormy Blood have received tentative acceptance to NALC Advanced Formal A and Beyond Training to be held in Maryland.

Application for Membership by Mike Hansen

- Bella Tartaro

Special Announcement:

- The reading of Proposed Bylaws Changes (from the bylaws committee) is being done tonight. Because there are 28 pages of changes they won't actually be read. Printed copies of the changes were available to review during the meeting.

LETTER CARRIER POLITICAL FUND (LCPF) by Josh Thibodeau – not present

MDA COORDINATOR by Jeremy Bailey No report

DIRECTOR OF VETERAN AFFAIRS - Jimmy Fleming

- Jimmy is preparing a card for new hires so that they will have the info to easily get a V.A. Booklet sent to them. It will also have his information if they needed help or information about Veteran's rights.

LEGISLATIVE by Chad Mortensen

- For retirees: Senate bill S-597 was just introduced. It is a bipartisan bill to fix the Windfall Elimination Bill. Everyone should call senators Romney and Lee and ask them to vote for the bill.

Mayor Mendenhall will try to be at our May union meeting. March 28th Phil Rodriguez, Josh Thibodeau, Amy Ellis and Chad will be in D.C. to lobby for the Federal Retirees Fairness Act and the Windfall Elimination. We beat the States Union Dues bill. It didn't get out of committee.

TRUSTEES by Chad Mortensen

- The committee didn't meet this month, but will meet next month.

MBA, COMPENSATION by Bob Jewell

- The American Rescue Plan Act -2021 (for the Covid pandemic), expired January 27th. Covid-19 cases will now be handled through OWCP like all other compensation claims. Claims are generally on CA-2 because there is no documentation from where and when the disease came from. A CA-1 can be filed but you have to have specific evidence of the source and time of getting Covid. You must write a narrative of how you got Covid (with reasonable medical certainty), then your doctor also must write a narrative.
- You cannot use the self-test unless a doctor verifies it. Tests taken at pharmacies will work.
- FECA bulletin 23-02 reports on how to file Covid claims.
- Call Bob if you need help with filing a claim.

HEALTH BENEFITS by Jim Kerekes

- Some are having trouble getting on PostalEase to access their postal accounts and LiteBlue. There is a problem with using Google. It has been misdirecting to other websites. If you have problems call Human Resources.
- CCAs going to regular need to make sure they quickly select a health plan within 60 days to avoid possibly losing coverage.

ORGANIZER by Justin Lindquist – not present

SAFETY AND HEALTH by Justin Lindquist – not present

DIRECTOR OF RETIREES by Jeff Asay

- The Retiree Dinner is April 26th from 3:30 to 5:30pm at the Chuck-A-Rama in Draper. Retirees can bring one guest. Cost is free.

TREASURER by Mike Madsen

- no report

VICE PRESIDENT by Amie Gallo

- Amy read a statement she wrote, thanking members for their support and help over the last 15 years. She announced that she will be resigning from her position as V.P. effective March 31, 2023.
- She also announced that she has accepted a full-time NALC position, as the Region 2 RGA effective April 3rd.
- She was given a Letter Carrier Cheer.

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT by Mike Hansen

- 598 grievances filed so far this year.
- The Sandy office has converted to hiring all PTFs. All CCAs were converted to PTF at the same time.
- Next week's steward training (Wednesday at 6:30pm) is about the new route inspection process. Phil Rodriguez and Eric Grotepas will be teaching the class. Those not stewards who want to attend are welcome.
- Social Media: follow us on Facebook and Instagram. This is a way for us to get information out.
- The Pavement Pounder now has a 3-month calendar on the 1st page.

PRESIDENT by Mike Wahlquist

- As of last Saturday, we had 22 CCAs in the SLC Installation. We need 140, so we are 118 carriers short. Hopefully the new contract will help solve some of the staffing problems.
- One carrier exceeded 100 hours in a week in Sandy.
- The Summer Party is June 24th at the Murray Park, 6:15pm.
- The Steak Fry is August 26th, 6-9pm, at Pavilion 5 in Murray Park.
- Amie Gallo Has Done An Amazing Job !
- We will be sending 27 to steward college this year. That is the most ever.

SPECIAL ORDERS:

Bylaws Committee Chairman (Jeff Asay): Proposed Bylaws Changes were presented (distributed) Most of the changes are simple (like pronoun changes). There are a couple of considerable changes. One was to combine descriptions of the president's duties from several places into one section of the bylaws. The meeting requirements for determining qualifications for finances to meetings was consolidated and made the same for all conventions and training (attending 67% of union meetings). • Copies of the Proposed Bylaws Changes were available to read. Those on Zoom (or not) can request a copy emailed to them by emailing or texting Mike Wahlquist.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

- 21 members have been registered for the State Convention.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE SERVICE:

DRAW AND ADJOURN – 7:46 pm

- \$25 drawing winners Kim Mortensen and Chad Mortensen
- RETIREES – \$75 (Jesse Lozano was not present). Next month it will be \$100
- PROGRESSIVE A - \$475 (Jolene Madrid was not present). Next Meeting it will be \$500
- PROGRESSIVE B - \$375 (Kent Olsen was not present). Next Meeting it will be \$400