

NALC BRANCH 111
Minutes of the Regular Union Meeting
May 11, 2023

Convened at 6:30 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 Wahlquist

Moment of Silence for Jose Ascuá who passed away.

Roll Call by Steve McNees

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

Reading of the Communications – Steve McNees

- President Brian Renfroe has taken a leave of absence and Executive Vice President Paul Barner has taken over his duties until her returns.
- Kim Mortensen and Destiney Carrillo received confirmation to attend the NALC Advanced Formal A and Beyond Training in Maryland in October.

Application for Membership by Mike Hansen

- Rosemary Pawelek, Atonauga Kitiona, Lucas Carmack, Quincy Mason, Aaron Oldfather, Kyle Bartlett, Lissbete Ashfaq, Kezhang Chen, Joseph Brown, Shawn Stanworth, William Heaps, Byron Longhurst, Cody Rom, Shyanne Winter, Aerin Foutz, Penelope Finnegan, April Carlon, Brian O'Rullian, Rocina Robles, Joshua Schorlemmer

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

MDA COORDINATOR by Jeremy Bailey – not present

DIRECTOR OF VETERAN AFFAIRS - Jimmy Fleming

He is going to make a new contact card for veterans.

LEGISLATIVE by Chad Mortensen

- June 23 is the AFL-CIO convention. All positions are up for election.
- The Teamsters issues are the same as ours, not enough employees and they want holidays that we have.
- Communication workers picketed today because they are being mistreated.
- Gearing up for the local election cycle. Whatever party you are affiliated with, get involved.

TRUSTEES by Chad Mortensen

- We are short one trustee so they will wait until the appointment of a new one to audit the books.

MBA, COMPENSATION by Bob Jewell – excused

HEALTH BENEFITS by Jim Kerekes

- More information is up on the National website regarding the new health program changes. The transition is supposed to happen during open season in November 2024. The plan options we have are in our health plan booklets. They will have new booklets for the new program but he doesn't know how/when we will get the new booklets.
- The new changes were inserted into the current Health Benefit law. We won't be able to get any of the other plans that aren't part of the post office plans in section 89 of the law.
- You get 3 months before and after you turn 65 to sign up for Medicare.
- We have to choose one of the health plans by the time we get to 2025 whether retired or not. Otherwise, you will be assigned a health program.
- Make sure your address information is correct so you get the forms and information for the new plans.

ORGANIZER by Justin Lindquist – not present

SAFETY AND HEALTH by Justin Lindquist – not present

DIRECTOR OF RETIREES by Jeff Asay

- The retiree's dinner wasn't attended as well as usual, probably because the Pavement Pounder didn't get mailed early enough. He is considering having another retiree dinner this year. No plans are in the works yet.
- He encourages all retirees to attend the branch Steak Fry (free for retirees and a guest).

TREASURER by Mike Madsen

- The branch has received \$35,177 from progressive/permissive remedies from repeated article 17/31 violations. The steward college was paid for from these remedies (\$22,000).
- We were under budget for the steward college by \$5,000 or more.
- We spent \$37,000 more than we brought in last month.

VICE PRESIDENT (Destiney Carrillo)

- **Wahlquist:** Amie Gallo has become a Regional Grievance Assistant and had to resign her position. She has done a great job and will be missed dearly. Destiney Carrillo has agreed to fill her position. Destiney has been very professional in the work she has been doing.

Destiney: Destiney thanked everyone and especially Amie for the help and training she has been receiving. • Steward training next week is about Article 15, non-compliance. Specifically for 60-hour violations and the progressive/permissive remedies that we get (\$10 for each repeated overtime violation).

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT by Mike Hansen

- 1,029 grievances filed so far this year.
- He went to Branch 79's union meeting in Seattle last night. They have trouble getting 25 members to their meetings and are twice the size of our branch. He is proud of our continuing attendance. Tonight, there were 20 members on Zoom and 23+ present at our meeting.
- Seattle talked about the trouble they have with carrier assaults, like most of the country. There is national talk about how to provide security for carriers.
- If your office hasn't had the Heat training yet, you need to get it done. You can check on LiteBlue for the instructions about heat training. Make sure water is available in your office.
- The food drive is Saturday. Put it on your social media for family and friends.
- Mike still has a few Branch Hoodies available for sale.

PRESIDENT by Mike Wahlquist

- Stormy Blood has gotten \$400,000 in overtime grievance for the downtown station carriers. She is getting \$450 for each repeat violation grievance.
- Safety - time for kids and dogs to be out for the summer. Focus on safety whenever you are driving (only drive when you drive). "The most important delivery you make every day is the delivery of yourself, home safely."
- The State Convention was very successful.

SPECIAL ORDERS:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Nominations of Delegates to the AFL-CIO Convention June 23, 2023.** Nominations were opened last month and will close tonight. Nominees in April: Kirk McLaughlin, Chad Mortensen, Jim Kerekes, Kim Mortensen, Mike Simonsen, Mike Hansen, Keith Warner, Trey Terry.

Nominees tonight: none. Nominations were closed, and delegate names read again.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mike Miller made a motion to get rid of the use of Zoom for meetings now that the pandemic is over. The motion was not proper because the Zoom bylaw was passed last month and it cannot be changed for 6 months.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE SERVICE:

DRAW AND ADJOURN – 7:25 pm

- \$25 drawing winners: Jimmy Fleming and Mike Hansen
- RETIREES – \$125 (Floyd Youngbauer was not present). Next month it will be \$150.
- PROGRESSIVE A - \$525 (Tom Vigil was not present). Next Meeting it will be \$550.
- PROGRESSIVE B - \$425 (Robert Torrance was not present). Next Meeting it will be \$450.