

NALC BRANCH 111
Minutes of the Regular Union Meeting
April 11, 2024

Convened at 6:33 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

Special Announcement: Mike Hansen is having back surgery tonight. Tom LaMont had appendicitis that burst and suffered some brain damage from lack of oxygen. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Roll Call by Steve McNees

Nathan Chester: • **MDA bingo night will be held during the meeting.** Buy bingo cards \$5. Numbers drawn will be posted on the board. Each card bought can be used for all games during the evening. Prizes for each game won.

Minutes of the March 2024 union meeting were posted. Without objection, they will be filed for future reference.

Reading of the Communications by Steve McNees

- The NALC Disaster Relief Foundation has been formed as a 501(c)(3) organization. The foundation aids NALC members who have faced hardship due to a natural disaster. They may apply for assistance. Donations are needed from members and branches. You can get information at DisasterReliefFoundation@nalc.org. • President Wahlquist received a letter from a member who converted to regular during the quarter and wanted to be on the ODL list and a part of the equitability settlement. Any PTF, CCA, or Transfers from another installation have two weeks to add their name to the ODL list (Article 8.5.A).

Application for Membership by Mike Hansen

- Bryan Singleton, Malachi Harris, Michael Galvan, Samee Chaudry, Abigail Maughan, Nicholas Gamble, Raul Molina, Cynthia Velasco, Malissa Gonzales, Benjamin Kunz, Tuifua Vaikona, Palmer Campbell, Daniel Eswebedo, Bryan Velasquez, Monique Paiz-Hill, Megan Moore, Salamasina Fifita, Leila Mujic, Rosario Bolotta Jr, Kyle Beers, Maria Campos, Allen Pasela, Dustin Singletary, Samuel Drake, Kurtis Kissell, Zeljko Pasalic, Quinnton Carter, Karlmann Hansen, Yvonne Ponce, Jehrry Urbina, Brent Taylor, Joseph Hastings, Doug Dardon

LETTER CARRIER POLITICAL FUND (LCPF) by Josh Thibodeau – no report

MDA COORDINATOR by Nathan Chester

- He is conducting the MDA bingo games tonight.

DIRECTOR OF VETERAN AFFAIRS by Jimmy Fleming – not present

LEGISLATIVE by Chad Mortensen

- He was back in D.C. last month. He was very disappointed in our national officers. The Federal Retirees Fairness Act is our most important issue locally. Our national leaders say it is not their priority. They say it costs too much and that is “just how it is.” Mike Lee’s aide wanted to know why it is so much. She said she would look into it. National’s priority is carrier safety (“Protect Our Letter Carriers”). They want \$7B over many years for this safety program. •NALC’s lobbyist has a lot of pull. Constituents can no longer meet with legislators, only lobbyist. But our lobbyist was able to get a meeting between Phil Rodriquez and Mitt Romney and his committee. •John Curtis’ aide recognized that they would be affected by the Federal Retirement Fairness Act also. The trip was very successful although Chad had some different priorities than national. • HR7829 (Protect our Carriers) - ask your representatives to support carrier protection. We need to be more active in the state of Utah. Show up to town hall meetings or other meetings in your district. • You can find out who your representatives are by going to the national web site (nalc.org). June 21st is the State AFL-CIO convention.

TRUSTEES by Chad Mortensen

- Trustees didn’t meet this last month. They will meet next month and check two months.

MBA / COMPENSATION, by Bob Jewell

- No report (meeting with an injured carrier down stairs). Mike’s comment: Bob is doing a fantastic job and has a great win rate.

HEALTH BENEFITS by Jim Kerekes

- Jim found a list of health plans for next year by doing a search on the web. The official list will be out in October. Select Health was not on the list (check if you have this plan). • New premium rates will be out in October • Open season is Nov 11th - Dec 9th. • April 1st was the opening date for those who don’t have part B to enroll. • He has done over 40 orientations in the last month. • The retention rate of new hires is only 54%. • People with questions should call Jim. His number is on the Pavement Pounder.

ORGANIZER by Justin Lindquist – not present

SAFETY AND HEALTH by Justin Lindquist – not present

DIRECTOR OF RETIREES by Jeff Asay • No report

TREASURER by Mike Madsen

- \$36,792 income last month. \$8,300 in progressive/permissive remedies. \$13,522 net income last month. • The LM2 was completed and filed. On March 2nd, Quickbooks decided to not support the software we use anymore. All of Mike’s software stopped working. • We had ~\$75,000 in the Progress remedies account, \$28,954 was spent on training, leaving \$46,355 in the account.

VICE PRESIDENT by Destiney Carrillo

- Next week is Steward College. Steward Training has been moved to April 24th.

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT by Mike Hansen - Excused

PRESIDENT by Mike Wahlquist

- Recent B Team decisions in Salt Lake installation (set precedent only in the S.L. installation) says any violation of a previous B team decision will necessitate a progressive remedy of \$55 for each violation. • An intervention is coming in the 3 zone. Their problems have been going a couple of years. The intervention will last for 2 days and involve our NBA and the Area office of the USPS. • A national arbitrator has finally been selected but a start date hasn’t been selected. It will likely take up to 6 months for a decision. • We want to do a cloud migration of the grievances log and files so the stewards can access the decisions from anywhere. Mike met with 3 companies to discuss their work and costs. • Nominations for AFL-CIO State Convention: Jim Kerekes, Kirk McLaughlin, Chad Mortensen, Mike Simonsen, Phil Rodriguez, Kim Mortenson. Nominations will remain open.

SPECIAL ORDERS: none

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: none

- Nominations for AFL-CIO convention: Jim Kerekes, Kirk McLaughlin, Chad Mortensen, Mike Simonsen, Phil Rodriguez, Kim Mortenson. Nominations will remain open until next meeting.
- Proposed Bylaws Change: Article 5, Section 10, Current Language: “There shall be four drawings for the amount of twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars at the regular Branch meeting immediately after the adjournment of the Branch meeting.” Proposed Change: The amount of each drawing will change to “**fifty (\$50) dollars.**”
Amendment: progressive drawings remain at \$25; the two meeting door prizes will be \$50 each. The amendment passed. The amended motion passed.
- Proposed Bylaws Change: Article 5, Section 3, Current Language: “The regular Branch meeting shall start at 6:30 P.M. on the second (2nd) Thursday of each month.” Proposed Change: Start time will change to “**7:00 pm.**” The motion failed.
- Proposed new standing order: Newly proposed credit cards – “There shall be no more than 2 cards issued. Only the President and Executive Vice President will be authorized to use the cards. The card shall not be used for any personal charges. The card shall not be used to purchase fuel or services for any officer or member’s personal vehicle. The card shall not be used as a form of loan to any officer or member. Any mistaken use of the card by an officer must be reimbursed immediately upon discovery of the charge. All charges against the card must be accompanied by a receipt. The balance on the card must be paid in full at the end of each billing period.” Proposed Amendment: “Only the president and VP will be authorized to use the cards” – The amendment failed. The original motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Motion to Pass the hat for Tom Lamont. Motion passed. [\$260 was raised for Tom Lamont by the end of the meeting.]
- Motion to “spend \$2,840 initial migration cost and then \$415 Monthly, to Computech, to put grievances on the cloud.” Motion passed.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

Next Wednesday there will be 3 rallies across the country in support of Protection for Letter Carriers. Region 1 will meet next Wednesday at 6pm to rally at the courthouse in Las Vegas. We are invited.

IMPROVEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION

DRAW AND ADJOURN – 8:05 pm

- \$25 drawing winners: Gareth Davies and Yvonne Madsen
- RETIREES – \$400 (Donald Day was not present). Next month it will be \$425.
- PROGRESSIVE A - \$800 (Samuel Rohback was not present). Next Meeting it will be \$825.
- PROGRESSIVE B - \$700 (Ronald Wasescha was not present). Next Meeting it will be \$725.