

NALC BRANCH 111
Minutes of the Regular Union Meeting
June 13, 2024

Convened at 6:35 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: Charlie Iverson and Sidney Wade who passed away.

Roll Call by Steve McNees

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

Reading of the Communications by Steve McNees

- We received the Utah AFL-CIO Convention Call indicating that we are entitled to eight (8) delegates this year.
- We received Delegate Credential for eight branch members attending the Utah AFL-CIO Convention on June 28th.
- We received notice from the West Valley City that we need to maintain a business license unless we are exempt (we are exempt).

Application for Membership by Mike Hansen

- Steven Baker, Kaafusuaga Unasa, Benjamin Wyman, Lindsay Johnson, Jan Aaron Montanares, Brandy Salisbury, Jade Swayne, Levano Miranda, Clarissa Brown, Kathryn Hirtzel, Cardin Lloyd, Daniel Chapman, Christian Stout, Zebulon Williams, Tyler Merrill, Kennedy Oliver, Keegan Arnold, Nicole Pasalagua, Gordon Russell, Shaun Del Toro, Gary Malmgren, William Waltman

LETTER CARRIER POLITICAL FUND (LCPF) by Josh Thibodeau

- He has signed up some more carriers to donate to LCPF and waiting on postal record numbers for some new PTFs.

MDA COORDINATOR by Nathan Chester

- Nathan is having a drawing tonight for a 64-ounce Yeti water bottle with NALC logos on it. Drawing tickets are \$10 each with a maximum of 25 tickets being sold. • At the Branch Summer Party (it is free) this Saturday, he will have a cornhole tournament. He is proposing that whoever wins the tournament will be the 2024 Cornhole Champions and their office will receive donuts. MDA donations of \$20 per team to play.

DIRECTOR OF VETERAN AFFAIRS by Jimmy Fleming - no report

LEGISLATIVE by Chad Mortensen

- “Why do we as letter carriers concern ourselves with politics and who we are endorsing?” There are a lot of reasons. In the state of Utah, we have mayor and other races. They will have a say in many things that will affect us. Postmaster General DeJoy is trying to eliminate rural post offices and consolidate most others. This will hurt the state and the right politicians can help. Having a governor that supports the USPS and our needs is very important. • Chad is begging for our help to get involved with our local leaders because he can’t be effectively involved with all the small cities and districts. • Karen Kwan is running for Karen Maynes district. She just wants to continue with what Karen Maynes was doing (that is good).

TRUSTEES by Chad Mortensen

- No meeting held last month. They will have one this month. • Anyone who wants to look at the branch books is welcome to do so.

MBA / COMPENSATION, by Bob Jewell - no report

HEALTH BENEFITS by Jim Kerekes

- Keepingposted.org is the main site for retirees. It has information and seminars about health benefits and other issues.
- Navigator (coming soon) will have a phone number to contact if you have questions. Also retirementbenefits@usps.gov has information that is helpful. • If you are on Medicare, it is important to understand the four parts to Medicare. • OPM still hasn’t set the rates for the new plans.

ORGANIZER by Justin Lindquist

- He is still getting 8 to 10 out of every 10 he has in training to sign up. Those in the offices these new members go to, need to help them and then encourage them to join the union.

SAFETY AND HEALTH by Justin Lindquist

- Management just skipped having the second quarter safety meeting. Do they really care? • Everyone needs to make sure they have water and get the proper rest to avoid heat problems. • New employees in the last 6 months haven’t dealt with the heat yet. We all need to watch out for and help them.

DIRECTOR OF RETIREES by Jeff Asay

- The retirees will have a drawing for \$200 tonight.
- There is a good article in the Postal Record this month about Enhanced Annuities. If you are a FERS employee and you had a significant amount of time on Wage Loss Compensation (over 2 months), you can apply for an Enhance Annuity even if you have already retired (see the Postal Record). Current employees should keep track of the time they are on compensation and apply for Enhance Annuity when they retire.

TREASURER by Mike Madsen

- Last month: income: \$31,460. Progressive/permissive remedies income of \$2,577. Total expenses were \$44,000 which was \$13,460 more than we brought in last month.
- He is now keeping track of the grievance numbers that bring in progressive/permissive awards. We have \$52,700 in this account that hasn't been spent yet.

VICE PRESIDENT by Destiney Carrillo

- Next week's steward training will be a PowerPoint on stationary events. A survey will be included, to be completed to indicate you attended.
- The following week there will be a DRT training.

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT by Mike Hansen

- 1,534 grievances assigned so far this year.
- The Summer Party is this Saturday. Bring your whole family. There will be food, swimming, drawings, and fun.
- The AFL-CIO convention is June 28th.
- Stationary Events: Supervisors are being told to complete a form 1564 (lunch and break locations) if carriers won't complete them. Management can't discipline based on scanner location but they are trying to do it. If you need to take a break because of heat, just do it. You can't be disciplined for a necessary heat break. If you are too hot, stop and cool off.

PRESIDENT by Mike Wahlquist

- It got hot fast this year. If you find that you are out of water for whatever reason, go get some. If you are having any of the heat symptoms, go find somewhere to cool down.

At the Summer party Saturday, it is supposed to be only 89 degrees. Bring your family (not extended). It is free. The pool is ours from 6:15 – 8:15.

SPECIAL ORDERS: • none

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS: none

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

- Anyone wanting to put an interesting story in the Pavement Pounder should contact Nathan Chester.
- Motion to sponsor Jacob (Jake) Fitisemanu in the West Valley district. The motion passed.

IMPROVEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION

DRAW AND ADJOURN – 7:34 pm

- \$25 drawing winners: Fernando Palafox; Chris Sullivan
- RETIREES – \$450 (Dennis Despain was not present). Next month it will be \$475.
- PROGRESSIVE A - \$850 (14-1 Raymond Marlow was not present). Next Meeting it will be \$875.
- PROGRESSIVE B - \$750 (9-15 Russell Hatch was not present). Next Meeting it will be \$775.
- MDA drawing for a 64 oz Yeti thermos – Stormy Blood - \$230 collected for MDA tonight.
- Special retiree drawing for \$200 – Jimmy Kerekes