President Ed Hysyk called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM.

Minutes:

Minutes of the September 18th, 2007 General Membership Meeting were distributed and reviewed. Charles McClain of HRA made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Harrell Perkins of NYPD seconded the motion and it carried.

The following correction was made:
Page 1, Treasurer’s Report, line 1: insert “Heigh” after “Bruce”.

Treasurer’s Report:

Treasurer Bruce Heigh distributed the Financial Reports for August 2007, September 2007 and the cumulative report for Jan. 1 – September 30, 2007. A motion was made by Peter Jablin of ACS to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Harrell Perkins seconded the motion and it carried. Treasurer Heigh noted that the Local’s total cash balance of $190,922 as of September 30th, 2007 is at its highest level since January of 2004.

Trustees’ Report:

President Hysyk introduced the auditor, Peter DeCarlo, C.P.A. and Local 2627 trustee Cynthia Perkins. The auditor’s report was distributed to the members. Cynthia Perkins then read the financial statements reported in the auditor’s report. Charles McClain made a motion to accept the auditor’s report for the year ending December 31st, 2006. Jerome Phillips (NYPD) seconded the motion and it passed.

President’s Report:

President Hysyk introduced Barbara Terrelonge, Assistant Director of DC 37 Research & Negotiations, who gave the Civil Service report. She reported that DCAS has decided to allow incumbents who are in the non-competitive Certified IT titles to take the upcoming Promotional Computer Systems Manager exam. The status of the Civil Service lists was reported as follows: Computer Associate (SW) Open Competitive list (Exam No. 4053) – has been extended to 12/21/2009 – 2 candidates appointed since September from this exam; Computer Associate (SW) Promotional list (Exam No. 4542) – has been extended to 11/30/2008 – no candidates were appointed during this
period; Computer Associate (Operations) Open Competitive (Exam No. 3028) – extended to 10/22/2008 – no candidates were appointed during this period; Computer Associate (Operations) Promotional list (Exam No. 3521)– extended to 10/27/2008 – no appointments at this time; Computer Specialist (Operations) Promotional list (Exam No. 3537) – extended to 12/22/2008 – no appointments were made at this time; Computer Programmer Analyst Open Competitive list (Exam No. 4045) – extended to 9/28/2008 - 2 candidates were appointed. Computer Specialist (SW) Open Competitive list (Exam No. 3013) – extended to 10/20/2008  – 1 candidate was appointed; Computer Specialist (Operations) Open Competitive list (Exam No. 3050– extended to 9/7/2009 - 1 candidate was appointed. Assistant Director Barbara Terrelonge then concluded her report.

President Hysyk reported that there was very little movement of the lists because most lists do not get called during the summer. Another reason why there is not much list movement is because the number of provisionals within each title is low. He indicated that of the 1100 Computer Specialists (Software), only 50 of them are provisional. Of approximately 55 Computer Specialists (Operations), only 1 is provisional. As the number of provisionals declines, the movement of lists declines. The Local’s mandate is to decrease the number of provisionals. The Local cannot tell an agency to create a position for a member even though that member may be on a civil service list. If a member is doing work at a higher level or title, the union has a grievance procedure that may address that issue. Civil service law states that provisionals must be replaced if there is an outstanding list. President Hysyk said that the Local has an obligation to support civil service laws.

The filing period for the Computer Systems Manager (Promotional) exam is open from November 7th to November 27th. Members can apply online. The Education Department may prepare an exam workshop for this course depending on the number of people who file for the exam. You must be a member of the Local in order to register for this workshop.

Contract bargaining is moving forward. The next meeting with the City is scheduled for December 4th. In the most recent bargaining session, the City made a monetary offer to DC 37 which was totally unacceptable and therefore rejected. We are still hopeful that a contract will be in place before the current contract expires. Contract negotiations with the Transit Authority are moving slowly. 1st Vice President Robert Ajaye reported that the CUNY contract negotiations will take place once all parties, which include NYS, NYC, CUNY and DC 37, agree on meeting dates. A meeting that was scheduled for this coming week has been canceled.

President Hysyk said that none of the locals have heard anything from the Salary Review Panel. So far no monies have been generated and targeted for funding Salary Review. No pot of money has been found.

At the end of this contract, we have the ability to take .34 of 1% of your salary as of Dec. 31st, 2005 and put it into our Local for the members. If we take it as a rate increase, we can’t use .34 because the City discounts it, making it .32. We can take it as a longevity increase. President Hysyk said that he will form a committee that will make a recommendation on this issue. In the past, we chose to add it on to the longevity because it seemed like the fairest way to do it. This would increase the longevity approximately by $200.

President Hysyk read a letter addressed to all locals from Eddie Demings, the General Counsel of DC 37 concerning holiday turkeys or vouchers for their purchase. Mr. Demings said that AFSCME’s general counsel stated in a letter dated November 5th, 2007 that the potential harm in holiday turkey giveaways that could be done to the union far outweighs any good will that might result in such a program. Mr. Demings said that a careful review of the AFSCME letter appears to be highly prudent and therefore each local is strongly urged to reconsider such actions (using union funds for turkeys/vouchers) for future holidays. President Hysyk said that the Local stopped that program several years ago, making us ahead of our time.
President Hysyk reported that he received a letter from AFSCME saying that we are below the minimum dues and must increase our dues. The dues will go up on January 1st, 2008. The Local has to pay AFSCME. The dues for full-time members will go up by 90 cents a paycheck. The present dues will go from $20.78 to $21.68. The dues for part-timers will go up from $13.50 to $13.80.

Members should call the Local if they get a letter from the Department of Investigation.

1st Vice President Robert Ajaye reported that the Local 2627 tuition reimbursement amount has been increased by $100, raising it to $700. He said that a member can get reimbursed up to a maximum of $1400 ($700 from DC 37 + $700 from Local 2627{computer and labor courses only}. Certification courses are covered by the Local. The reimbursement program runs on a calendar year schedule (Jan. 1 – Dec. 31). Robert also said that members should avail themselves of the online training by registering at enterprisetraining.com/local2627.

An improper practice was filed against the Department of Education for forcing members to become Computer Systems Managers in the Tweed building. As a result, a PERB hearing was held on October 17th. President Hysyk said that Mary O’Connell filed this action. The administrative judge at PERB suggested that the Department of Education meet with the union to discuss how only some of those positions could be managerial but not all of them. This discussion will take place between DC 37 attorney, Mary O’Connell and the lawyer representing the DOE..

NYCHA laid-off 71 managers. No union members have been laid-off.

Peter Jablin gave the political action report. He distributed lists of state and city legislative proposals. He then discussed many of the proposals that would benefit union members. Members were urged to increase their participation in rallies, meetings and P.E.O.P.L.E, programs.

Unfinished Business:
None.

New Business:

1st Vice President Robert Ajaye reported that the Local’s African American History Celebration is scheduled to be held on Thursday, February 7th, 2008 in rooms 1, 2, and 3.

Good & Welfare:

Michael Handy(DOE) passed away.

Dana Hudes made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ron Saunders seconded the motion and it passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cody Childs
Secretary