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Local 2627

District Council 37

AFSCME AFL-CIO

General Membership Meeting

March 15, 2016

Minutes

Treasurers Report

President’s Report

Special Presentation – Training & Education

Old Business

New Business

Good and Welfare

President Ajaye called the meeting to order at 6:04 P.M. There was a quorum.

- **Minutes**

Brother Terry Dunn (CUNY) made the motion to accept the January 19th minutes. It was seconded. The motion to accept the January 19th minutes passed.

- **Treasurer’s Report**

Sister Julie Leibowitz (HPD) made the motion to accept the January 19th Income and Expense Treasurer’s Report. It was seconded. The motion to accept the January 19th Treasurer’s Report passed.

Brother Dunn discussed the 2016 budget with the membership. Barbara McCarthy (DOC) made a motion to accept the 2016 Budget. It was seconded. The motion passed.

Brother Dunne reported on the January Expense Report. Warren Jones (DOITT) made the motion to accept the January Expense Report. It was seconded. The motion passed.

Brother Dunne reported on the February Expense Report. ..He noticed an error that will have to be corrected. Lenny Days (HRA).made the motion to accept the February Expense Report with corrections. It was seconded. The motion passed.

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- **Presidents Report**

President Ajaye acknowledged Nola Brooker, Stephanie Miller, Jon Ng and Dana Tilghman as guests in the room. Dana Tilghman swore in the 2 new Shop Stewards. Randolfo Montalvo (HHC) and Craig Freeman (DoITT)

President Ajaye asked Dana Tilghman to report to the membership the efforts that DC37 is making regarding the green card initiative. Dana requested that everyone fill out a card, unless it was submitted today. He spoke about the benefits of signing a green card.

President Ajaye stated that all of the members in the room have already filled out green cards because their status is checked upon entrance of the meeting. The Local's database was current as of the day of the meeting and it stated that all of our members were members in good standing.

Nola Brooker stated that the new green cards are different and contain additional information. She is requesting everyone re-sign these cards. Sister Veronica Taylor (DDC) mentioned that there was an issue with filling out the green cards on the DC37 website.

Sister Julie Leibowitz asked if we sign these new green cards will it automatically update the employee information with the NYC ESS System. Nola stated it would. She was trying to clarify that the new updates to the ESS System would be transferred over to DC37 because of these newer green cards. There was additional discussion.

President Ajaye has invited a few speakers to address the membership regarding training and education. In addition, there is a link on the Locals website to these groups and to the continuing education classes in CUNY.

President Ajaye and 1st VP Mike Lanni went to visit Enterprise Training to discuss the Local's needs and issues. Based on their efforts and discussion the offerings have increased and they will be making a presentation to the membership.

DC37 gives education reimbursement of \$800 for the calendar year. Local 2627 also reimburses \$800 once the DC37 reimbursement is exhausted or for a certification class. Please provide DC37 and the Local with the proper documentation for reimbursement.

President Ajaye made an appointment to meet with the new DCAS Commissioner instead of attending the "meet and greet" session. He requested the meeting to be prior to the scheduled computer exams, since there were issues he wanted to discuss. He was informed that the exams were on hold and that the meeting will take place prior to the exams being given. President Ajaye has been very vocal with DCAS regarding the Computer Specialist and Computer Associate exams being given as a multiple choice exam. This exam should be E&E. He also had an issue when DCAS did not request people for the test validation board. That is a problem because people who are not trained are reviewing these exams. In addition there was a petition that was circulated regarding the exams and the format. With all of the issues regarding these exams DCAS has placed these exams on hold.

79 The other issue he wanted to discuss with the Commissioner has to do with the
80 “hard to recruit” titles. The Telecom titles are not part of the “hard to recruit”
81 classification. President Ajaye is trying to add these titles to the ‘hard to recruit’
82 list. Currently members are turning down promotions because they live out of
83 state.

84 Madeline Colon (CUNY) stated that DCAS should give notice on the certifications
85 required for the exams so people taking the exam will know which certification
86 they actually need. It is not possible to gain certifications in 21 days.

87 Sister Leibowitz reported that she brought up the potential rescheduling issue the
88 HPD members were concerned with to the Civil Service Committee. When
89 DCAS was asked about their policy on notification of a rescheduled exam, they
90 did not have an answer. However DCAS is on notice that we are watching.
91 President Ajaye stated that he would address this issue as well. Many people
92 are concerned that these exams will be scheduled during summer vacations.

93 Warren Jones (DOITT) – asked for a clarification on Education & Experience
94 (E&E) Exams. It will be your experience and certifications. The people who took
95 the open competitive exam have already filled out the E&E. The people on the
96 promotional list did not. The Local is still waiting to see exactly what DCAS is
97 going to do.

98 Mike Marina (DOC) – was able to get picked up in his agency with the probation
99 waived when he was called by another agency. It was good bargaining chip.

100 President Ajaye reminded if you get called for an interview and decide not to take
101 it, you must call DCAS and ask to have your name reinstated on the list.

102 President Ajaye suggested sending him an email if anyone has additional
103 questions for him to ask DCAS. Place DCAS meeting in the subject section and
104 mail him at Rajaye@gmail.com

105 Sister Cynthia Perkins (DC37-DOHMH) mentioned that people taking exams
106 should write down any questions that were not clear. It is important to challenge
107 the exam in the required timeframe. That can make the difference between
108 passing or scoring high. When appealing the exam, DC37 will supply an attorney
109 to assist you.

110 Brother Tacoma (NYPD) asked if the filing period was extended for the Computer
111 Associate exam. He stated he was #6 on the list but he never got picked up. He
112 wanted to know why he wasn’t picked up and what guarantee that this will not
113 happen again. There are no guarantees it won’t happen again, but he was
114 subject to the 1 in 3 rule. He had an additional issue with how PD is treating the
115 workers regarding vacation scheduling and he will meet with President Ajaye and
116 Senior Council Representative Jon Ng to discuss this issue.

117 President Ajaye recommended that if you feel that you are not being treated well,
118 it would be wise to move to another agency. You should not feel that you have to
119 be stuck in the same agency.

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121 • **Special Presentation – Training & Education**

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Mr. Jonathan Richardson addressed the membership about the current offerings from Enterprise Training. Their website is www.enterprisetraining.com/local2627. Enterprise will work with each person to create their own training plan. There are a variety of classes and access to over 16,000 online books. There is a training package that costs \$399. This package is for an entire year. There are other types of training classes as well. The members are encouraged to look at the website.

There was discussion of offering a webinar to go over the course offerings if the members were interested. If any member would be interested in a demo, Enterprise will provide a 10 day demo id for the users. Enterprise does certification preparation, not the actual certifications. Since this is online learning, you will need internet access.

Brother Dunne suggested taking an easy class just to pass and get the reimbursement quickly. Sister Leibowitz suggested asking your supervisors permission to take the training at your desk during working hours since it is less expensive than the agency sending you for training at DOITT. There was additional discussion.

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Joan Sullivan from New York State Forum addressed the membership regarding the Forum. Its mission is to advance IT Education in Government. IT Corporations are part of the forum. They are participating as experts, not vendors. There is a citywide paid membership to the New York State Forum, so all of the city workers are covered. The Forum provides training and education through workgroups. Sessions are on a monthly basis. Workgroups offered in NYC are: Business Analysis, Business Continuity, GIS, Data and Analytics, Information Security, IT Procurement, Open Data, Innovations and Emerging Technology and Project Management. All of these workgroups have sponsors except Business Analysis. You can find their link on the 2627 webpage. Members who are interested can view their website. www.nysforum.org

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Brian Wonserver, an Executive Board Member of Local 2627 is also the Secretary for the Municipal Information Technology Council (MITC). He discussed the benefits of becoming a member to MITC. This group is focused on in-depth training and trends. They work jointly with the NY State Forum. MITC focuses on the tools and where the industry is going. The MITC is about sharing and collaboration. It is not formal training. People have an opportunity to learn from and educate fellow employees. The MITC has NYC Agencies and Corporate Representatives presenting projects that might be implemented in the Agencies. The MITC website is on Cityshare. If you can't access the site by Cityshare, you can contact Brian directly. Brian encouraged everyone to sign up. It's a great way to get exposure, hear ideas and to offer feedback. Meetings are usually at 100 Church Street. Sister Leibowitz inquired about release time. Members should request permission to go for training. Many agencies do not have a problem.

168 • **Old Business**

169 No news on the CUNY contract. The contract is being held up by Governor
170 Cuomo. Note – the \$15 an hour minimum wage will not apply to the CUNY
171 staff.

172 • **New Business**

173 The next meeting is in May and there is also a June meeting.

174 **Good and Welfare**

Nazimul Huq	Doitt	His family had a new baby.
Efani Catlin	HRA	Her father passed away.
Walter Morris	HRA	His brother passed away.
Ed Rodriguez	DC37	His son passed away.
Leonard Milsen	NYCHA	His mother-in-law passed away.
Samir Patel	NYCHA	His father-in-law passed away.
Lidia Bulygo	HRA	Her brother passed away.
Ann Marsek	HRA	Her mother passed away.
Michele Shepard	HRA	She is recovering from surgery.
Maria Tan	DHS	This member passed away.
John Hom	DCAS	His wife passed away.
Albert Mar	DOE	His father passed away.
Lawrence Nelson	CUNY QBCC	His mother passed away.
Frank Fanelli	CUNY QBCC	His wife is in the hospital.

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176 Brother Mike Rio made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded. The meeting ended at
177 8:05 PM.