

OCVTEA

2011 – 2012 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Toms River Center

Wednesday, April 4, 2012

Call to order: The meeting of the OCVTEA Executive Council was called to order by President Howard Polenberg at 3:10.

Attending: Building / Unit Representatives Cathy Buckley, Pete Radford, Ray Walsh, Gerald Luchs, Mike McNamara and Mark Lamb were present. Officers present were President Howard Polenberg, Vice President Tom Vassallo, Treasurer Cheryl Orr, and Secretary Tiffany Seeley.

Quorum was met to conduct business.

Minutes: The minutes from the March 13th meeting were read.

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Gerald Luchs.

Second: Cathy Buckley.

Discussion: No discussion

Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Cheryl Orr. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Tom Vassallo.

Second: Pete Radford.

Discussion: No discussion

Passed unanimously.

Standing Committees:

Membership Committee:

Cheryl Orr gave an updated membership report. 190 members are currently reported. One more member at JDC has been added; waiting for paperwork.

Sunshine Report: Howard Polenberg read the Sunshine Report.

Discussion: It was discussed as to who constitutes an immediate family member. Mary Bernyk is trying to find a local florist instead of using an online florist. The OCVTEA will follow the OCVTS district contract to make

this distinction.

Public Relations: Tom Vassallo is working on the next newsletter and the general dinner meeting flyer. General members should email Tom with additions for the newsletter. Tom will send a link to general members to view the latest meetings' minutes.

Social Graces Report: End of year party June 1st at Hemingway's. General dinner meeting on May 23rd at 3Bs. More information to follow.

Internal Affairs: Ray Walsh reported there is no news.

Legislative Committee: Dennis Melia not present.

Elections Committee

Chair: Alice Infranco, Colleen Gordon and Michele Colon will makeup the elections committee. A district nomination form will be sent out to general membership. Forms will be returned to building reps.

Negotiations Committee:

Committee met and discussed negotiating strategies. A major issue that keeps coming up is salary guide. Salary guides come after negotiating terms with the board. There seems to be a major concern about teachers getting to the top. Teachers want to get to the top but they need to remember that when they get to the top, they make less money. A discussion followed about steps. We need to study demographics of the current guide to best help each member. Howard says we will be meeting with Joan Szlaga about salary guides.

There was a discussion about whether or not we need an association survey. Instead of sending a generic survey to all members, it might be more beneficial to ask for open-ended responses to the question, "What would you like to see in the new contract?" This way we would see exactly what issues members view as important.

Contract review committee is a priority. Contract review committee and contract negotiation committee need to combine efforts ASAP.

We need NJEA involved soon because they are going to be the ones speaking at negotiations. We need to make sure that the NJEA and OCVTEA are on the same page.

Constitutional Committee:

Tom Vassallo would like to review the constitution, update it and distribute it to the general membership. Executive council should read the constitution changes and prepare to discuss at the next executive

meeting.

**Grievance
Committee:**

There may be a grievable situation regarding the Family Leave Act. Employee had to pay for health benefits under Cobra. OCVTEA is challenging interpretation and trying to reimburse employee. At this time the OCVTEA is waiting for more information. ****Member did receive reimbursement. Tom Vassallo and Howard Polenberg expressed the importance of speaking with them before signing anything (except evaluations). They expressed that it was hard to dispute issues after signature was given.

Old Business:

All buildings must have monthly liaison meetings. Even if there are no issues to report, a memo MUST be sent to Howard, who will copy it to Bill Hoey and Nancy Weber-Loeffert.

Building reps MUST have monthly meetings to inform members of issues and actions.

The OCVTEA received a PRIDE grant but Marco Esposito has to fill out paperwork in order to receive the compensation. Mark Lamb will look into specifics.

The online survey can be developed and conducted with a QUIA membership. Tiffany Seeley will purchase one for \$49. The executive council voted on the purchase and it passed unanimously.

New Business:

It was discussed that the death of brother or sister in law be added to major loss in the next contract.

Howard contacted OCVTEA attorney to contact board lawyer immediately after February meeting. The labor counsel that the board hired still has not responded. The OCVTEA attorney is going directly to PERC. We are waiting on further information.

On May 7th, the OCVTEA has a meeting with a state auditor regarding payment of workmen's compensation. Cheryl Orr and Howard Polenberg will be at the meeting with all of the necessary paperwork.

General Assembly

Meeting Calendar: Tentative meeting date is May 23rd.

Executive Council

Meeting Calendar: Tentative dates were set for future Executive Council meeting dates.

The dates are May 10th and June 6th.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Cathy Buckley.

Second: Pete Redford.

Meeting was adjourned at 4: 55 pm.