

OCVTEA

2011 – 2012 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Toms River Center

Wednesday, September 14, 2011

Call to order: The meeting of the OCVTEA Executive Council was called to order by President Howard Polenberg at 3:23 pm.

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

Quorum was met to conduct business.

Minutes: The minutes from the June 8th meeting were read.

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Tom Rolston.

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: Mark Lamb wanted to verify that the number of members on the budget report was accurate. Howard Polenberg explained why the numbers fluctuate due to members on leave, etc.

Passed unanimously.

**Standing
Committees:**

**Membership
Committee:**

Cheryl Orr gave an updated membership report. 183 members are reported.

Sunshine Report:

Howard Polenberg read the Sunshine Report. Cathy Buckley questioned how it was determined what items are sent for what occasion. There are older guidelines that are used to determine who receives what for specific occasions. It was suggested that Howard contact Mary Bernyk for a list of the guidelines so they can be reviewed for possible revision or updating.

Public Relations:

There haven't been any updates to the website. There was discussion of developing a stipend for a committee member to update the website. There was an explanation by Tom Vassallo of the many hours he has been volunteering to the development of the web site, the email accounts and the monthly updates.

Tom Vassallo would like to re-distribute the email list in order to have all members provide their home emails. Only about 50% of members provided home email addresses. The association would rather send information to a non-school email (more secure).

Social Graces Report:

Sharon Clougher reported that the Holiday gathering will be Friday, December 2, 2011 at Hemingway's and the Retirement dinner will be Friday, June 1, 2012 at Hemingway's.

Internal Affairs:

A new chair is needed for the Internal Affairs Committee. Catherine Ferrara is no longer serving as the Internal Affairs chair. Howard Polenberg will be presenting appointments at the next executive meeting. It was explained that all Committee job descriptions are provided in the OCVTEA Constitution. It was also discussed that this position would be best served by a committee.

A question was presented by Ray Walsch concerning when issues should or should not be passed on to a different committee, i.e. Internal Affairs. Ray Walsh offered to accept the position of Internal Affairs chair, but requests that certain circumstances may require the help of a teaching member.

**Legislative
Committee:**

A new chair is needed for the Legislative Committee. Colleen Gordon is no longer serving as the Legislative Committee chair. Job description was provided. Tom Rolston asked if more detailed job descriptions could be created and provided to general membership in order to help recruit more active members.

Tom Vassallo stated that the revision to the Constitution should include this information.

Building reps should be informing all liaison committee members that there are formal forms that should be filled out that include minutes from meetings with building administration. Ray Walsh reminded all building reps to explain to their liaison members that the minutes from liaison minutes do make their way to Mr. Hoey's desk as per the contract. Therefore, he also reminded all present that certain issues should be handled within the association without going directly to administration. That is the function of the Internal Affairs Committee.

Elections Committee

Chair:

Still no chair for the Elections Committee. Tom Vassallo pointed out that since Tom Rolston is now a building rep and voting member, a new Parliamentarian is needed. Tiffany Seeley was temporarily appointed as acting secretary for the September 14th meeting. She will be formally nominated at the next general meeting.

Negotiations

Committee:

A discussion of negotiations was held. Howard Polenberg requested that certain members consider being members of the negotiations committee. There is an interest in starting early. It was also reported that the members of the Stipend Committee have been asked to serve on the OCVTEA Negotiating Team. The team also will consist of Sharon Clougher, Secretarial Representative and Ray Walsh, Custodial Representative as per the OCVTEA Constitution.

Constitutional

Committee:

Tom Vassallo stated that no meeting was held due to the fact that due to his retirement as an active member, he was unsure that he could continue as Vice President and Constitutional Committee Chair. He will begin work on reviewing and submitting suggestions for revisions of the Constitution in consultation with Sharon Clougher and Ray Walsh the other members of the committee.

Grievance

Committee:

There was nothing new to report.

Howard Polenberg reported that there may be an issue with Ian Smith. It seems there are issues with the kitchen at Lakehurst. He has been approached with a suggestion to switch his program to a twilight program. Switching his hours might be a problem with the terms and conditions of his employment.

Tom Vassallo said he will review the section of the contract concerning teaching hours.

Tom Vassallo reported that the new HIB state law states that if guidance counselor is present in building, they are mandated to act as HIB School Specialist. District may or may not offer a stipend for this position based on hours worked (after hours or during school hours).

Old Business:

An update was given on the 1.5% PERC hearing and Unfair Labor Practice filed last year. Howard received a letter that the matter was still being held in abeyance. Mike McNamara questioned if any decisions have been made that would affect our position. The OCVTEA is also unaware of the time frame for hearing the case or settling the issue. Howard Polenberg reported that he thought a decision would have been made by August 2011. Howard will call Joan Szlaga to obtain an update if any favorable decisions were made.

Howard Polenberg congratulated the Stipend team with their results. A few members weren't happy with the results. Their stipends will be reviewed for the next negotiations. Tom Vassallo reported that the amount of money that was negotiated was substantial. The discussion with the board representatives centered around addressing more stipends in the next contract negotiations. There was an additional discussion that the negotiations team needs to make sure that they review all stipends and that no contract should ever be agreed upon again without stipends being settled.

We need to review and clarify the language in the OCVTEA Constitution as to how much of the committee member's stipend can be withheld for missed meetings. As a committee we can adjust stipends without going to a general meeting (it would be a courtesy). We might attract more executive members if the stipend and pay (i.e. gas) is better.

New Business:

Motion was made by Cathy Buckley to increase all stipends by \$200.00 and institute a \$50.00 stipend for committee chairs.

Second: Tom Vassallo

Discussion followed.

Motion was made by Mike McNamara to table the motion until next meeting to

allow for more research and impact on the budget.

Lesson Plan mapping for shared time was discussed. Tom Vassallo reported that when he and Howard met with Nancy, they were adamant to get 10 hours of Professional Development credit if 10 hours of mapping are done. Lori Young has been asked to hold meetings for 1 hour once a month at each center. If the meeting starts at 2:10 PM members should only be held until 3:10 PM. We need unity and cooperation on this. As of the memo from Lori Young, Professional Development hours will be based on the lesson plan maps as documentation for their 10 hours.

Tom brought up the fact that Blood Borne Pathogens and other related in-service topics can be used as professional development hours if there is a related goal pertaining to the curriculum and Core Curriculum Content Standards written into the members' Professional Development Plan.

Tom Vassallo reported on the excellent online professional development courses available through the NJEA. Teachers can log in and register for courses. They can then spend time at their convenience and when they are done, they will receive a printed Certificate of Completion to be used for documentation in their Professional Development Plan.

Howard introduced the topic of grants available by NJEA for Pride Professional. Tom Vassallo suggested that this may be an excellent way to help subsidize the OCVTEA Car Show that supports our Philanthropic Fund. Pete Radford offered to deliver the materials to Marco Esposito for his review.

General Assembly

Meeting Calendar: Next general meeting date will be discussed at the October Executive Council meeting.

Executive Council

Meeting Calendar: Next Executive Council meeting is set for Wednesday, October 12, 2011.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Tom Rolston.

Second: Pete Radford

Meeting was adjourned at 5:23 pm.