

OCVTEA

2011 – 2012 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Toms River Center

Wednesday, October 12, 2011

Call to order: The meeting of the OCVTEA Executive Council was called to order by President Howard Polenberg at 3:11 pm.

Attending: Building / Unit Representatives Mark Lamb, Cathy Buckley, Pete Radford, Mike McNamara, Ray Walsh, Tom Rolston (by phone) and Sharon Clougher were present. Officers present were President Howard Polenberg, Vice President Tom Vassallo, Treasurer Cheryl Orr, and Acting Secretary Tiffany Seeley. Andy Dennison was in attendance at the request of the president.

Quorum was met to conduct business.

Minutes: The minutes from the September 14th meeting were read.

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Sharon Clougher.

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: Mike McNamara

Discussion: No discussion.

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. It was questioned as to how it was determined what items are sent for what occasion. Tom Vassallo stated that 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. We should ensure that we maintain consistency in what is being sent to members.

Public Relations:

No updates on website currently. More information is needed from Howard Polenberg first. A bill was submitted to Cheryl Orr for website costs.

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. Notice for the holiday party will be sent in November.

Sharon Clougher will investigate prices for holding association dinner/training meetings at Hemingways. We need a minimum of 25 members present for a quorum, since these will be held at General Meetings. NJEA will reimburse for these dinner meetings up to 65%.

Internal Affairs:

Ray Walsh stated that there was no news to report for Internal Affairs.

**Legislative
Committee:**

A new chair is needed for the Legislative Committee. Tom Vassallo suggested that with the links on the web site, there may not be much of a need. We could refer people to the web site for information and to keep members current.

Elections Committee

Chair:

Howard Polenberg discussed that there is still no chair for the Elections Committee. Tom Vassallo reminded the committee that since Tom Rolston is now a voting representative, a new Parliamentarian is needed. Tiffany Seeley was temporarily appointed by Howard as "Acting Secretary" for the September 14th meeting. She needs to be formally nominated at the next general meeting. The general membership should be made aware of these openings. It was discussed that there can be nominations from the floor at the General Meeting. There will be an effort to post openings on the website and in buildings if possible.

**Negotiations
Committee:**

Andy Dennison questioned if there was a schedule or timeline to begin negotiations. Andy Dennison stated that there was a tremendous amount of time spent on compiling information and contacting other associations to put together the stipend proposal. He suggested that the committee consider a stipend for members participating in the upcoming negotiations. Tom Vassalo stated that as president, Howard Polenberg has the power to appoint a Negotiations Coordinator. The new committee position would allow for Andy Dennison to get paid to head up negotiations without changing the bylaws.

There was a discussion that followed.

Tom Vassallo made a motion for the association to create a Negotiations coordinator position that would be paid the same stipend as building rep and would be a non-voting member present at all executive council and general meetings. The position would start immediately and last through negotiations.

Second: Mike McNamara

Discussion: There was a discussion of the motion.

Passed unanimously.

Howard Polenberg officially appointed Andy Dennison as Negotiations coordinator. The Executive Committee members unanimously approved the nominee.

**Constitutional
Committee:**

Tom Vassallo stated that no meeting was held.

**Grievance
Committee:**

There was nothing new to report.

Old Business:

Andy Dennison says that we should review other schools' contracts and compare those contracts to ours. Tom Rolston and Andy Dennison agreed to begin reading contracts and language.

It was suggested that members list their concerns with the current contract. It was discussed that the NJEA can develop a survey that would cover all aspects of all educational areas. Surveys also need to be distributed to general membership to collect data. The negotiations team will follow up on this.

The Executive moved back to discuss the Treasurer's Report and Proposed 2011-2012 Budget in more detail. Cheryl Orr stated that there would be an increase from \$16,150.00 to \$20,550 in order to support increased stipends for positions.

However, the budget doesn't currently allow for this increase. Closer examination reveals that expenditures indicated in the budget are not always used. It was suggested to possibly re-adjust some of those areas in the budget. Questions arose about the past practice of allowing for money in certain areas "just in case" we might need it. Treasurer Cheryl Orr stated that she will look more closely at the budget for continued discussion at the November Executive Committee meeting.

It was suggested to increase the dinner / meeting /workshop budget from \$1500.00 to \$2000.00 to allow for the NJEA dinner/training meetings.

Due to the approval of the Negotiations Coordinator, there must be an additional stipend added to the budget as well.

It was discussed that the budget has to be discussed at an executive meeting and then presented and voted on at the first general meeting. It was suggested to revisit the budget by email. It needs to be completed so that we can have the budget for consideration at the general meeting.

It was also discussed the the motion to increase stipends should remain tabled at this time.

The OCVTS administration came up with a new liaison meeting form to use. The current contract states that a copy of liaison minutes should be sent to Howard Polenberg and Bill Hoey. Tom Vassallo said that OCVTEA liaison committees should be using the old forms. The present forms are supplied by building reps and will be emailed to all new building reps by Howard Polenberg.

With regards to the 1.5% Unfair Labor Practice and the PERC hearing, the lawyer says there is nothing new to report. It was suggested that we directly contact the NJEA attorney and get updated information. Mike McNamara will write a letter to Joan Szlaga requesting more information and copy that to the lawyer.

Cheryl Orr reported that all new member forms had been received except for two.

New Business:

Howard Polenberg reviewed his nominations for the Negotiations Team. Tom Vassallo suggested that he email proposed negotiations committee members to confirm that they are interested in serving on committee. Therefore, the Executive Committee will only have to do one vote in approving the team.

There was a discussion of the new "HIB specialist" position now required by law. There was also a discussion of the board-approved stipend. It was reported that the stipend is dependent on each center's size and potential of issues but was left open for reexamination.

Howard Polenberg and Tom Vassalo will speak with administrators about the “Do Now” activity for HIB at their Administrative Liaison Meeting later this month.

General Assembly

Meeting Calendar: The next general meeting date was set for October 26th at 3:00. Howard will see if Tom Pernal's room is available.

Some possible dates for future general meetings were tentatively selected. Those dates are January 25th; March 28th and May 23rd.

Executive Council

Meeting Calendar: The next Executive Council meeting is set for Tuesday, November 8, 2011.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Tom Vassallo.

Second: Ray Walsh

Meeting was adjourned at 5:23 pm.