

OCVTEA

2011 – 2012 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Toms River Center

Tuesday, November 8, 2011

Call to order: The meeting of the OCVTEA Executive Council was called to order by President Howard Polenberg at 3:13 pm.

Attending: Building / Unit Representatives Cathy Buckley, Pete Radford, Mike McNamara, Ray Walsh, Tom Rolston, Gerald Luchs 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 October 12th meeting were read.
A motion to accept the minutes was made by Cathy Buckley.

Second: Ray Walsh

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 as read was made by Tom Vassallo.

Second: Tom Rolston

Discussion: Cheryl Orr stated that she discovered that the OCVTEA Philanthropic fund basically didn't increase due to clerical errors by the past treasurer. She is working to correct the account balances. The Philanthropic Account was not included in the report.

Passed unanimously.

**Standing
Committees:**

**Membership
Committee:**

Cheryl Orr gave an updated membership report. 195 members are reported; one more expected in the next couple of days.

Sunshine Report:

Howard Polenberg read the Sunshine Report. Howard explained his conversation with Mary Bernyk concerning how we determine which members receive which type of gift. A discussion followed concerning whether or not we should adjust purchases to save money and be consistent.

Tom Vassallo made a motion to create guidelines for Sunshine committee.

Second: Sharon Clougher

Passed unanimously.

Public Relations:

Tom Vassallo updated the website. All information is on the website and up to date (minutes, events, etc.). If members have questions they will be able to find anything they need. Tom Vassallo asked that building reps share this website with the members at their buildings.

If anyone has anything going on at their buildings or pictures, they can be posted on the website. Ask members to send it to Tom Vassallo by email.

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 was emailed and flyers will be sent to buildings.

Sharon Clougher did some research on possible locations for our general dinner/meeting in January:

Capone's was \$21.00 + tax and gratuity; problem parking; little to no choice
Problem with Hemingway's is that they are only open Thursday-Sunday
Artisan's was \$18.95 + tax and gratuity; room that accommodates 60 people;
better choices

We need a minimum of 25 members present. NJEA will reimburse up to 60%, but we need 60 day notification. Must be a 2 hour affair (minimum). Sharon will try for January 25, 26, or 27. Sharon Clougher will confirm prices and dates.

Internal Affairs: Ray Walsh reported there is no news.

Legislative

Committee: Information on website (2 new links) can be accessed by all members, which could mean that we don't need a legislative committee. Ray Walsh asked for discussion and thought on maintaining the committee. Tom Vassallo suggested that they could address the issue when suggesting updates when the Constitution committee meets.

Elections Committee

Chair: Tom Vassallo researched the by-laws and stated that it is not necessary for Howard to appoint an Elections Committee chair until March. We will revisit the topic in February.

A new Parliamentarian is needed. This is a non-voting position. Open positions will be posted on website and at buildings.

Tiffany Seeley was temporarily appointed as acting secretary at the September 14th meeting. She has been fulfilling all of the Secretary's duties since September and will be formally nominated at the next general meeting.

Negotiations

Committee: Andy Dennison was not present. The Negotiations Committee will consist of Howard Polenberg, Ray Walsh, Sharon Clougher, Andy Dennison, Adam Sprague, Tom Rolston, and Dave Werner.

A motion to accept the nominees for the Negotiations Committee was made by Tom Vassallo.

Second: Mike McNamara.

Discussion followed.

There was a motion to close discussion and move to a vote by Cathy Buckley. Seconded by Tom Rolston.

Passed unanimously.

**Constitutional
Committee:**

Tom Vassallo converted constitution to electronic version and emailed to Ray Walsh and Sharon Clougher for review and will set up a future meeting.

Grievance

Committee: There was nothing new to report.

Old Business:

Joan Szlaga suggested that we bring our concerns about the 1.5% Unfair Labor Practice to the board for negotiating. The lawyer from PERC said we could wait and see what happens with our pending claim, attempt to negotiate a settlement or wait until more decisions come down before we push ahead with the claim.

Mike McNamara reported that members were paying 0.5 %, and due to the new statute are now paying 1.5 %. In discussion it was suggested that perhaps we could meet the board half way (1.0%). Mike McNamara suggested that it might put us in a good position with PERC since we made an attempt to settle the dispute.

Tom Vassallo suggested that maybe our lawyer could draft a letter to the board's lawyer stating that we would like to negotiate the 1.5%.

Tom Vassallo made a motion that the NJEA attorney contact the board attorney to negotiate a settlement of the 1.5%.

Second: Tom Rolston

Discussion: Ray Walsh says that the board may come to us and say that the state told us we were too late. Mike McNamara said the question came to which contract was considered current -the old one that was in effect until June 30th or the new one that was signed by May 22, 2011. The new contract did not go into effect until July 1st so the 1.5% kicks in. The attorney for the Board of Education agreed with OCVTEA at the PERC hearing. This comes down to a problem with statutory language.

Motion passed unanimously.

Tom Vassallo spoke with Joan about getting negotiations surveys. She stated that she had already spoken to Howard Polenberg about the issue. Building reps should be asking general membership about issues they have. They should focus less on money and more on contract language.

We presently have liaisons at every building. Tom Vassallo will be modifying the old liaison form to match the administrator's liaison form. Even if there are no issues at a meeting the form must state as such and a memo must be sent to Bill Hoey and copied to Howard Polenberg.

Discussion to change stipend for offices held by association members remained **TABLED**.

Lesson Plan/Curriculum Mapping: Lori Young was supposed to be putting together a schedule of dates she will come to your center. Howard Polenberg

says he has not seen a schedule as of yet.

At administrative liaison meeting, Tom Vassallo and Howard Polenberg were told that they were concerned that members were being “strong-armed” by building reps to leave after one hour. Since some will not need one whole hour but will still be given one hour of professional development, allow members to take as long as they need or want.

New Business:

We need to pursue professional development opportunities with NJEA.

If teachers write their PDP properly, they can use state mandated training toward PDP. At the Administrative Liaison meeting, Tom Vassallo asked when teachers should be completing these state mandated training sessions. He was told that it should be done during prep periods.

Tom Vassallo made a motion to approve up to two members to attend the Winter Leadership Conference South from 1/27-1/28 with expenditures not to exceed \$340.00.

Seconded: Ray Walsh.

Passed unanimously.

Howard reported that we received a PRIDE grant that can be dispersed to activities that promote our association through or during district activities.

Howard Polenberg reported that up to three members may attend the OCCEA December Rep Council at no cost to the association. Ray Walsh, Howard Polenberg and Cathy Buckley expressed interest in attending.

General Assembly

Meeting Calendar: Possible future dates January 25th; March 28th; May 23rd

Executive Council

Meeting Calendar: Tentative dates were set for future Executive Council meeting dates. The dates are December 14th, January 11th, February 8th, March 14th, April 11th (to be amended at the next meeting), May 9th and June 13th .

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Tom Rolston.

Second: Ray Walsh

Meeting was adjourned at 5:23 pm.