

**OCVTEA  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

November 16, 2010

Toms River Center

**Call to Order:** The meeting of the OCVTEA General membership was called to order at 3:40pm by President Howard Polenberg.

**Officers in Attendance:** Howard Polenberg, President  
Tom Vassallo, Vice President  
Alicia Carney, Secretary

**Reading of Minutes:** Alicia read the minutes of the previous meeting .  
Motion to Accept: Ray Walsh  
Second: Cathy Buckley  
Minutes were accepted unanimously as read.

**Treasurer's Report:** Due to the current vacancy in the treasurer's office, Howard Polenberg presented the treasurer's report. Howard was assisted by Betty Walford to assemble the report. Howard reported on NJEA reimbursement process. Report contained all entries for the general fund as well as the OCVTEA Philanthropic Fund.  
Motion to Accept: Laurie O'Donnell  
Second: Tom Pernal  
Treasury report was accepted unanimously.

**Membership Report:** Howard presented the updated numbers reported by Gerri Fritz from the board office. As of November 10, we have 210 members.

**Standing Committee Reports**

**Public Relations Committee:** Tom Vassallo spoke about how he is trying to go around to each of the centers and talked about the email accounts for the new website. Passwords and usernames will be distributed by each building representative. The lists will be distributed at the December Executive Council meeting. Should members experience any password problems they should contact Tom Vassallo. All meeting minutes and information from the executive council and all General meeting minutes will be posted on the site. Any important dates and events will be listed on the website as well.

**Legislative Committee:** Colleen Gordon spoke about NJEA's support and endorsement of John Adler for the House of Representatives. The importance of getting out the vote was discussed as well.

**Social Graces Committee:** Sharon Clougher reported about the upcoming OCVTEA holiday party at Hemmingway's on Friday, December 3. All members are encouraged to attend.

**Internal Affairs Committee:** Catherine Ferrara had no new information to report.

**Professional Development Committee:** Howard reported that we are trying to develop this committee to take advantage of professional development offered by the NJEA. Eileen Verde has volunteered to chair the committee and has some members who are interested at this time.

**Constitutional Committee:** Tom Vassallo explained that this committee will research and suggest changes to the bylaws. The committee is chaired by Ray Walsh, Sharon Clougher and Tom Vassallo.

**Elections/Nominating Committee:** Howard is asking for a volunteer to chair this committee.

**Old Business:** **1.5% Health Care "Contribution"** - Tina Held presented information questioning whether the 1.5 percent should be coming out of our paychecks. Tina asked whether we should be getting a legal opinion from the NJEA. Ocean County Uniserv Representative Joan Szlaga thanked Tina for her research. Joan stated that once you are in the ratified stage, the contract is considered closed and the memorandum of agreement states we would pay the 1.5% if it became law. Discussion followed. Joan asked Tina to frame a question so that she may obtain a free legal opinion from NJEA attorneys to review the wording in the memorandum of agreement. Tina requested a clarification of the timing of the vote and implementation of the law to our contract. Vice President Tom Vassallo requested a motion to ask the NJEA for a legal opinion on this issue.

Motion: Tina Held

Second: Dave Werner

The motion passed unanimously.

Tina Held volunteered to compose the questions for Joan Szlaga.

**Stipends**-Howard has distributed a survey to find out how many hours people are putting into their activity or clubs. Joan Szlaga spoke about how Manchester and Brick formed a committee of members to study stipends to determine how many kids are involved in an activity, looked at duties and responsibilities, and hours involved. Joan recommends that we look at other Vocational Technical schools to see what they do and then compare them to ours. Tom Vassallo and Howard Polenberg proposed to the membership the possibility of developing a stipend

rate. The rates would be based on an "Advisor" rate and a "Club" rate. Members would be approved at that rate but not to exceed a total dollar amount that would also be approved. Members would submit monthly time sheets. This would also allow members to be paid for the hours they have worked, when they work them. Tom also pointed out that members must also be prepared to stop performing their duties when they have reached their total dollar amount. This information will be presented to Andy Dennison and Tom Lanagan, co-chairs of the Stipend Committee.

**New Business:**

Howard asked for consideration of a special election for the vacancy in the Office of Treasurer.

Mike Clarke, had previously accepted a nomination for the office. Nominations were opened to the floor. There were no new nominations from the floor. Due to only one nominee, the vote was done by acclamation.

Mike Clarke was elected as Treasurer unanimously by all members present.

Howard introduced the OCVTEA's Parliamentarian, Tom Rolston. Tom was nominated by Howard and approved by the Executive Council at the November Executive Council meeting.

Howard explained that the NJEA video presentation "Honoring our Past, Imagining Our Future" to be shown at another time due to time constraints.

**Good of the Order:**

Pete Jewell raised some concerns about RealTime grading based on student attendance. Short discussion followed.

**Adjournment:**

There was a motion and a second to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 pm. The meeting was adjourned.