

PTE17 – COPPEA Chapter

Monthly General Membership Meeting

8/2/16

- Union Rep Report:
 - Steward Training: New Steward Training coming up. Probably Oct/Nov. Details will follow soon. We'll be doing some recruitment for new Stewards.
 - Meeting with Ted Wheeler: Met with the Mayor elect, Ted Wheeler, to start discussions/meeting during transition period. He seemed open to our ideas and concerns. Amy connected his assistant with King County to discuss how their Labor Relations is set up.
 - Union Meetings with Bureau Directors: Parks, Water, BES
 - Parks Director Abbate and New Deputy Director: Deputy Director is interested in working with COPPEA, sounds open to flexible arrangements during Portland building renovations, and is interested in LMC.
 - Water and BES meetings: Meetings with Mike Stuhr and Michael Jordan are coming up.
 - Have concerns that should be brought to the Directors' attention or want to attend a meeting? Let Amy know.
 - File Room Cleanup: The officers and Amy spent the July Officers' meeting cleaning up the COPPEA file room. There is still a little more to do and we need to give PDF boxes to HR, but we made good progress. A lot of paper was recycled. Confidential information sent to shredder. Amy took files to be retained to Seattle HQ. Gerry mentioned the room keys belong to the Water Bureau.
 - LMBC: On its one month summer hiatus. Meetings are 2nd Tuesday of the month at 1:30pm. At September meeting, LMBC members will start discussing plan design changes for next year.
 - PBOT's Bureau Advisory Committee: The Director, Leah Treat, is reorganizing PBOT's BAC. She would like to see a more diverse group. Reminder that there has to be a labor representative. Ruthanne Bennett has applied to be on the Committee for COPPEA/PTE17.
 - Community involvement: Parks BAC (Budget Advisory Committee, in this case) has lots of community involvement because it accepts everyone. This used to be true for PBOT, but Leah wants membership to be a little different with overarching goal of equity.
 - Standardizing BACs: Should BACs and Council Member involvement in BACs be standardized across bureaus? Some council members come to a couple meetings, some come to all.
 - Fix Our Streets Gas Tax Committee: Will meet quarterly. Elliot has applied for this committee. The union decided that it would be better for it not to be a PBOT employee so that there is a level of independence.
 - Ice Cream Social: We had good turnout at the July 13th ice cream social held in lieu of the July meeting. We had probably 30+ members come, including some new faces.
 - Bargaining soon:
 - Personal emails: We would like to have personal email addresses for members so that they can be used for bargaining communication. Email addresses are kept confidential, not even Amy sees them.
 - September Monthly Meeting: We will likely start talking about plans for Bargaining at the September membership meeting. Officers will begin this discussion at the August Officers' meeting in preparation for September meeting.
 - Bargaining Team: Likely about 7 members. Number was agreed to by the City.
 - Surveys: Expect at least one survey to come out about priorities in bargaining.
 - LMBC vs bargaining: Discussion about how plan costs vs plan design is handled in the two different capacities.

- Ballot Initiatives Report and PERS:
 - Ballot Initiatives: None of the anti-worker ballot initiatives qualified for the Nov election. A few reasons were suggested: Trump's effect on the election cycle is unknown, the ballot titles were not what the initiative proponents would have liked to have seen, and conservative groups are putting their money toward fighting measure 97.
 - PERS ruling will mean an increase in the employer liability. We'll probably hear more soon.
- Plans for COPPEA Funds:
 - Since COPPEA joined PTE17, the funds have been used for legal needs, officer time that isn't paid by the City, and as emergency fund for time during trial period with PTE17 and while there were concerns about union rights nation- and state-wide.
 - Members have expressed a desire to see the fund used.
 - Restrictions:
 - Can't be used for political activity.
 - Use may be limited depending on what was in the COPPEA restrictions for use of dues (write-up around 2010 or 2011)
 - Suggestions for use and other comments:
 - Needs to be fair.
 - Emergency Fund (If left as an emergency fund, maybe we should put it in something that is still safe but earns more, e.g., CD or mutual fund.)
 - T-shirts
 - Social events
 - Pizza at membership meetings (only reaches people who can come to a downtown meeting in the noon hour)
 - Nicer food at trainings
 - Maybe we can build a Continuity Plan. This will be pursued. Who wants to be on the Committee for designing this?