

PTE 17 – COPPEA Chapter

Monthly General Membership Meeting

11/1/16

- **Chapter Elections**
 - Election Chair: Rachel Whiteside appointed Jamie Wilde election chair.
 - Chapter Secretary: Sarah Spotts (Water) was the only person nominated, so she will continue to serve as Secretary for 2017.
 - REC: 4 spots were available plus alternates. Terms start January 1st.
 - Nominations for REC delegates: Katharine Enriques (BTS), Brian Ventura (BTS), Sarah Spotts (Water), and Lizbeth Dance (BDS). All elected.
 - Nominations for REC alternates: Kylie Thompson (PBOT) and Parish Burns (BDS). Both elected.
 - Reminder about purpose of REC and what service entails:
 - REC is the governing body for PTE 17; makes decisions for large union on items such as budget, confirming Executive Director, etc.
 - Representatives are from all chapters and the number of delegates per chapter is based on size of chapter; current COPPEA delegates are on the COPPEA website
 - Meets twice a year, in the spring and fall, typically on a Saturday morning
 - Past meetings have been held in the Seattle area, but they are considering other locations.
 - PTE 17 pays for travel and lodging (as needed) and provides breakfast and lunch
 - PTE 17 Elections: Please remember to vote for PTE 17 President. Ballots were sent to the home address on file. Votes are due to Seattle by Nov 14th. The whole union membership votes on the executive committee.
- **Bargaining Updates**
 - First meeting of the bargaining team is next week (11/9).
 - Contact the bargaining team with any questions or concerns. The primary team and alternates were announced at the October meeting. (See notes on COPPEA website.)
 - Survey
 - Survey response was outstanding! 45% of all members. And BDS, Water, and Parks had over 50%!
 - Survey analysis isn't complete and the bargaining teams hasn't had a chance to discuss. However, wages, benefit, and vacation leave were the top three issues.
 - Feedback on Survey: definitions would be helpful (example: premium pay)
 - We may have more information at the December meeting.
 - Please give PTE 17 your personal email address for bargaining communication.
- **Union Rep Report** (Amy)
 - Amy introduced PTE 17 staff who were in attendance.

- Amy Bowles is our rep. She is based in Seattle and typically in Portland two days/week.
 - Elliot Levin is the Research Director and Legislative Advocate. He also serves as Amy's backup as needed. Elliot is based in Portland.
 - Deidre Girard is the PTE 17 Communications Director, and she is based in Seattle. She puts together a lot of the PTE 17 publications like Insight and sends some of the broadcast emails.
 - If you have ideas for articles, please get in touch with Deidre. These can be things we do outside of work or interesting work projects.
 - Portland Building Renovation discussion
 - PTE 17 would like to have a representative on the design committee because this work affects a lot of our members. Fred Miller, who is in charge of the project, has said no. We are still working on this though and talking with Tom Rinehart, who is the incoming OMF Director.
 - When there is a change to our working conditions, we have the right to bargain.
 - One of the things they are looking at is shared spaces.
 - BTS has telecommuting options; they aren't great now but they are working on it. And they have lots of ideas about remote access solutions, but no funding to move them forward.
 - Ted Wheeler says that mobile working is a priority for him.
 - Everyone will be out of the Portland Building by the end of next year, and the moves will likely start next summer. Places to move are still being identified.
 - Paul Cone has stepped into the OMF-LMC as the Labor Co-Chair. Brian Ventura stepped down from the LMC.
 - Grievances:
 - One in BES at Step 2, Amy is the rep.
 - One in PBOT at Step 2, Elliot is the rep.
- **Steward Recruitment**
 - We need Stewards!!
 - Especially in PBOT (Kylie Thompson just joined as a Steward – yay!). Large membership in PBOT, but only 3 Stewards.
 - Would also like to see more in the 1900 Building.
 - Satellite locations also need stewards, e.g., Treatment Plant, Maintenance, etc.
 - Only qualification is to be off probation.
- **Other**
 - Communication with managers should be strengthened. Maybe some training for managers and members? Amy is available for mediation.
 - Trust Training Success in BTS. This is a Stephen Covey product. The BTS LMC suggested this, and BTS has made it a priority. About 200 people are going through the training. It is 1 day for most employees and 2 days for managers. Brian and Paul went through the 2-day training.
 - BES is considering the training
 - Deidre noted that this BTS success could make a great story. Please share with her other success stories.