

PTE Local 17 – City of Portland Chapter

Monthly General Membership Meeting

10/3/17

- **Introductions** – Meeting began with a round of introductions.
- **Union Rep Report**
 - COLA increases – members should have seen the increases in their last paycheck. Check your new pay rate and the retro COLA you received to make sure it is correct.
 - Planners – SAP didn't get programmed soon enough, so members in the planner series will have only seen the COLA increases and not the bargained increases.
 - The City calculations are a little strange for the new rates, and there are points along the steps that are off by a few pennies. However, any loss at a lower step is made up for at higher steps.
 - Professional Development Fund (PDF) – funds are available now that the contract has been ratified. We have more funds to distribute than in the last contract. However, the per person limit remains at \$1,500. This means more people will be able to use the PDF. The forms are available online.
 - Preventive Care Initiative –
 - If you haven't had a check-up/wellness exam/preventive exam since January 2016, you must get your check up before the end of the year, so that your premium remains unchanged. We are aware that doctors are booked out many weeks in advance.
 - Appointment for Kaiser – call membership services 1-800-813-2000
 - Moda help with a preventive care appointment – call 1-855-466-6340 or email cityadvocate@modahealth.com to talk with a member advocate. Request a preventive, wellness, or checkup appointment with your primary care physician.
 - If you are seeing a new doctor and they are saying you need a new patient appointment before your wellness visit, either schedule both or find a new doctor that will see you for a wellness visit.
 - Letters received
 - Notification was sent from the City about the program and notice that we are part of the program. There was a HIPAA release in the letter. Questions arose about the release and Rachel to follow up with Cathy Bless since the release sent out to members is not the one that was shared with Rachel.
 - Kaiser and Moda sent out letters letting members know whether or not they met the standard. At least some Kaiser letters were distributed via their online portal and notification of the letter was sent by email. If you did not receive a letter or you disagree with whether you met the standard:
 - Moda: call 1-855-466-6340 or email cityadvocate@modahealth.com
 - Kaiser: email citywellness@kp.org
 - Q&A sessions are being held (currently scheduled at the Water Pollution Control Lab and the Columbia Blvd Treatment Center. PTE 17 has requested the City hold

more of these particularly downtown so that members can get their questions answered.

- Janus vs AFSCME – The Supreme Court agreed to hear the case.
 - A Janus win would impact current union security and could lead to an effect similar to “right to work” states for all public employees.
 - It is unclear if people would have to be represented if they aren’t dues paying members.
- Union Busting
 - Freedom Foundation (funded by the Koch brothers and made up of high paid lawyers and researchers with the goal of dismantling unions) is trying to get information about LiUNA’s members that work at the City.
- **Legislature**
 - PERS reform may be worked on in the short session.
- **Elections**
 - Elections will be done through the Local with every chapter on the same timeline. (The Local will serve as the elections chair.)
 - For the Portland Chapter: all officer positions, 4 REC delegates, and 1 REC alternate are up for election.
 - REC is the Regional Executive Committee and is the governing body for the union. Meetings are held twice a year usually in the Seattle/Tacoma area.
 - Current delegates: Ruthanne Bennett, Paul Cone, Liz Dance, Katharine Enriques, Raphael Haou, Andrew Neuman (position ends 2017), Priscilla Partch (position ends 2017), Sarah Spotts, and Brian Ventura.
 - Current Alternate: Parish Burns.
 - Current Vacancies: Gerry Verhoef’s (retired), Jamie Wilde (appointed to the executive board), and Kylie Thompson (resigned as an alternate)
- **Rumor Mill**
 - BES is doing some reorganization of how they do their CIP work to streamline the process.
 - Working conditions discussed as they relate to the new seating/spaces.
 - Telecommuting – Better policies need to be in place and telecommuting needs to be encouraged. The Planning and Sustainability is considering adopting policies that encourage other options besides SOV travel, so the City needs to be the leader in developing options for telecommuting.
- **Next member meeting:** 1900 Bld, Room 7a at noon on 11/7/17.