

## **PTE LOCAL 17 SEATTLE CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2018**

### **Officers Present**

Denise Krownbell, President  
Mary Davis, Vice President  
Darren Wilson, Treasurer  
Joe Steinmeyer, Secretary

Denise called the meeting to order at 12:00pm, with 62 members present. More members arrived after the meeting began. Attendees introduced themselves, including Local 17 Union Representatives Amy Bowles and Ray Sugarman. Minutes from the previous meeting, 7/12/18, were approved as written by unanimous voice vote.

### **Officers Reports**

Denise mentioned an email sent to members from the Local which detailed efforts by the Freedom Foundation and other organizations to persuade union members to opt out of their union, and provided information on how to respond to such contact.

Results from the contract negotiations survey are being compiled, and meetings are scheduled in the coming days to relay the results to members. Denise encouraged members to attend, and to consider becoming part of the contract bargaining team. Nominations to the team will be accepted through August 16<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested should email Amy, and cc their Rep and Denise.

### **Representatives Reports**

Amy spoke about the rally being planned by the Coalition of City Unions to kick off negotiations at City Hall, and urged members to attend. The purpose of the rally is to show the city that we are organized, in solidarity, and are to be taken seriously. A petition will be circulated among members prior to kick off, and will be presented to the Mayor's office at that time.

Amy was asked about buttons, stickers, and other items to show their membership in Local 17. She will consult with staff about providing such.

Ray talked about the wage methodology to be used in determining salary schedules for the new contract. Ray heads the coalition sub-committee on wage methodology. The coalition has submitted a comprehensive proposal to the city, and a response to their counter-proposal.

### **New Business**

John LeCompte and Timothy Lowry have been working with other Local 17 members to create a proposal to address systemic workplace culture issues around bullying, retaliation, a demoralized workforce, and inefficiencies at the City of Seattle. They presented their plan to the meeting, and received a resounding yes vote to move forward and submit it to the membership at large. Members will receive an email detailing the plan, and an opportunity to vote whether or not to proceed. Information sessions will also be scheduled.

Ulysses Hillard spoke about a letter SPU sent to employees which misconstrued the opt out provisions for new hires. Amy is looking into the origins and intent of the letter, and has voiced her concerns to SDHR.

### **Old Business**

Denise and Darren spoke about the recent REC meeting at which delegates voted to remove the Local's Executive Director. There have also been changes to the Executive Board, due to two resignations. Hossein Barahimi was selected as President, Sean Simmons as Vice President, Mary Davis and Jessica Garcia remain as Trustees, and Sarah Spotts and Cindy Watanabe-Mezs were appointed as Trustees.

There was member discussion about the effects of the Janus decision rendered by the Supreme Court, and the union's responsibility to non-members.

Denise adjourned the meeting at 1:00pm.

Minutes by Joe Steinmeyer