

MINUTES
APEA/AFT SUPERVISORY UNIT
ANNUAL MEETING
June 26, 2015
NOON

John White welcomed all attendees and asked them all to please use the sign-in sheet at each office or send email attendance confirmation. He announced the aggressive agenda and interesting topics to be discussed and that there would be time for a question/answer session at the end of the meeting.

I. Approval of the Agenda

Cris Sanders-Porter motioned to approve the Agenda and Jef Morgan seconded. None opposed.

II. Approval of Minutes

Cris Sanders-Porter motioned to approve the Minutes of the last annual meeting and Jef Morgan seconded. None opposed.

III. President & Secretary/Treasurer's Report

John White summarized the busy year. He announced the several staff changes at APEA and thanked the SU members and the APEA staff for working hard and becoming involved during the legislature's attack on State employees. It was necessary to step it up and that is exactly what we did. He appreciated how all the unions joined together in force to make sure the State contracts were honored.

John White also gave the financial report by explaining the Local's finances and investments were good. The audit went well and the internal controls that are in place are also good.

IV. Chapter Reports

Northern Region: Walter Evans expressed thanks to the APEA/AFT Fairbanks Field Office staff of Michael Koskie, May Green and Al Agee who are all a great support to the SU Northern Region's efforts. He said the focus in Fairbanks has been community outreach; getting their name out there is important. The trainings in Girdwood, where Union 101 and Introduction to Grievances were taught, were well-attended as was the AFT Public Employees Convention in Denver.

South Central Region: Cris Sanders-Porter said she has noticed increased participation in her region. There are new employee representatives in agencies that didn't have one. They are getting the necessary employee rep. training and learning how to become more involved in their union.

Southeast Region: Jef Morgan said he also had more employee representatives getting involved. He mentioned how they need to spread out amongst the different agencies to cover each work location. He is proud of the community outreach efforts taking place in Southeast. Labor Day barbeque is big and the upcoming 4th of July parade where some union brothers and sisters will be showing their union pride. He thanked APEA staff and is *especially* grateful to Glendia Malaby (Administrative Assistant) for so much hard work that she does.

John White also mentioned the food van contributions. Getting our name out there to the community that State workers are your neighbors, friends, coaches etc. is very important. We need to wave our flag.

V. Old Business

None.

VI. New Business

President Election Results: John White ran unopposed.

Introduction of New Business Manager: Southeast Regional Manager, Pete Ford, was selected and promoted.

Proposed Operating Budget: John White explained there were not any significant changes.

Jef Morgan motioned to approve the budget and Cris Sanders-Porter seconded. John White explained that the meeting attendees were seeing the budget for the first time as it is in hard-copy format only. The Budget passed.

Scholarship Program: John White announced this program will continue with \$1,000 scholarships going to 20 College Freshman who are children of active SU members.

Negotiations: John White and Pete Ford discussed the process and the timelines of the upcoming negotiations. Preparation begins now. It will be a tedious process. We must look for value in the things that are important to the members that don't cost money. Will be having trainings and creating member surveys to solicit input. Bill Diebels asked if a COLA would be included but John White said at this time that is unknown. Flex-Plan time is a value that should be included in the next contract.

VII. Committee Reports

Communication: Byron Walther announced that his committee of one is fine but that if anyone is interested in helping him to please let him know. The email address is local4900@gmail.com.

By-Laws: No by-law changes.

Health/Training: Dennis Geary said we had high hopes under Walker, but the Governor has appointed some people to his Administration team who are making questionable decisions on their own. No change in health insurance premiums except there will be a decrease of \$25 per month. Fran Rabago discussed the SU LMC Training. There will be 10-15 minute online training modules which will also be available to the CEA who paid 10% of the cost so their membership could access it as well. She heard that the presentation called "Fierce Communication" was good.

John White said the SU membership is at about 2,300. He also mentioned the SU Catastrophic leave bank and how fortunate the members are to have it available for serious illness and other catastrophic events.

VIII. Staff Reports

Business Staff Report: Pete Ford announced the vacancies within APEA. There are two Field Rep. positions vacant in Anchorage due to Jennifer Nicoletto leaving and Fran Rabago retiring. There are also two Field Rep. positions to hire in Juneau due to Pete promoting to Business Manager and Geoff Bacon leaving at the end of July to advance his education. Pete announced there is a good pool of candidates to interview and hopes to have all positions filled by the end of summer. He announced that Peggy Wilcox has recently resigned and that the SAPO position is partially funded by AFT is also open. Communication is a top priority and the Newsletter will be reinstated and also posted on the website. The website needs to be more user-friendly. Regarding negotiations, Pete has started a list and asks that SU members begin emailing their wish lists. The negotiators haven't changed. They will begin to develop the proposals based on input.

Regional Reports, Political Updates:

Anchorage: Fran Rabago said that anything she would get should now be sent to Dennis. The Troopers Class Study that the Union requested was recently completed.

Fairbanks: May Green has been involved in an Employee Rep. search and associated training. Community outreach includes the July 11 Union Day at the Park and a Rally with the theme of "People Over Politics" because of the recent legislative attacks.

Juneau: Pete described the recent turn of events with the legislature as a "victory" for the Supervisory Unit. After being ambushed back in April and funding for the contract being endangered, Pete thanked all the SU members who stayed on top of the legislators to honor the 3rd year of their contract. He announced further that there would be fewer layoffs than expected as well. As far as negotiations go, the discussion will be "services" instead of "fat" on the budget. He appreciates that Governor Walker did keep his word on honoring contracts and believes that the SU membership flexing their muscles definitely worked and must continue. Dennis reemphasized that we are in an "interim lull" and that the same legislators will be back next year. He believes emails will be scrutinized. We need cell phone numbers and home email addresses.

IX. Good of the Membership

Question/Answer:

Bill Diebels agrees that Newsletters are great! He stated however that a paper version is a waste of money and that email would be more effective. Pete explained the first newsletter will be a hard copy mailed and will cost about \$3,000 to all APEA members. We will look to going electronic. John White suggested offering an opt-out box on the mailed copy in lieu of their home email address.

Future furloughs were brought up. Pete said if the need arises will address it with a specific LOA.

X. Adjournment

John White thanked everybody for participating in today's meeting. Pete reminded everybody to include their home email addresses on the sign-in sheet and the meeting adjourned.