

# OPEIU Local 8 Chapter Meeting Minutes

Chapter meeting location: Seattle - Downtown Date: Wednesday, May 6, 2015

The Chapter was called to order at: 6:05 p.m. By: Cindy Schu

Initiation of New Members: 15 Members took the oath of membership!

Nomination and election of Chapter Chair:

Nominee(s): n/a

Elected: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominations and election of Chapter Chair-Elect:

Nominee(s): n/a

Elected: \_\_\_\_\_

Officer Roll Call as follows: Chair: Robin Ledbetter - absent

Chair Elect: Sarah Bright - absent

Executive Board Member(s)/Officers: Kathi Scott, Cindy Schu,

Trustees: Joan Weiss and Jim O'Connor

Staff: Corinne Cosentino and Valarie Peaphon

No. of Members in Attendance 28

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and: approved

## **REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS**

Joan reported about the Seattle Skills Center – creating pathways to future careers, 60 high school students will be at the Seattle Labor Temple the next week to learn about apprenticeship programs and union jobs. Mike from Seattle Housing Authority (SHA) talked about previous contract negotiations with SHA and the details of settlement. The new Labor Relations representative at SHA is trying to intimidate Shop Stewards – the Union is working on how to improve labor/management relations. Annalisa asked about the MLK County Labor

Council's position on Shell drilling. It was confirmed by a Local 8 Delegate that the outcome was "Yes" to support the drilling because it will generate jobs and isn't harmful to the environment.

## **REPORTS OF DELEGATES AND COMMITTEES**

Political Action Committee (PAC): currently considering endorsing candidates in the Seattle City Council race. We have (2) Local 8 members running in District 5. PAC is also looking at changing the meetings to the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month. Everyone is invited to join PAC and attend meetings! Elections to serve as Local 8 Delegates to County Labor Councils (CLCs) around the State are held at each Assembly. Please consider participating.

Shop Steward Committee: meeting soon to plan activities for the rest of the year.

## **REPORTS FROM OFFICERS AND STAFF**

Everyone is encouraged to attend our statewide Membership Assembly in Arlington this September and to make donations to PAC – no union dues are spent on political candidates.

Valarie reported on contract negotiations with Consejo. The Union is optimistic but economics still need to be addressed.

Please let the Union know of any social service employees that may want a Union.

We are still in contract bargaining with Group Health. Members recently rejected GH's contract offer by over 96%! We go back to the bargaining table on May 12. Outstanding issues include closing the defined benefit pension, compensation and medical leave.

Local 8 and Local 23 continue to finalize plans for OPEIU Local 23 to merge into Local 8. An election by Local 23 Members is underway now.

The Local 8 budget looks better than expected for this time of the year.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BOARD APPROVAL**

None

The meeting was adjourned at: 6:45 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Valarie Peaphon