

OPEIU Local 8 Chapter Meeting Minutes

Chapter meeting location: Tukwila Date: July 16, 2011

The Chapter was called to order at: 10:10 a.m. By: Valancy Blackwell

Initiation of New Members: Greg Smilonich and Belinda Nelson

Nomination and election of Chapter Chair:

Nominee(s): n/a

Elected: n/a

Nominations and election of Chapter Chair-Elect:

Nominee(s): n/a

Elected: n/a

Officer Roll Call as follows: Chair: Daphne Becker – absent

Chair Elect: Shaunie Saelee – present

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

Blackwell, Ruthie Catrell and Cindy Schu

Staff: _____

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and: approved

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS AND STAFF

Cindy Schu: there will be a new model for Membership/Chapter Meetings – to increase participation. Local 8 is financial stable. Hoping to build on our Hardship Fund and hopefully secure support from our International. There is a huge contract fight in Easter Washington – Community Health Clinic workers. The Local 8 Executive Board has voted to give strike sanction and an option will be a strike at the end of August. We're willing to give the Employer

concessions – the Union is strong.

There are 19 Shop Stewards and 5 other Members who have volunteered to ask Members about Chapter Meetings and what would make them want to attend meetings – called the “Shop Steward Survey Crew.”

Kathi Scott: reminded us that the Assembly is in September in Arlington. In Chapter Meetings, motions can be brought forward to be addressed at the Assembly. Assemblies are twice a year.

PAC Auction at the next Assembly: we’re always looking for donations. Please contact Corinne Cosentino, PAC Chair. Local 8 wants to make PAC more active. If you are interested, we ask for a minimum donation of \$8 per month.

Valancy Blackwell: will be helping by kicking-off the MLK CLC BBQ.

REPORTS OF DELEGATES AND COMMITTEES

None.

REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS

Annaliza Torres talked about the Washington State Labor Council COPE Convention in early August and if anyone wants to attend as a guest to please come.

Carol Rozumalski reported on the budget crisis at the Seattle Housing Authority. SHA asked Local 8 Members to make concessions like taking 10 furlough days, give up this year’s COLA increase and/or contribute \$40 month towards medical. SHA is trying to limit layoffs – no guarantees. Local 8 and the Building Trades Union at SHA are having a meeting on Monday

for feedback on how to respond to SHA. You are welcome to email ideas to Union
Representative Valarie Peaphon. Annaliza added that SHA has money – they choose to try and
save money from Labor when management makes about double. It's similar to the federal
budget crisis – they preserve corporate values first.

Kathi Scott talked about the budget crisis at IBEW Local 46 where the Rep staff is now
working 32 hours per week. As a way to mitigate the loss in hours, the Staff has filed for “work
share” through Employment Security.

Cindy Schu remarked that 2/3's of the employees at SHA are Union and that's where the
power lies. At Group Health – where there are several Unions representing the employees,
when there are economic times like this the Unions unite and bargain together.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BOARD APPROVAL

None.

The meeting was adjourned at: 10:45 a.m.

Minutes submitted by: Shaunie Saelee