

OPEIU Local 8 Chapter Meeting Minutes

Chapter meeting location: Shoreline Date: Wednesday, November 19, 2014

The Chapter was called to order at: 6:00 p.m. By: Rosalinda Aguirre

Initiation of New Members: _____

Nomination and election of Chapter Chair:

Nominee(s): Celia Martinez

Elected: Celia Martinez

Nominations and election of Chapter Chair-Elect:

Nominee(s): Ukilia Thomas

Elected: Ukilia Thomas

Officer Roll Call as follows: Chair: present

Chair Elect: present

Executive Board Member(s)/Officers: Rosalinda Aguirre

Staff: Suzanne Mode

No. of Members in Attendance 16

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and: approved

REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS

Seattle Housing Authority has a ratified Contract! Compensation changes were "kicked down the road" until the next contract bargain in 2016. New performance evaluations are being discussed. Contract improvements include flexible schedules – on a limited basis. Workload issues continue to be a problem. Our Members are analyzing SHA's "Stepping Forward"

program. Continued housing will depend on increasing rents as earned income increases. A pilot program has been funded to place 300 clients on the proposed program.

Group Health Contract negotiations begin in January.

Welfare and Pension Administration is preventing flexing because of their new payroll system.

LIHI's annual fundraiser was very successful! Orientation of new employees often occurs long after someone is hired – it needs to be more timely.

The Worker Center reported that a lot of layoffs are still happening – despite the improved economy, so many are unemployed more than 20 months.

It's open-enrollment for the Affordable care Act.

REPORTS OF DELEGATES AND COMMITTEES

Local 8's PAC was very busy this year. No Union dues are used for political work or support of candidates. Hardship Fund fundraising is always looking for new ideas to raise money.

The Shop Steward Committee will be holding a call-in training to learn more about disability rights and accommodations.

The Diversity Committee has found great success in engaging more Members to understand their Contract and Union rights when the Sea Mar Contract was translated into Spanish earlier this year. New Member Packets will also be translated. They want to hold a workshop on how to run a meeting, public speaking and how to recruit union activity on-the-job.

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS AND STAFF

Suzanne reported on 3 new bargaining units joining OPEIU Local 8: Northwest Immigrant Rights Project (NWIRP), Massage Bar and Plymouth Housing Group. GHC and PRMCE Contracts are both open in 2015. TCCH Members are taking a strike vote in early December.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BOARD APPROVAL

Invite SHA Members and representatives of the Tenant's Union to educate the Executive Board about the SHA "Stepping Forward" program with the intent of having OPEIU write a letter to SHA asking for information about the program and voicing our concerns – not taking a position to support it or not since our Members are undecided at this point in time.

The meeting was adjourned at: 7:45 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Suzanne Mode

opeiu#8/afl-cio