



Check out www.opeiu8.org for the most up-to-date calendar!

All events are via Zoom
Registration for each event
will begin one month prior to event.

Sat., January 22
Membership Assembly
10:00 am - mid-afternoon

Thur., February 10
New Shop Steward Training
6:00 - 7:30 pm

Sat., February 26
Central Regional Meeting
New Member Orientation:
9:00 - 9:30 am
Meeting: 9:30 - 11:00 am

Sat., March 12
Shop Steward Training
9:30 - 11:00 am

Sat., March 26
North Regional Meeting
New Member Orientation:
9:00 - 9:30 am
Meeting: 9:30 - 11:00 am

Sat., April 23
**Shop Steward/Leadership
Conference**
9:30 am

OPEIU Local 8 by phone:

206-441-8880
800-600-2433

Membership Assembly

Saturday, January 22, 2022 10:00 am – mid-afternoon

Join by Zoom. Register online or with Sally@opeiu8.org

Official Local 8 union business is conducted and decided by members at two Membership Assemblies held on the fourth Saturday of January and September each year. All members are welcome.

Agenda

- Nominations and election of all Local 8 Officers and Regional Executive Board Members
- Nominations and election of two (2) Trustees
- Nominations and election of any vacant Central Labor Council positions
- Review and vote of the 2022 Local 8 operating budget
- Meetings of the Shop Steward; Race, Equity and Social Justice; Political Action; Communications and Public Sector Organizing committees
- Review for approval of any new Union business
- Membership reports and announcements

Notice of 2022 OPEIU Local 8 Nominations and Elections

In accordance with Article 14 of Local 8's Bylaws, this is formal notification that nominations and elections will take place at the January 22, 2022 Membership Assembly. The Local 8 Constitution and Bylaws, which describes the duties and responsibilities for each position, can be found on the Local 8 website at www.opeiu8.org under "About Us." You can also call the Local 8 office at 1-800-600-2433 to request a copy. The Bylaws explain in detail the election process. Here are the open positions:

- Nominations and election of an Election Committee of seven (7) members and seven (7) alternates to serve a three-year term
- Nominations and election of all vacant Central Labor Council positions to serve a one-year term
- Nominations and election of two (2) Trustees to serve a three-year term
- Nominations for Business Manager, President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, Recording Secretary and twenty-one (21) Regional Executive Board Members and twenty-one (21) alternates to serve a three-year term

The twenty-one (21) Regional Executive Board Members shall be nominated and elected only by those members who reside in the same region as the Regional Executive Board Member nominees. The President, Vice-President, Business Manager, Secretary-Treasurer, Recording Secretary and Trustees are

continued on page 2

Executive Board

Kellie McGuire
President

John Adams
Vice President

Suzanne Mode
Business Manager

Cynthia Schu
Secretary-Treasurer

Shannon Mains
Recording Secretary

Anthony Forte
Central

Sara Jimenez-Orozco
Central

David Olivera
Central

Shana McCann
Central

Elizabeth Maass
North

Paul Bender
South/West

Elaine Carlson
South/West

Becky Mowry
South/West

Karen White
South/West

Barb Cameron
East

Rick Nesbitt
East

Robin Sullivan
East

Trustees

David Evans
Trustee

Lois Jamieson
Trustee

Joan Weiss
Trustee

The Journey to Form a Union, Obtain a Fair Contract, and Have a Real Voice On-The-Job

New Local 8 members at Crisis Connections continue the hard but important work of negotiating their first union contract! Unionization at Crisis Connections has been a journey, but workers never wavered in their shared commitment to pursue a better future for the agency and its employees. Members have remained focused on improving their work environment, the quality of services they deliver, and ensuring their employer operates in a manner that is consistent and transparent. They have embodied solidarity in action through writing letters to the CEO, wearing union buttons, and holding strong on critical proposals.

“I’m thankful the Union has given many of us hope at Crisis Connections. Hope for a better and more livable future! We no longer have to look away, accept powerlessness, or submit to resignation. This moment is dedicated to the development and sustenance of workers’ power and that feels good!”

—**Geoffrey Mattens**



continued from page 1

at-large positions and voted on by the entire Local 8 Membership. The four Regions and how the 21 positions are distributed are as follows in accordance with the formula defined in Section 1(c) of Article 14 of the Local 8 Constitution and Bylaws.

NORTH REGION: Whatcom, Skagit, Snohomish, San Juan and Island Counties shall nominate and elect four (4)

CENTRAL REGION: Martin Luther King Jr. County shall nominate and elect seven (7)

SOUTH/WEST: Clallam, Jefferson, Kitsap, Mason, Grays Harbor, Thurston, Pierce, Pacific, Lewis, Cowlitz, Wahkiakum, Clark and Skamania Counties shall nominate and elect six (6)

EAST REGION: All other Washington State counties shall nominate and elect four (4)

Members who reside outside of Washington State shall be included in the four (4) Regions as follows: Members who reside in Hood River County, Oregon and all Oregon counties west shall be part of the South/West Region. Members who reside in Oregon counties east of Hood River County, Idaho and all other states shall be part of the East Region.

ELIGIBILITY: Members must be in continuous good standing for at least twelve (12) months prior to an election for any Officer or Trustee position. Members must be in continuous good standing for at least six (6) months prior to serving in a delegate position.

NOMINATION PROCESS: Nominees must be in attendance at the Membership Assembly on January 22 or declare in writing their willingness to accept the nomination. Written declaration must be provided before the close of nominations and must be in the form of a hard copy email or other written material that clearly

continued on page 3

Cornish & Forterra Workers

Vote to Join Local 8

On December 1st the staff at **Cornish College of the Arts** voted overwhelmingly to form their union with OPEIU Local 8. Their election result has been hard-fought after multiple delays due to a hearing and appeal to the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) by their employer since they filed for their vote in May 2021.



Left to right: Kaitlyn Vallance, Rachel Brinn and Julie Jones

The group of 42 student support, administrative, IT and facilities staff in Seattle are dedicated to supporting Cornish’s mission of providing a quality arts-based undergraduate education. They sought to unionize to improve working conditions, increase transparency and have a chance to participate in decision-making that directly impacts the lives of staff and students. “I am so proud of the work that has gone into securing our victory today,” says Department Coordinator Rachel Brinn. “This will empower the staff to continue to do the important work of fulfilling Cornish’s mission to its students and the community.”

Just a week later on December 8, votes were counted for local environmental nonprofit **Forterra NW**’s union election, and they too elected overwhelmingly to join OPEIU Local 8. “I’m excited for all we will be able to do for Forterra staff members and our community now that our union is in place,” said Maya Klem, Green Cities Project Manager. “Thanks to all of you who have been a part of organizing our union — this is a huge win for all of us!”

Originating as a land conservancy in 1989, Forterra NW today works around Washington State to create a more sustainable future through conservation, restoration, community-based partnerships and innovation. Local 8 represents members at many nonprofit organizations, but Forterra is the first to join with an environmental focus.



Forterra workers meeting the way they organized: virtually.

continued from page 2

identifies the nominee and includes a date. Text messages from an electronic device will not be accepted. Self-nominations are allowed. Nominations do not need a second.

ELECTION: Elections for Delegate and Election Board positions will take place at the January 22 Membership Assembly. The election process for Officers and Regional Executive Board Members will be by mail ballot in accordance with the OPEIU Local 8 Election Policies and Procedures and with the Local 8 Constitution and Bylaws. Both documents are available on the Local 8 website (www.opeiu8.org) or by contacting the Local 8 office at 1-800-600-2433 ext. 101. Ballots will be tallied for the General Election on Monday, February 28, at a time decided by the Election Committee.

Staff

Suzanne Mode

Business Manager

Corinne Cosentino

Organizing Director

Nallely Flores

Organizer

Erin Adamson

Union Representative

Diane Arnold

Union Representative

Phoebe Feldsher

Union Representative

Ida Kovacic

Union Representative

Leslie Liddle

Union Representative

Shelby Mooney

Union Representative

Valarie Peaphon

Union Representative

Patrick Pedersen

Union Representative

Tara Powell

Union Representative

Angie Wedekind

Union Representative

Mike Maloney

Office Manager

Libby Alejandro

Administrative Secretary

Joan De Leon

Bookkeeper

Lynn Brown

Billing/Dues Clerk

Richard Cox

Membership Database/

Dues Posting

Sally Mitchell

Graphics Specialist/Secretary



OPEIU Local 8, 2900 Eastlake Ave. E. #220, Seattle, WA 98102-3012

Address Service Requested



RESJ Potluck Brings Members Together

On Saturday, October 9th, OPEIU LOCAL 8's Race, Equity and Social Justice (RESJ) Committee held a Unity Potluck in Tacoma. After being isolated from each other for so long during the pandemic and only "seeing" each other via virtual platforms, it felt great to be able to safely gather outside (with masks and hand sanitizer a-plenty!). There was a lot of food, great conversation, a social justice themed book exchange, raffle drawings with union giveaways, music, yard games, art projects, and most importantly the opportunity for members to meet and mingle.



Coreale Forrest, Kaiser Permanente



Stephen Stott, Crisis Connections

RESJ decided on a potluck because we are representative of diversity and democracy. We are all about celebrating community and relying on the different contributions of all involved. This event created the space for us to socialize, share information, try different foods, meet new members, and really cultivate a culture of support and belonging.

America, and the labor movement, is built on the unique contributions of people with different identities, and from different geographic regions and backgrounds. Our strength lies not only in our unity, but also in our diversity. While so many things are used to divide and separate us, Local 8 helps us connect.