

CWA Local 7750 Retired Members Chapter

Minutes for Meeting of October 6, 2008

The meeting was held at the Union Hall and was opened by president, Bruce Smith. The president, vice president and secretary were in attendance as were twelve members. Our treasurer, Glenda Williams, now has a full time job and has resigned. The treasurer's report was submitted by the president and secretary

A buffet lunch was served.

Bruce introduced our two guests – Lorraine Miller, President of District 7 CWA RMC and Judy Fries, Vice President of District 7 CWA RMC.

The July minutes were read. No additions or corrections were made. Gloria Jenkins made a motion to accept the minutes and Arnie Schenck seconded. Motion passed.

Officer Reports

President – Bruce Smith - Since Glenda Williams resignation had resigned as treasurer, an audit of the books was done by the president and secretary. Everything was found to be in order and our account balanced.

National Bargaining Surveys were e-mailed to all members we had addresses for. The response was VERY poor. Obama stickers and pins are available here if anyone wants any.

Vice President – Steve Hedges – Steve passed out copies of the list of bargaining demands his committee had received. The trouble retirees are having between Kaiser and AT&T were briefly discussed. AT&T Health Benefits are contracted out and the contractors are not familiar with our benefits. They are used to SBC and keep confusing the two. Contractors should not be allowed to handle our benefits if they cannot become familiar with them.

Dental coverage only pays about 25% of “customary and reasonable” charges. It was pointed out that we never know what “customary and reasonable” charges are because no one will tell us. Judy Fries said “Preferred” dentists in the network can give better rates. Unfortunately, there isn't always coverage in many areas. Steve passed out copies of difference in rates offered by a company that gives Union members discounts in the Denver area. The company is Bright Now. He also reminded us that companies had PAID positions to deny claims. It is us to us to remain diligent.

Steve reminded us that retirees cannot participate in contract negotiations. The Local must do it for us.

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Are there any activities members would like to participate in? Judy Fries (District 7 V.P.) mentioned that Cedar Rapids members do a bus trip to a mall for Christmas and also have a Community Service Committee (Health & Wellness) to assist older members who need help. Lorraine Miller (District 7 Pres.) said their CWA RMC local does a Christmas Party and a summer picnic. The RMC will provide meat and beverages and everyone brings a dish.

John Smrekar suggested we might organize a bus trip to Blackhawk. We discussed how to get more members to attend the meetings. A suggestion was made that we offer a door prize at each meeting. Kay Kautz suggested a gift certificate might be good.

Steve also discussed the state of the economy. The Stock Market was down another 500 points this morning. Retirees that took the cash buyout and severance pay in monthly payments may be especially feeling the pinch right now.

It was mentioned we can get many discounts through Union Plus. See web site <http://www.unionprivilege.org/>.

Treasurer's Report – Bruce Smith in absence of a treasurer – Copies of corrected Financial Reports had been passed out to members. These just had to be adjusted to agree with the actual numbers on the books. The reports had to be corrected back to the first one dated 4/30/07 to 6/18/07 through the one dated 4/1/08 to 9/24/08. Bruce pointed out our existing balance is \$4812.83 and that agrees with the bank. There were five reports in total. Arnie Schenck made a motion to accept the corrected reports and John Smrekar seconded. Motion passed.

The corrected report as of this meeting is:

Income

Membership Dues	\$49.00
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Total Income	\$49.00
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Expenses

Bank Charges	\$ 40.00
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CWA Convention	580.72
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CWA RMC National Dues	25.00
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Lunch – April	38.07
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Lunch – July	51.21
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Total Expenses	\$735.00
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Balance Forward	\$5498.83
Income	<u>49.00</u>
Total	\$ 5547.83
Less Expenses	<u>735.00</u>
Balance	\$ 4812.83

Secretary – Kay Kautz – Assisted Bruce with the auditing of the books. Have been forwarding all e-mails received regarding Union. Made two updates in the membership data base. Copies of the postcard to be sent to the National about the Health Care and the Employee Free Choice Act were made available to those at the meeting.

Old Business

Bruce – Bonding of E-board. The bonding is for three years and will cost approximately \$208 based on our having less than \$7500 balance in the bank. All officers and members that handle chapter funds should be bonded. This will probably be the president and treasurer.

Has not been done because we don't have that much in our account.

Our Election Committee will consist of George Winogrodzki, Mary Drobnitch, Gloria Jenkins, Leo Rousselle, Kenny Steggs and Karen Ugolini. Kris Stein had volunteered, but will be running for Secretary in 2009 so was disqualified.

Volunteers are needed for President, Vice President, Treasurer (Dennis Weide has volunteered) and Secretary (Kris Stein has volunteered). The committee will be putting together the ballot and sending it out to all members. It was felt we did not need to put a stamp on the return envelopes, especially since we don't get that many back and the postage is wasted. We will just include a self-addressed envelope inside with the ballot.

Kris Stein had asked about the duties of the President and Secretary. Kay read the duties as described in the by-laws.

New Business

John Smrekar made a motion to thank Bruce and Kay for their work with the finances. George Winogrodzki seconded. Motion passed.

Arnie Schenck made a motion to accept Dennis Weide as treasurer to complete Glenda's term. Ken Steggs seconded. Motion passed. Lorraine Miller swore him in. Bruce and Dennis will go to the US Bank to change our account. Arnie

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suggested they take a copy of the minutes to verify Dennis was now our treasurer.

Bruce made mention that notices for 2009 dues will be sent out soon.

The meeting was then opened up for a question and answer period with our District 7 representatives. The Kaiser/AT&T problem was again discussed in more detail and Lorraine Miller requested more information. Kay will check and see what she still has on file and fax it to Lorraine. There was also some discussion about our contract demands and how to get them submitted.

George Wingrodzki made a motion to change the by-laws where it stated our meetings would be held on the first Monday of each quarter to read they will be held on the first Wednesday at 1:00 P.M. Kris Stein seconded. In discussion, the membership did not want the 1:00 P.M. time. George amended his motion to drop the 1:00 P.M. Nine members voted yes, three members voted no. Motion passed

At 1:55 P.M. Arnie Schenck made a motion to adjourn and John Smrekar seconded. Motion passed.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, January 7th at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted,
Kay Kautz
Secretary CWA RMC #247
<http://cwa-rmc7750.org>