



Westchester Unit 9200
 Civil Service Employees Association
 112 East Post Road
 White Plains, New York 10601

Minutes of Open Monthly Member Meeting

JANUARY 5, 2010

Karen Pecora – President

James Kelly – 1st Vice President

Edward J. Magilton – 2nd Vice President

Peter Snyder – 3rd Vice President

Judith Brome – 4th Vice President

Michael Wolf – Treasurer

Kimberly Gotzen – Secretary

Kwabena Manu – Union Representative

Junio I. Alvarado – Union Representative

- Officers in Attendance: All officers were in attendance except 1st Vice President Kelly
- Meeting was held at the CSEA Local 860 Office, 595 West Hartsdale Avenue, White Plains
- Meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by President Pecora
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Moment of silence for departed Members and family members and troops serving throughout the world

Agenda Topics for Discussion

➤ Sick Bank Balance:

The approximate balance of days currently in the Sick Bank is **5000**. The Sick Bank balance will be available on our website www.CSEA9200.com every month. In February, a letter will be sent out regarding applications for new Unit 9200 members to join the Sick Bank.

➤ Handout: Open Monthly Member Meeting Schedule For 2010

The Open Monthly Member Meetings in 2010 will be held on the first Tuesday of each month, except for November, where the meeting will be held on the second Tuesday of the month due to Election Day falling on the first Tuesday:

Tuesday, January 5, 2010	Tuesday, May 4, 2010	Tuesday, September 7, 2010
Tuesday, February 2, 2010	Tuesday, June 1, 2010	Tuesday, October 5, 2010
Tuesday, March 2, 2010	Tuesday, July 6, 2010	Tuesday, November 9, 2010
Tuesday, April 6, 2010	Tuesday, August 3, 2010	Tuesday, December 7, 2010

➤ February Meeting Location:

We have extended an invitation to County Executive Astorino to attend our next Open Monthly Member Meeting on Tuesday, February 2, 2010. In the event that he is available to attend, we anticipate having to find a larger venue to accommodate the members that would wish to speak with him. The meeting location will be announced.

➤ Signed Contract / Contract Printing

The 2006 – 2011 Contract has been signed by all parties and is ready to be printed. The contract will be available on our website shortly, and when the printed copies are available, we will be scheduling site visits for distribution.

➤ Handout: Unit 9200 Committees

In our Contract, we have approximately 20 committees that we are required to create, some of which had been stalled in getting up and running with the last County administration, and we hope that we can now get more committees active. A handout was distributed with descriptions of each committee and a sign-up sheet, which members can send to the Unit Office. Some committee meetings can be held during work hours with release time, however, we are limited on the number of release hours each year, and some committee meetings may need to be held in the evening. We are particularly looking to expand the Fundraising/Holiday Party Committee (not listed on the handout) and the Labor/Management Committees for each Department, and to reinstitute the Parking Committee.

➤ **Mileage Vouchers – How To Prepare:**

When filling out CSEA Expense Vouchers for Mileage Reimbursement (to be reimbursed for mileage when you attend Unit 9200 meetings and workshops), at the top of the form please PRINT your name; enter Unit 9200 for Region/Local/Unit Name; sign the bottom of the form and for title enter Shop Steward, Committee Member, Activist, Member, etc.; enter mileage in town or between towns (from your work location to the meeting location, and from the meeting location to your home) and total the mileage at the bottom. It is not necessary to enter times. The mileage reimbursement rate for 2010 is \$.50 per mile. Please submit vouchers approximately each quarter, or when you have filled in the Expense Voucher, **WITHIN SIX (6) MONTHS OF THE DATE OF THE EXPENSE.**

➤ **Handout: Shop Steward Workshop**

A two-part, six-hour free workshop on Shop Steward Training, to educate members on the skills that are needed to carry out the responsibilities of the Steward, including communicating, organizing and leading employees in the workplace, will be held at the Local 860 Office on **Wednesday, February 3, 2010 and Thursday, February 4, 2010** from **6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.** (includes light dinner at 5:30 P.M.). Call the Unit Office to register.

➤ **Handout: Civil Service Test Prep Course**

A Civil Service Test Prep Course, to assist in preparing for state, local government and school district civil service exams, will be held on **Saturday, February 20, 2010** from **9:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M.** (includes light breakfast at 8:30 A.M. and light lunch) at the Local 860 Office for **CSEA Members ONLY**. The fee is **\$15.00**, due in advance, and members **must pre-register and pre-pay**. Call the CSEA Work Institute at **(866) 478-5548** to register. This workshop is also available online anytime at www.csealarningcenter.org with the subject "CSTPW 860".

➤ **New Westchester County Departmental Administration:**

Some members have new or acting Commissioners. Any members that would like Unit 9200 Officers to make a site visit to their work location, please contact the Unit Office. President Pecora has met and spoken with County Executive Astorino on several occasions, and has another meeting scheduled later this month to discuss the future and CSEA working with the new County Administration. Since the new administration took office, some members' civil service status were changed from Permanent to Contingent Permanent, some members' positions were abolished but they were offered other lower grade positions in the County, and three members positions were abolished and the members were laid off, but were placed on preferred lists as per civil service rules, and any comparable position that opens up in the County will be offered to them.

➤ **Playland Family Day – Save The Date:**

The Playland Family Day event will be held on **Saturday, June 12, 2010** (rain date **Saturday, June 19, 2010**).

➤ **Grievance Representative Pins:**

Members who recently completed Grievance Representative Training were awarded pins as a symbol of their commitment to the union and service to identify them as Grievance Representatives to their co-workers.

Junio Alvarado, Unit 9200 Union Representative
Judith Brome, Unit 9200 4th Vice President
James Kelly, Unit 9200 1st Vice President
Kathryn McCoach, Social Services
Karen Pecora, Unit 9200 President

Anthony Savastano, III, Environmental Facilities
Linda Snyder, Probation
Peter Snyder, Unit 9200 3rd Vice President
Michael Wolf, Unit 9200 Treasurer

➤ **Handout: AFSCME Lobby Day**

The AFSCME Lobby Day will be held on **Monday, February 8, 2010** at the State Capitol in Albany, where members can speak with their representatives regarding labor-related issues. Transportation and lunch will be provided, but please note that you will need to use your own time to participate in this event. There will be a bus departing from the Local 860 Office at **7:30 A.M.**, and returning from Albany at 3:30 P.M. Please call CSEA Political Action Coordinator Kelley J. Johnson at **(845) 831-1000** to register.

➤ **Handout: Defensive Driving:**

A six-hour Defensive Driving classroom course at the Local 860 Office, held on one Saturday or two weeknights. The fee is **\$19.00**. Upcoming classes will be held on **Tuesday, February 9, 2010 and Wednesday, February 10, 2010**

from 6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. (includes light dinner at 5:30 P.M.) or Saturday, February 27, 2010 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM (includes light breakfast at 8:30 A.M. and light lunch). Call (800) 942-6874 to register.

➤ **2nd Vice President Magilton's Retirement**

President Pecora announced that 2nd Vice President Magilton will be retiring at the end of January, and thanked him for his years of service and dedication to the Executive Board and Unit 9200 for many years. He said that it has been an honor working for our union members, as well as with the members of the current and previous Executive Boards, and he will miss everyone.

Open Forum

Questions from Members answered by President Pecora and Unit 9200 Executive Board Members:

➤ **Do current Shop Stewards need to take a refresher workshop?**

President Pecora is requesting that any current Shop Stewards who have not taken the workshop since before 2006 take it again this year to remain appointed and in good standing.

➤ **Were the member suggestions for cost savings in the County submitted to the new County Administration?**

Yes, the member suggestions received were compiled into a master list and submitted to the Board of Legislators.

➤ **Will there be a Retirement Incentive offered by the County?**

There has been no indication or offer of a Retirement Incentive by the County or the State to date.

➤ **In the event that a furlough were imposed, would the delayed-payment time count toward retirement?**

It would, and it was not actually a cost saving measure, and that it why it was ultimately abandoned by the County.

➤ **What is the agenda of issues for AFSCME Lobby Day?**

We have not received any specific agenda information, but we will distribute information as it becomes available.

➤ **What is the status of the Uniform Issue?**

The Contract almost did not get signed because the County was trying to push us to make an agreement on a stipend amount for uniforms. We ultimately agreed that the language in the contract states that the issue has not been resolved and the current contract provisions will remain status quo until both parties agree on a resolution binding on both parties. As of today, the old uniform company which was laundering uniforms last year and whose contract supposedly had not been renewed has continued to pick up uniforms this week, so apparently their contract is still in effect. As far as we are concerned, the existing policy is still in effect.

➤ **Is the new Board of Legislators on our side in union-related issues?**

The new chair Ken Jenkins has a track record of being labor-friendly and working with CSEA and our members, and we assume that the remaining legislators which had supported us in the past will continue to support us.

➤ **Member commented that the IT Department considers former legislator George Oros as an ally to CSEA.**

Mr. Oros has always been an ally to CSEA, including standing with us at all of our Contract Rallies. We hope that in his capacity as County Executive Astorino's Chief of Staff he will continue to be an ally, and will be involved in the negotiation process for our next contract, beginning in June 2011.

➤ **What are 1st Vice President Kelly's office hours in the Unit Office?**

1st Vice President Kelly has been splitting his time working in the Unit Office and helping out at DEF while they were short handed, and does not have set office hours at the present time, but he continues to perform his duties as Union Representative, and has also been assisting members in DEF while at the sites. He is on full-time release as per our contract, and it is our hope that he will be able to return to the Unit Office full-time soon. Members in the Departments which he represents can contact him or the Unit Office to make an appointment to see him.

➤ Is there any truth to the rumor that 1st Vice President Kelly intends to resign?

This would just be a rumor, as 1st Vice President Kelly has not informed President Pecora of any intention to resign.

➤ Will current members have to contribute Sick Days to the Sick Bank in February?

Active Sick Bank members will need to contribute one (1) Sick Day on **February 1, 2010** to remain in the Sick Bank as per the Sick Bank rules. New members joining the Sick Bank (who have never been members of the Sick Bank in the past) will need to contribute two (2) Sick Days. Previous members of the Sick Bank would need to have contributed five (5) Sick Days to bring them current as of the end of 2009, plus the additional day in February 2010 to re-join.

➤ What feedback has been received about the Unit 9200 Holiday Party?

There were 635 members and guests attending the Unit 9200 Holiday Party on December 12, 2009, up from 512 attending the party last year. Overall, the members attending the party had a good time. There were some issues with available restrooms and bar staff available, which were rectified during the party; there were some complaints about the types of music played by the band and the size of the dance floor; and there was an issue with the valet parking. We are in the process of getting pricing from the County Center for next year to accommodate the large number of members and guests interested in attending, and welcome suggestions for other large venues.

➤ What is the status of the Modified Work Week Petition?

This is an issue we are looking forward to working with County Executive Astorino and the new County Administration on, and he has said that while a Modified Work Week does not provide any savings to the County, he is not opposed to it. County Executive Astorino has been invited to our next Open Monthly Member Meeting on **February 2, 2010** to address the members, and we are awaiting his response.

Officer's Reports

No Officer's Reports.

Old Business

No old business discussed.

New Business

- Next Open Monthly Member Meeting: Date: [TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2010](#)
Location: [To Be Announced](#)
Time: [5:30 P.M. Light Dinner / 6:00 P.M. Meeting](#)

Adjournment

- Raffle for a CSEA Unit 9200 Jacket was won by **Mary Edgar-Herrera** from **Senior Programs & Services**.
- Raffle for a CSEA Unit 9200 Sweatshirt was won by **John Rahmer** from **Public Works**.
- Raffle for a CSEA Unit 9200 Mouse Pad was won by **Sivadasan Nair** from **County Clerk**.
- Raffle for a CSEA Unit 9200 Mouse Pad was won by **Lily Portal** from **Health**.
- **Meeting was adjourned at 6:45 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Gotzen

Kimberly Gotzen
Secretary / Chair, Communications and Public Relations Committee / Shop Steward & Grievance Rep., Unit 9200

Handouts / Attachments

- AGENDA - OPEN MONTHLY MEMBER MEETING
- Unit 9200 – 2010 Monthly Open Membership Meetings
- Unit 9200 – Committee Descriptions and Sign-Up Form
- Unit 9200 – Shop Steward Training [February 3rd & 4th, 2010]
- Unit 9200 – Civil Service Test Prep Course [February 20, 2010]
- Local 860 – \$12,000.00 in Scholarships
- Local 860 – Grace Ann Aloisi Scholarship
- Local 860 – Defensive Driving Courses [January through June 2010]
- Local 860 – Community Action Committee
- Local 844 – Contract Negotiating Team Training [January 5th & 7th, 2010]
- Local 836 – Shop Steward Training [January 26th & 27th, 2010]
- Region 3 – NYS & CSEA Partnership for Education and Training: Skills for Success – Spring 2010 Courses
- CSEA – Stop Bashing Public Employees Over Pension Fund Woes (Danny Donohue, President)
- CSEA – The Steward Update: The Hazards of Doing Nothing
- AFSCME – Lobby Day at the State Capitol in Albany [February 8, 2010]
- Raymond Opticians – Benefits for Westchester County CSEA Employees and Their Families
- Ronald M. Tvert and Company – Certified Public Accountants offering discount on Income Tax Preparation
- AFSCME Advantage/ UnionPlus Everyday Savings
- AFSCME Advantage/ UnionPlus Mortgage Program
- Working Advantage Union Privilege Fall 2009 Order Form

Unit 9200 Office

- The Unit 9200 Office is located at [112 East Post Road, 4th Floor, Room 428, in White Plains](#). Contact us by Telephone at [\(914\) 995-2151](tel:(914)995-2151), by Fax at [\(914\) 995-5629](tel:(914)995-5629), by E-mail at csea9200@westchestergov.com, or visit our Website at www.CSEA9200.com.