

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

Minutes of Shop Steward / Monthly Meeting
May 6, 2008

Jack McPhillips, President
Karen Pecora, 1st Vice President
Noel De La Cruz, 2nd Vice President
Edward J. Magilton, 3rd Vice President
Jim Kelly, 4th Vice President
Elio Giuliani, Treasurer
Joanne Castaldo, Secretary
Michael Wolf, Sergeant-at Arms

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President McPhillips. The meeting was held at the CSEA Local Office, 595 West Hartsdale Avenue, White Plains.

Officers in Attendance: All officers were in attendance except 4th vice President Jim Kelly and Secretary Joanne Castaldo.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of silence for past members and family members

Topics for Discussion

Shop Steward Workshop / May 20th and 21st, 2008

President McPhillips informed the members of the Shop Steward Workshop will be held at the Local on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 20th and 21st, 2008 from 6:00 p.m. through 9:00 p.m. Sign In: 5:30 p.m. A light dinner is served at 5:30 p.m.

Drivers Education Course

President McPhillips informed the members that the Defensive Driving Course scheduled for the month of May; Tuesday, May 27th & Wednesday, May 28th. The course is held at the Local and the cost is \$19.00 for the member and any family member. The schedule through June is posted on the website.

Labor/Management Workshop – June 10th, 2008

President McPhillips informed the members of the Labor/Management Workshop will be held at the Local on Tuesday, June 10th, 2008 from 6:00 p.m. through 9:00 p.m. Sign In: 5:30 p.m. A light dinner is served at 5:30 p.m.

Site Visits

President McPhillips informed the members that we are always to go the worksites to speak to our members. The members should contact the office to schedule visits when there will be a significant number of members present.

Negotiations / Mediation

President McPhillips informed the members that the Negotiations Committee will meet with the Mediator on Monday, May 19th, 2008. At that time he will review the union's proposal and prepare his recommendation to the county. If, after he submits his recommendation to the county and they disagree, we go directly to fact-finding. President McPhillips informed the members that he feels that the mediator's recommendation will lean more towards the union's proposal than the numbers from Westchester County. He reminded them that the recommendation is not binding and neither side has to agree.

Question was asked; "Are the 6's still on the table"?

President McPhillips said those were the beginning numbers and they were never realistic. We are looking between 3 and 4 ½.

Question was asked; "How long of a contract are we looking for"?

President McPhillips said since we have been without a contract for almost 2 ½ years, we are looking for at least 5 years and hopefully 6 years.

Question was asked; "Do you believe the legislative decision to not accept raises as proposed for the legislators will effect their decision, should it come to that, to approve the union's contract?"

President McPhillips said he does not think it will affect their opinion that we need and deserve a raise.

Question was asked; "At what level of contribution are other unions contributing to their health benefits"?

President McPhillips said gave the example of the state CSEA contract which they received 3%, 3%, 3% and 4%, but they pay \$10, \$20 and \$20 for drugs and the co pay is \$25. They also pay \$160 per month into their plan. The other unions that contribute range from 10% to 25% of the policy premium.

Question was asked; "Did we see the article stating the legislators were asking for a 7.5% raise?"

President McPhillips said the 7.55 raise was over 3 years, which was based on a Cost Of Living raise. We do not want a COL rise because it is not enough percentage.

Miscellaneous

Question was asked; "Is there a hiring freeze"?

1st Vice President Karen Pecora stated that on May 5, 2008 there were 22 new hires in orientation, so the answer is no. The biweekly orientations average about 20 per session.

Question was asked; "Did anyone attend the committee meeting in Yonkers for the group that wants to eliminate county government"?

President McPhillips informed the members that in reference to that committee, it is in its infant stages and he does not believe county government will ever be eliminated. He thought the committee might be successful in "scaling down" county government, but not eliminating completely.

Question was asked; "Is it possible to set up an information table in MOB1 lobby"?

President McPhillips stated that yes we could that, not only at MOB1 but at other locations also.

Officer's Reports

1st Vice President Pecora informed the members that the date for Playland is Saturday, June 28th. At the moment we have approximately 45 paid. The deadline to pay is June 24th, 2008, but 1st VP Pecora asked members not to wait until the last minute to pay. She stated that the picnic will be held whether we have 100 or 1100.

1st Vice President Pecora informed the members we were selling MS Bears at the meeting for \$5 each to help raise money for MS. The bears were on display at the head table.

1st Vice President Pecora informed the members that Fred Astaire Dance Studios, 451 E Boston Road, Mamaroneck, NY has offered 25 Unit 9200 members a one ½ hour dance lesson on Tuesday, June 3rd, 2008 immediately following the Open General Membership Monthly meeting. Anyone interested must contact Karen in the unit office.

Dick Horton asked members to assist in a fundraiser for Cystic Fibrosis – he handed out information and asked for people to walk at Playland on May 18th, 2008. Cystic Fibrosis has touched his family and he asked anyone to contribute what they can.

Mary Fitzgerald spoke about the Nutri System Weight Loss Program and explained about the meals and program. CSEA Unit 9200 members will get \$35 off the enrollment fee. She will forward more information to the unit officers for publication to the unit members.

Judith Challis, Chair of the Unit 9200 Safety and Health Committee, gave a brief report following the CSEA Statewide Safety and Health Conference that was held at Lake Placid on the weekend of April 25th, 2008. Judith, Jim Kelly, Noel De La Cruz and Karen Pecora all attended. Judith mentioned that the conference theme revolved around the new Work Place Violence Act, which CSEA was instrumental in getting into law.

Old Business

No old business discussed.

New Business

The winner of the CSEA Unit 9200 jacket was Dunia Paz from Probation.

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 11, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. light dinner / 6:00 p.m. meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Pecora
1st Vice President
Unit 9200 CSEA