



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

Minutes of Open Monthly Member Meeting

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2009

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

[Vacant] – Sergeant-at-Arms

- **Officers in Attendance:** All officers were in attendance
- 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

- Guest Speaker: Glen McCray - TriVita

Glen is an Independent Business Affiliate with TriVita, a vitamin and supplement company in business for 10 years out of Scottsdale, Arizona, and recently featured by Our Business magazine in an article on the health care crisis in America. They offer over 140 products focusing on health and wellness, and color brochures were handed out to the members. Glen has had personal success in improving his health issues using vitamin B12 supplements. Call (888) 496-9067 and use Glen's ID number found on the brochure [12509373], or visit www.trivita.com/12509373, for **20% off 2 or more items**. VitaJournals and catalogs will be sent to customers who order 2 or more items. TriVita also offers counselors for their products and general health and wellness.

- Guest Speakers: Andrew Whiting & Jack Kosinski from The Hartford Retirement Plans Group (Deferred Compensation) and Zachary Karas from Retirement Plan Advisors

The Hartford - End of year changes in payroll deductions for The Hartford Deferred Compensation must be made this year with the County Payroll Department by **November 23, 2009**. You can change your deduction specifically for the longevity paycheck on December 10, 2009, which will be in effect until the end of 2009 (temporarily stop or increase deduction). IRS contribution maximums for 2010 will remain the same at \$16,000 for members under 50, and \$22,000.00 for members over 50. Changes can be made by telephone to Andrew or Jack at (866) 429-3696, or fax the **Contribution Change Form** to (860) 392-6417. Although it is not possible to specify a specific dollar amount for deduction, the representatives will work with members to calculate an approximate amount using a percentage deduction.

Retirement Plan Advisors – The PortfolioPlus program offers members the services of registered investment advisors who will manage or make changes to diversify your assets so that you don't have to watch the market. The fee to manage your deferred compensation accounts is 0.65% per year. Managed accounts are popular because employees may not be financial experts, and may not know the best options in this market. Accounts are handled very conservatively. Zach is available by request to visit County locations and answer member questions about this program, and scheduled visits throughout the County will start in January. Members can opt into and out of this program at any time and the fees will stop. Quarterly newsletters will explain changes made to the investment funds. Information is available on their website www.retirementplanadvisors.com, or contact Zach at (860) 712-0588.

➤ **Sick Bank:**

The approximate balance of days currently in the Sick Bank is **5036**. The Sick Bank balance will be available on our website www.CSEA9200.com every month.

➤ **Unit Holiday Party – December 12, 2009:**

A new flyer for the Unit Holiday Party was distributed to the members. A combination Band and DJ has been selected for the party, which will allow for continuous dance music throughout the evening.

➤ **Local 860 Holiday Party – January 2, 2010:**

The Local 860 Holiday Party will be held on January 2, 2010. Details will be announced when they are available.

➤ **Contract Printing Update:**

President Pecora had an appointment to meet with the Law Department last week to finalize the contract, which was rescheduled after the elections. The meeting will be rescheduled as soon as possible.

➤ **2009 Election Results:**

We will have a new County Executive starting in January. We believe that he will be targeting manager level non-represented County employees first. President Pecora intends to meet with Mr. Astorino as soon as possible.

➤ **Mileage Reimbursement:**

Members are reimbursed for mileage when attending the Open Monthly Member Meetings from their work location to the meeting location, and from the meeting location to their home. Our By-Laws state that members will be reimbursed for expenses within 6 months. We are offering a grace period for expenses during the calendar year **2009** for requests submitted by the end of the year. Otherwise, as of January 1, 2010, reimbursements will only be made within 6 months of the date of the expense. Please contact the Unit Office for expense vouchers.

➤ **Personal Issues at Open Monthly Member Meeting:**

We welcome members to contact the union with any issues they may have with their work situation, however, the Open Monthly Member Meetings are primarily for general information for the entire membership, and this is not the right forum to discuss personal issues of members.

➤ **Different Locations for 2010 Open Monthly Member Meetings:**

Open Monthly Member Meetings are generally held here at the Local 860 Office in White Plains. Next year we will be implementing a pilot program by planning to have some meetings at alternate locations throughout Westchester County to better serve all of our over 3800 members. Members will have ample notification of the location of the meetings.

➤ **POMCO/One Care Street Health Survey:**

We have been in touch with County benefits regarding the Health Survey this year, and they have not given us a date as of yet. Members will be notified immediately if the County imposes the Health Survey this year.

➤ **Health Plan Changes / Flexible Spending Plans:**

November is the month in which members can make changes to their Health Plan selection, as well as register for Flexible Spending Plans for healthcare, daycare and transportation/parking costs. Please contact the **Finance Department Employee Benefits Unit** at **(914) 995-4715** for more information.

➤ **Region 3 Radio City Christmas Spectacular Trip/Fundraiser:**

Trip will be held on **Thursday, December 3, 2009**, the cost is **\$50.00** and the proceeds benefit the Region 3 Community Action /Disaster Relief Fund, which has benefited some Unit 9200 members. There are spaces available on the bus trip, and members may also be able to purchase tickets and use their own transportation.

➤ 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 to be held Saturday, January 16, 2010 from **9:00 AM to 3:00 PM** (includes light breakfast at 8:30 AM and light lunch) or Wednesday, January 27, 2010 and Thursday, January 28, 2010 from **6:00 PM to 9:00 PM** (includes light dinner at 5:30 PM). Call **(800) 942-6874** to register.

Open Forum

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

➤ Member inquired about CSEA inviting County Executive Elect Astorino to the Open Monthly Member Meeting.

It is a possibility that he would attend, and we will extend the invitation to him to do so.

➤ Members inquired if there will be an additional cost to the Unit to hold Open Monthly Member Meetings in alternate locations, and also if changing the day of the week of the meetings is an option.

President Pecora indicated that there are costs associated with holding meetings at the Local 860, and there will be no additional cost to the Unit for alternate meeting locations; and that changing the day of the week will be considered as well.

➤ Member inquired when the CSEA endorsements for local candidates were distributed to the members, and whether the process can be started earlier next year to help get information out to the members and encourage more members and their families to Get Out The Vote.

Unit 9200 created a new Political Action Committee this year, which held interviews with local candidates and contributed recommendations to the CSEA Regional and State offices which issue the endorsements, which was a step in the right direction. The process was regrettably delayed this year in getting the endorsements distributed; however, we are committed to improve this process next year.

➤ Member inquired about DSS policy regarding monitoring of telephone calls.

The union cannot take any action, or recommend what action would be taken, until such time that a member is disciplined with regard to this policy. DSS members who have any questions can contact their **Union Representative, Junio Alvarado**, in the Unit office. Members can also contact the Unit office to arrange for site visits by Officers and Mr. Alvarado to discuss member issues with this policy.

Officer's Reports

3rd Vice President Snyder – only approximately 20% of eligible voters exercised their right in the local elections which took place last week, a right which soldiers have died for. Many CSEA members wore their patches when they went out to vote, which shows our solidarity, but members are urged to encourage their friends and family to vote.

4th Vice President Brome – donated Holiday Cards to be signed by the members which will be distributed to soldiers in Fort Hood. Members can write a personal note of encouragement for soldiers and their families.

Old Business

No old business discussed.

New Business

➤ **Next Open Monthly Member Meeting:**

DATE:

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2009

LOCATION:

Local 860 Office, White Plains

TIME:

5:30 P.M. Light Dinner / 6:00 P.M. Meeting

Adjournment

- Raffle for CSEA Unit 9200 Jacket was won by **Natalie McBride** from **Labs & Research**.
- Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 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 – Holiday Party [December 12, 2009]
- Local 860 – Defensive Driving Courses [January through June 2010]
- Region 3 – Radio City Christmas Spectacular Trip [December 3, 2009]
- CSEA – What's In It For Me? - Our Unions Take On The New Health Care Proposals
- The Hartford Deferred Compensation – Contribution Changes for End of 2009 / Contribution Change Form
- Retirement Plan Advisors – PortfolioPlus Information, Newsletter, Quarterly Update and Application
- TriVita Catalog

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.