



AFT Local 6262, Part-Time Faculty United

AFT Executive Board Meeting, October 24th, 2015

Confidential

Attending: Amy Foote, Kerry Osborne, Dan Portillo, Ruth Rassool, Robert Wonser, Frank de los Reyes, Patricia Medina, and Marcia Decker (at a later time).

Item 1, Call Meeting to Order:

The AFT Executive Board Meeting was called to order at 8:37 a.m. on Saturday, October 24th, 2015 by the President, Amy Foote, in HSLH- 215.

Item 2, Approval of the Agenda:

Amy requested to move Item 4 to the position of Item 3. Frank moved to approve the agenda and Ruth seconded the motion; the agenda was approved by all and the motion carried.

Item 3, Approval of the Draft Minutes for September 19th, 2015:

An electronic copy of the draft minutes had been sent to all Executive Board members a week in advance for its proper review. Frank made the motion to approve the minutes, Ruth seconded the motion, the minutes were approved by most (one abstention); the motion carried. Kerry abstained.

Item 4, President's Report – Amy Foote:

a. Welcome any guests

Marcia Decker was welcomed by the President and Professor Wonser was introduced to her. Marcia notified the Board of the recent death of our long loved adjunct faculty (librarian) and requested to keep the information of this loss confidential. She commented the “Ask the Librarian” program had improved by concentrating on helping College of the Canyons only, rather than answering questions to anyone around the world. Marcia was assured that as negotiations proceed, there will be no precedence of classified staff over part time instructors when filling out positions; all applicants from the pool will be considered fairly.

b. El Torito success

This was the first time that the number of part time faculty exceeded the number of guests (36 over a total of 50). Even though the expenses slightly increased as compared to previous dinners, the Union received good feedback about the food variety and quality, as well as the appropriate timing to reach the buffet area because it allowed for serene conversations among guests. The Union handed out T-shirts, pins, giveaways, and a printed negotiation update; Bianca Phillipi won the Local 6262 raffle; there were three new member forms received. The President thanked the Executive Board members for their participation.

c. Building Power Program introduction

Amy handed out printed information to all members (copy attached). This is a CFT funded (\$500,000) one-year program for the purpose of strengthen the union. The program offers release time (stipend for 3 units) to do outreach membership activities, to give out information, and also to do department representation so that part time faculty is informed about important topics (i.e. union negotiations, Board of Trustees negotiations, etc.) This program's training and financial opportunity had been given to other 16 districts from which we had not been chosen. Mike Terman spoke on behalf of our Local Union explaining that we should be considered for this program because our membership was less than 50% (our current membership was 44%, 262 members and 334 fair-share). Increasing memberships is of utmost importance, as well as increase our visibility; not being backed up by membership has been one of the main reasons why Districts ignore their unions, according to CFT studies. Our union was given the opportunity to join the program when one of the Districts stepped down. In order to succeed in this program, one or two key point persons would be needed plus a few members who will be under their leadership. Amy will attend the first meeting, November 2nd; she will hand out fliers and will send out a blast email opening the invitation to all adjunct instructors to participate in this program. This project requires people from every department for new trainings in case someone leaves. This program was designed to increase membership during new orientation and to continue face to face communication, rather than using emails and placing items in mailboxes. The Executive Board agreed to move forward on this matter. Our Local will be holding a rally, as supported by CFT, in early November with the purpose of showing the visibility of adjunct faculty to support our current negotiations with the District. The Saturday rally would include a motivational speaker from CFT, an informative video, words from selected Local 6262 representatives, food, a band, and perhaps also a news representative from the Santa Clarita Valley Signal.

d. Representatives in committees – Academic Senate

Kimberly Bonfiglio from the Sociology Department, who is the Academic Senate adjunct representative, has been consistent, clear, and thorough in emailing reports from these meetings. Giana Cicchelli requested to attend meetings of the Curriculum Committee; as a reminder, the Board specified that the District had agreed to pay for this representation. At the academic Senate meeting, it was announced that 8.4 million dollars were available to College of the Canyons for

necessary spending. The Senate received 600 ideas that left an available budget of about 3.5 million dollars. On behalf of the adjunct faculty, the President of our Local 6262 will submit the following three proposals:

- Purchasing of a modular to add another office for the growing adjunct faculty community at the Canyon Country Campus
- Building a cell tower at the Canyon Country Campus to improve the highly needed cell phone reception
- Building a parking structure at the Valencia Campus

COCFA put out a “Golden Handshake” retirement proposal that will be matched by the District up to 60% for less than 10 years of service and up to 70 to 75% for more than 15 years of service.

Item 5, Report from the Vice President of Negotiations – Kerry Osborne:

a. Negotiations

Negotiations meetings are on hold until the return of Michael Wilding from his one-month vacation, therefore there had been no changes. Recent hurdles have been the District’s attempt to consider office hours as part of instruction; the parity article takes office hours out of the calculation of the teaching load, office hours are not part of instruction. Thankfully, the District accepted to place retired faculty and classified staff in the same eligibility pool as adjunct faculty, no longer will they have precedence over part time faculty. The negotiations team was anticipating going back to counter-proposing their request to have no assignment deadlines. Virtual office hours will be dropped and we will keep the one-year notification of assignments. Anything left for negotiation was to determine the specific dates for assignment notifications; having no dates would be a PERB (Public Employment Relations Board) violation to Article 6. Two more negotiation meetings will be held on November 6th and 13th.

b. Nature of the Board

Based on the inactivity in the area of General Affairs (recently changed to Social Media) in which a lack of communication with AFT members was evident by failure to post updates and news related to campaigns, active media, and negotiations on the assigned social template, a motion was placed by the Executive Board to remove Rob Collins from any role on the Executive Board effective October 1st, 2015. The motion was seconded by Ruth and it was favored by all members (0 abstentions and 0 oppositions). The recommended spokesperson for this position was Thea Alvarado.

Item 6, Report from Interim Vice President of Membership – Dan Portillo:

a. Newsletter for October

Dan will email the Executive Board for article ideas within a week. An update for the recently held El Torito dinner will also be included. He will also introduce himself to Martin Mota to receive training on email blasting to all members.

b. Membership Drive

The membership drive will begin by an email blasting to members and non-members indicating when an AFT table will be set at the Canyon Country Campus to answer questions and offer applications. Pizza and candy may also be available for faculty. This activity was scheduled to occur within the next two weeks.

Item 7, Report from Vice President of Communication – Ruth Rassool:

a. Constitution revision

Some sections of the Constitution are still pending (copy attached); they will be emailed to Kerry so that the sections may be ready by November 6th. After this, a draft will be sent to the Executive Board for review; at our next meeting (11/14), the draft will be approved by vote. The revised Constitution was scheduled to be sent to all union members for review before Thanksgiving.

Item 8, Report from Interim Vice President of Grievance – Robert Wonser:

a. New report

See closed session.

b. Meet and Greet organization of date and time

Robert is working with Dan; a report will be sent later.

Item 9, Report from Vice President of General Affairs – Rob Collins:

a. Future at COC

A motion was placed to deem Rob Collin's absence as inexcusable for failure to meet the criteria of excusable absence as set forth by the Constitution, which identifies excused absences as those caused by union business or family emergencies. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved (6 ayes).

Item 10, Report from Treasurer – Frank de los Reyes:

a. Monthly Financial Statement

See closed session.

b. Hudson Reports collect

All Executive Board members will send Frank their Hudson reports electronically.

Item 11, Report from Secretary – Patricia Medina:

a. New procedure for minutes

The goal proposed was to post the minutes on the AFT website within a week of each Board meeting; therefore, minutes need to be sent to everyone for review promptly. The Secretary will communicate with Kerry regarding uploading approved minutes to the website.

Item 12, New Business:

a. Future Board meetings

Remaining Board meetings for the year 2015 will be kept as previously posted: 11/14, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 12/06, 6 to 8 p.m. in the AFT office. The Board talked about the potential to move the monthly meetings to week afternoons, in order to set the most appropriate dates, the E-Board members will send their current afternoon and spring schedules to the President as soon as possible.

b. Organization of Schools instead of Divisions

Four of the Department Chairs of Social and Behavioral Sciences are stepping down. Ruth made the observation that this had the potential to affect assignment scheduling and therefore our adjuncts. Another aspect about this change was the opportunity for adjunct faculty to step up to Chair positions in case none of the full time faculty became Chairs. Due to the new changes in personnel and the transition from Divisions to Schools, Chairs would be expected to perform more work than usual; adjunct chairs would not be compensated, but they would receive up to 6 units of release time.

-----***Closed Session***-----

Item 1, Treasurer – Frank de los Reyes:

a. Monthly Financial Statement

Frank handed out checks to the Executive Board Members. The financial report for each account is outlined below:

Checking:	\$12,726.52
CD 270-365 Day:	\$20,331.09
CD 14-30 Day:	\$20,842.76
COPE:	<u>\$ 2,164.58</u>
TOTAL:	\$59,064.95

b. Officer Finances

No report.

Item 2, Vice President of Grievance – Robert Wonser:

a. Department A

There was a potential complain about computer programs not being available to an adjunct faculty. Robert was investigating if the IT department would be able to install these programs into the office computers. The issue was brought up to the Chair Department and the response was to deal with this by teaching the old way. The part time faculty continued to be supported by the union.

Item 3, Adjournment:

The AFT Local 6262 Executive Board meeting of October 24th, 2015 was adjourned at 11:15 a.m. by the President's motion and seconded by Ruth Rassool.