

AFT Local 6262 - Executive Board Meeting

Location: Zoom

July 27, 2024

Attendees: Dan Portillo, Aaron Silverman, Jessica Small, Kelly Spillman, Frank de los Reyes, and Pete Virgadamo

Absent: John Francis [excused absence] Anthony Clayton [joined us later in the Open Session]

Guests: 6

Dan Portillo, the president of AFT Local 6262, began the Open Session of our meeting at 1:06 pm. After the agenda was amended and approved, Dan welcomed our guests, none of whom brought up any issues.

Dan Portillo – spoke about the Adjunct Advisory Council

- he was contacted by VP Omar Torres
- the Council is a forum where adjuncts and administrators can meet and discuss issues
- Ruth Rassool and Cian have attended these meetings
- this a collaborative format without the usual antagonistic environment
- both are willing to take part in these small group discussions
- Dan added that at this point there is no compensation

Pete Virgadamo – asked when and where do they meet?

- Ruth Rassool said the meet on Friday by Zoom
- Dan concluded his report with the comment that Omar is really reaching out to him a lot

Aaron Silverman - Vice President of Negotiations

- spoke about the upcoming contract negotiations which will begin in the Fall semester
- they have been delayed a bit when the head of HR was on vacation for 3 weeks
- our negotiating team will soon meet to discuss their strategy with the 3 year offer
- we do not want to get locked into such a long term contract

Kelly Spillman - Vice President of Grievances [deferred her report to the Closed Session]

Jessica Small - Vice President of Membership [deferred her report to the Closed Session]

Anthony Clayton - Vice President of Member Action [arrived later]

John Francis - Vice President of Outreach [excused absence]

- John sent in his report, which was read by President Dan Portillo
- the Minutes and the website are updated
- he has installed the new AFT membership application form on our website
- the new tab for the profiles of the Board members is under construction
- plus he met with Jessica in the transition of giving some of her duties to him
- also he has updated the details on 31 adjuncts

Discussion

- at this point adjunct Donna Robert initiated a discussion about dual-enrollment classes
- in which adjunct faculty teach college courses to high school students on their campus
- she stated that she is not going to do that anymore
- and talked to Omar Torres about problems in the program
- her belief is that high school students are not prepared for that level of academic commitment
- and that it should not be expanded to 9th grade students

Aaron Silverman – joined the discussion on dual-enrollment issues

- he has contacted COC about the problems in this program
- including the idea of extra compensation for adjuncts due to the additional work required when on high school campuses
- he also mentioned that the full-time faculty do not participate in this program

Donna - continued her comments on this program

- saying that she had even met with Dr. Van Hook before her retirement
- and complained that the goal of this program does not seem to be academic

- but simply about dollars and putting more students in seats

Anthony Clayton – also joined in this discussion

- he is probably the adjunct who has taught the longest in this program
- in his opinion, 9th and 10th graders are probably too young
- for our dual-enrollment courses
- Dan concluded this discussion by saying that fewer and fewer adjunct faculty
- are interested in teaching in this program

Ruth Rassool – asked about the status of the AFT scholarships

- will there be a ceremony for the winners and have the checks been sent out?
- Dan said he has contacted all the winners
- who were very happy about the news
- there will be no ceremony this year
- and the \$500 checks have been mailed to the winners

Pete Virgadamo – Secretary

- deferred most of his report to the Closed Session
- saying that the minutes are up to date
- and that the Social Event will be held on the second or third Thursday of September.

After Pete's report, President Dan Portillo and the members of the Executive Board thanked Jessica Small for her years of excellent work as Vice President of Membership and wished her well on her new career. Dan adjourned our meeting at 1:30 pm and stated that the Executive Board will not meet in August. Our next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, September 14th at 1 pm.