

AFT Local 6262 - Executive Board Meeting

Location: Zoom

November 23, 2024

Attendees: Dan Portillo, Aaron Silverman, John Francis, Frank de los Reyes and
Pete Virgadamo

Absent: Kelly Spillman and Anthony Clayton [joined us later in the Closed Session]

Guests: Jen Ortiz and Mercedes Mc Donald

Dan Portillo, the president of AFT Local 6262, started the meeting by welcoming our guests. The Open Session began at 12:04 pm, with the agenda being amended and approved with Kelly Spillman and Anthony Clayton being absent.

Dan spoke about the problem with TLC hours at CCC:

- he mentioned the problem to Omar Torres and to James of distant learning
- they are aware of the issue but do not consider it a serious problem
- they will however, look into it

Pete Virgadamo explained the issue in detail:

- his History 111 class at CCC begins at 6:30 pm
- but the TLC closes at 4 pm
- making it impossible for his accommodation students
- to take their exams at the TLC
-

Aaron Silverman said students should complain to the administration

- COC will not incur the extra expense
- of extended hours for the TLC at CCC

Dan stated that there is no demand

- unless students explain their concerns
- in a joint letter or email

Aaron Silverman, the Vice President of Negotiations:

- before he gave us an update on our contract negotiations
- he focused on the recent article in the Signal
- about an audit that uncovered \$12 million in contract fraud
over the past 20 years at COC
- apparently there is a loophole that repairs for under \$25,000
do not have to go to bid
- this is money stolen from the faculty and staff
- and given to no-bid contractors
- he was very critical of COC's connections to contractors

- the new Trustees benefitted from those contracts
- this is money wasted and points to a culture of collusion and corruption
- and results in low adjunct pay
- it involved the chancellor and the contractors
- in particular the 2016 bond for construction of a new tech center at CCC
- plus Van Hook is now suing COC for ‘unlawful termination’

Pete asked if there were any criminal proceedings about this fraud?

Aaron replied – not to my knowledge

Jen Ortiz – asked can anyone run for the Board of Trustees?

Aaron’s reply – yes, and the new people on the Board have no knowledge of how to run the college

John - stated that he will put the *Signal* article on the AFT website

Aaron then returned to an update on negotiations:

- they have started the IBB training sessions
- the second one is scheduled and there will be a third one
- then we can move onto negotiations
- he explained that IBB is a more collaborative style of bargaining

Kelly Spillman – Vice President of Grievances [absent]

Anthony Clayton – Vice President of Membership Action [absent]

John Francis -Vice President of Outreach

- spoke about the Newsletter and how it is growing
- he continues to work with Aaron on the “Know Your Contract” series
- he is getting lots of positive feedback on this part of the Newsletter
- also there is good progress on the profiles of the members of our Executive Board
- 5 of the 7 have been completed
- he needs 1 more picture and 2 more with data
- this will be a good way for adjuncts to contact Board members
- when he gets more of the Board’s information, he will finish construction and upload it
- also, he sent out the non-credit survey this morning

and will send follow-up emails

John next spoke about the recent Town Hall meeting

- he had sent out email blasts for this event
- also for details on negotiations

Dan said that negotiations are coming up:

- this is the time to join our union
- we should use negotiation updates to gain new members
- and remind them that only new members can vote on the contract

Frank added that the more members we have, the stronger we are as a union and at the bargaining table.

Pete Virgadamo – Secretary [deferred his report to the Closed Session]

The Open Session of our meeting ended at 12:34 pm and at that point the Board discussed the date of our next meeting. We decided not to meet in December, so the next meeting of the Executive Board of AFT Local 6262 will be on January 25th at 1 pm.