

AFT Local 6262 - Executive Board Meeting

Location: Zoom

January 25, 2025

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

Absent: None

Guests: 5 adjunct faculty

Dan Portillo, the president of AFT Local 6262, started the Open Session of our meeting at 1:02 pm. After the agenda was amended and approved, Dan welcomed our guests and opened the meeting to their comments.

Carol Stevenson – asked about the adjunct salary schedule

- she stated that there was some uncertainty about the process of advances
- she is on her 6th semester of teaching and is on Step 3
- her problem led to an extensive discussion
- adjunct instructor Ally Loprete, who is in her 7th semester
- joined the discussion

Aaron Silverman – commented at length about the situation

- he encouraged Carol to file a grievance against HR
- in theory she should be at Step 4
- saying that there is confusion at HR
- because COC interprets Appendix 1 in our contract
- differently than the adjuncts and AFT
- Ally stated that she had contacted Payroll and got no satisfaction
- Anthony Clayton added that he has seen this before and it can be confusing
- Dan concluded the discussion by saying that he would be happy to file a grievance on your behalf

Dan Portillo – deferred his report to the Closed Session

Aaron Silverman - Vice President of Negotiations:

- then gave an update on our contract negotiations
- talks started in mid-January
- with the new IBD approach to negotiations
- this is a lengthy process that leads to extensive discussions
- compounded by the fact that Rian Medlin, the VP of HR is leaving COC
- she currently negotiates on COC's behalf for the three campus unions
- this turnover at COC is disruptive and her replacement is not known
- they will meet again next Friday
- there is a clear lack of leadership now at COC

Pete Virgadamo – asked who has replaced VP Omar Torres

- Aaron said that it is Dr. Thea Alvarado, formerly of Pasadena City College
- since she is brand new, this will slow the negotiation process
- Dan asked: can we restart the negotiation process?
- Aaron replied that he had no idea, especially with the delays due to IBD
- Anthony Clayton asked – what is the extent of the delay?
- Aaron replied that we'll meet this Friday but the February meeting is uncertain
- Kelly added that Rian was at the last meeting and Aaron stated that IBD is such a slow process
- Pete asked: can we go back to the old style of negotiations?
- Aaron replied that we will have to await the appointment of the new head of HR
- Carol mentioned that at a previous Board of Trustees meeting
- there was the suggestion that Miranda Zamudo replace Rian Medlin
- Aaron noted that we have little history of negotiations with Miranda
- John Francis – stated that our contract expired on 6/24 and wondered if there will be a retractive payment with the new contract
- Aaron concluded this discussion by saying that yes, there will be a retroactive payment
- which will be based on the terms of the new contract

Kelly Spillman – Vice President of Grievances: deferred her report to the Closed Session

Anthony Clayton – Vice President of Membership Action: deferred his report to the Closed Session

John Francis -Vice President of Outreach

- updated us on the Newsletter, which has an ‘open’ rate of about 60%
- it includes new information from Aaron Silverman
- plus updates on our website
- he has received new profiles from the members of the Executive Board
- he will standardize all of them before he places them on our website
- then John reported on the non-credit survey which had an ‘open rate’ of 65& to70%
- which means that about 498 people had viewed it
- Kelly added that she heard from five adjuncts about This survey
- and got a ton of new information
- clearly there is interest in this issue
- John said he would send it again
- Carol stated she would respond to the survey and so would Ally
- John concluded his report by saying that he double-checked the link
- in our membership applications with the AFT home office

Pete Virgadamo – Secretary

- noted that all the minutes for 2024 are complete and posted
- thanking John for his help in this process
- Pete then talked about Orientation for the new adjunct faculty
- to be held in February
- with Jennifer Brezina as the new lead for COC, who is a former full-time English instructor
- there will be some changes in this Orientation
- it will be held on Tuesday, not the usual Wednesday and will start at 5 pm, not the usual 6 pm
- Kelly stated that she could not attend because it will now be held on a Tuesday
- Frank added that he may be able to attend
- Anthony said that he can attend the beginning of the Orientation
- then Kelly reminded us that AFT speaks only at the end of Orientation.

After Pete's report, Carol Stevenson talked about courses to advance the pay rates of adjunct faculty, suggesting that more classes be made available to us.

After Carol's comments, Dan Portillo adjourned the Open Session of our meeting at 1:47 pm and we scheduled the next meeting of our Executive Board for February 15th at 1pm.