AFT Retiree Chapter meeting 2/15/17

Minutes

Agenda:

Meeting convened app. 2:15 by President Ann Killebrew. In attendance: Ann Killebrew, Cliff Liehe, Denise Jindrich, Joe Berry, Doug Orr, Kim Lee, Renato Larin, Gus Goldstein, Jim McKinney, Steve Goldston.

I. Agenda reviewed and approved.

II. Minutes of January 18 (Joe Berry) and October 18 (Doug Orr) meetings approved as corrected. Cliff to post on web page.

III. Check-in - no notes taken

IV. Reports:

A. DA, 1/24/17, Jim McKinney: Written report submitted via email Jan 25. (pasted in below) , summarized topics included: very large meeting, rolling over fee payers, implementation of contact, 2121 founding member of Bay Resistance (text resist to 41411 for alerts or bayresistance.org)), Wynd nominated for CFT Women in Education award.

B. E Bd. meeting of Feb. 7, 2017, Joe Berry: (omitting matters covered in DA report).

Discussed Member organizing strategic planning report, chose to focus upon delegate/steward/rep training and getting at least 25% of our members active in some way other than just paying dues. Discussed Free City victory, though limited and how to force the best implementation. Discussed work of class cuts/ college rebuilding committee. Good progress being made. Discussed problems with commuter changeover in office and Hugo will do some (open) user classes and our retiree folks who need to use the office systems will be invited. Discussed problem of branch book stores closing and how to fight that. Decided to fund retiree elected delegates, both those elected by general membership and one by chapter. Future policy on this to be discussed. Noted plan to resume printed Union Action. Discussed CFT Strategic organizing plan, which focuses both upon rolling over fee payers and also some more basic reorganization, including closer tabs on how local spend their formula funding staffing money. Adjourned in memory of Julia Bergman.

C. Treasurer, Renato Larin: MSP resolution to start our financial accounting fresh as a separate account from 7/1/16 and not try to sort out whose money was whose from 2121 general fund before that. Renato reported the new system will be much better and we have app. $890 currently in our separate sub-account of the union general fund. We spend app. $1300 on the retirement event, which was under our $1500 subsidy allocation from 2121. We also voted to consider new grant proposals if Ann deems useful and possible.

D. Doug Orr on CAL STRS and CFT meetings. Submitted written reports on STRS and CFT resolutions on pipeline and STRS investment policy.

Highlights orally: STRS board and invesment committee is split on whether to use social criteria or just limit to fiduciary return maximization. Retirement Policy Comm will have resolution on to CFT to keep these decisions in the purview of the STRS investment committee. MSP our final version of pipeline resolution to CFT.

E. Ann Killebrew on CFT Retiree Council and Climate Justice group:

Retiree meeting was good and our pipeline resolution passed. The Climate group has now become part of labor in schools committee. Seen as favorable outcome.

F. Pipeline, Gus Goldstein: drilling has continued. MSP final version of our resolution and letter to Army Corp for EIR and also ask 2121 E BD to do so.

G. Report on retirement event, Cliff Liehe and Jim McKinney, Written statement submitted with tip sheet and plans for future and comments for suggested changes. MSP that we would all do some evals at home and bring summary reports to next meeting Passed out. Some questions about future of long-term care sessions.

H. other, none

V. How to forward DAPL and EIS resolutions: covered above in D and F.

VI. Membership: Ann will send out lists for all to call to renew. Joe passed out some guidelines for these phone conversations. Attached below in email message. Went over and revised slightly, mainly to add that people note if folks were possible activists and what they were interested in working on.

VII. Suggestions solicited for our members at NACIQI meeting (Ann and Li), who may get to speak in DC.

VII. Possible new sexier name for group than retirees. Tabled for later discussion

IX. Memorials set for Elizabeth Kuizenga Romaine, Mission ESL. Memorial set of LaPena, March 12; and Julia Bergman, librarian, memorial set of Diego Rivera Theater, 2/25.

Date for next meeting: 3/15/17 3-5 PM (note time change).

Additional items for next agenda:

How to do better coordination with the office staff

Revision of membership brochure

Possible social event/general retiree meeting with speaker

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Berry, Secretary

------------ see below for DA report of 1/24/17

Wednesday, January 25, 2017 (6:00 p.m.)

Hi All,

As promised, I will try to write a bit about other things that happened at the Delegate Assembly yesterday, including the resolution Gus and others had so painstakingly crafted.   I hardly know where to begin — even though there were many precinct reps absent, the meeting was very long, with a full agenda, and it went well beyond the 5:00 p.m. deadline set for adjournment.

By way of background, after I finished my shift at the library on Tuesday, I went home and printed out a copy of the resolution as it appeared in my e-mail thread, but quickly realized that writing was still underway, and that editing changes were still being made.  When I got to the meeting, I spoke with Tim about our two-page “Resolution in Opposition to the Dakota Access Pipeline.”  He made the point that both our local and the state CFT had passed similar resolutions last fall, and that our local had made a $200 contribution to the struggle.  At that point, I let him know that the Retiree Chapter also had another, shorter resolution calling on AFT 2121 to send a copy to the Army (Corps of Engineers) by its February 20 deadline for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and also to send a copy to the San Francisco Labor Council asking them to adopt it and send it to the Army as well.  Several minutes after the meeting started, Athena arrived and handed me a copy of the version she had run off, and she noted that it might not be the latest version (you can see a scanned copy of the version that Athena came with in an attachment to this e-mail).

Anyway, as I mentioned earlier, the meeting went way overtime (see below, FYI, for details of the main part of the meeting), and there were fewer and fewer delegates remaining.  There was no time to discuss the long two-page version of the main resolution, and the point was again made that the issue had been dealt with last fall and a $200 contribution made.  I had made only one copy of the second, shorter resolution entitled, “Resolution to Comment on the Dakota Access Pipeline EIS,” and I read it aloud and then gave it to the recording secretary, Jessica Buchsbaum.  At that point, Rodger Scott objected to the parts of that resolution which called on us to submit it to the San Francisco Labor Council, objecting on the grounds that the issue was very divisive there, especially among construction trade unions, and specifically the pipefitters, who were still concerned about the issue of jobs.  At that point, Tim Killikelly suggested that the Executive Board should take up the resolution at its next meeting on February 7, and that if passed there, they would still have enough time to submit it to the Army office by the February 20th deadline:

Resolution to Comment on the Dakota Access Pipeline EIS

Whereas, AFT 2121 has adopted the Resolution in Opposition to the Dakota Access Pipeline; and

Whereas, a copy of that resolution will be sent to the San Francisco Labor Council (SFLC) for their possible adoption; and

Whereas, on January 18th, the Department of the Army published the Notice of Intent to require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in the Federal Register; and

Whereas, the Army is taking comments for the EIS until February 20 care of Mr. Gib Owen, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, 108 Army Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20310-0108; and

Whereas, the aforementioned resolution constitutes a comment in support of the Water Protectors and against the completion of the Dakota Access Pipeline as it is currently proposed to be routed, through Lakota sacred lands and under Lake Oahe;

Therefore be it resolved that AFT 2121 send a copy of the Resolution in Opposition to he Dakota Access Pipeline to the Army as addressed above by February 20; and

Be it further resolved that AFT 2121 send a copy of this resolution to the SFLC, requesting that should SFLC adopt the Resolution in Opposition to the Dakota Access Pipeline, they send it under their name to the Army as addressed above by February 20.

I gave Jessica a copy of the above resolution and the early draft of the Retiree Chapter two-page main resolution, which may require more editing.  (Especially now in light of Trump’s Tuesday afternoon pipeline paroxysms!)

Whew!

If you have actually continued reading this far, below is what happened in the main part of the meeting.  In addition to the matter of the AFT 2121 Delegate Nominations for the CFT Convention (March 3 – April 2), a lot of time was spent discussing the importance of (and practicing specific strategies for) getting faculty more involved in union activity, including making a concerted push to increase union membership among active faculty who are either new or who are still fee payers — the fact that there will soon be a majority hostile to unions on the Supreme Court looms large.  Discussion around multiple issues including enforcing contract compliance, handling grievances, fighting program/class cuts, identifying paycheck anomalies, and dealing with the SERP (Golden Handshake) as well as the new long-term care insurance the college is making available to faculty also took up a lot of time.

There was also analysis of the importance of the struggle leading up to the recent ACCJC decision to grant the college seven more years of full accreditation, followed by more discussion about the ramifications of that decision, including the continued struggle to decertify and replace the ACCJC with another accrediting agency.  People were encouraged to join with those going to Washington D.C. to appear before the DOE/NACIQI to testify (February 22-14).  It was stressed that it is now more important than ever to make the point that this struggle is not just about City College, and that it has always been about protecting and supporting all of the California Community Colleges in their struggles with the unfair practices of the ACCJC.

It was announced that the “Free City College” campaign is hoping to gather thousands of Valentines cards (see the attachment/scanned copy) to deliver to Mayor Ed Lee urging him “to use the Proposition W funds to fully fund the Free City College initiative… for Fall 2017.”

There was also an impassioned plea for people to text the word “RESIST” to the number 41411 to receive updates and alerts from the Bay Resistance Action Network coalition (see attachment — AFT 2121 is one of 30 founding organizations) to defend minority communities as the new Trump administration and a far right agenda takes power.

Finally, Rodger Scott nominated Wendy Kaufmyn for the 2017 Women in Education Award at this year’s CFT Convention in Sacramento.

It was at this point that a very brief discussion of our two resolutions took place, and the decision was made to deal with them at the Executive Board meeting on February 7.  I also informed the few remaining delegates in attendance about the following Retiree Chapter activities:

·       The  2017 8th Annual Retirement and Financial Planning Day, Thursday, January 12, was maybe the most successful ever, with nearly 200 faculty registered in attendance

·       Among the suggestions for next year, it was felt that we needed to have a stronger presence of active AFT 2121 members to help out and in particular, recruit new membership, especially among fee payers and new faculty; it was felt that an information table with handouts, flyers, T-shirts, etc. would also be useful.

·       Joe Berry and his wife, Helena Worthen (author of the book What Did Your Learn at Work Today? The Forbidden Lessons of Labor Education) are proposing the idea of putting together a book of assembled writings on the struggle with ACCJC at City College, a book that would be similar to a recently published book of assembled writings about the Chicago Teachers Strike.  The Retiree Chapter voted to help out, and they are asking active faculty and AFT 2121 to become involved as well.

Meeting adjourned.

(The bike ride was great, but my dinner is now cold….)

Submitted in solidarity,

Jim McKinney

Sent: Wed, Jan 25, 2017 8:34 am

Subject: CFT Convention Nominations

Wednesday, January 25, 2017

Hi All,

Below is the list of names I submitted to the Delegate Assembly yesterday in nomination for the CFT Convention this year (March 31-April 2 at the Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel “under the timely theme ‘Organize, Resist’").  If there are others who would like to be nominated or that you think should be nominated, contact Vice President Jenny Worley ( [jworley@ccsf.edu](mailto:jworley@ccsf.edu) or [jgworley@gmail.com](mailto:jgworley@gmail.com) ) by Friday, January 27.  AFT 2121 has the right to send 44 delegates, and the Executive Board has authorized funding for 30 of those who receive the highest votes.  The other delegates can also go, but will have to pay their own way.

If there are any of those nominated who do not wish to appear on the ballot, they should let Jenny know and decline the nomination.

Jenny said that she was not sure how to handle the Retiree Chapter, and I told her that she should contact Ann and Joe to work out the details, but that our nominees should be voted on along with the general membership, but that there should be a separate ballot with just the retiree nominees so that one would be designated as the Retiree Chapter Delegate.

(I hope I got that right!)

When I get a moment later on today, I will try and e-mail you more about the rest of yesterday’s Delegate Assembly meeting.

 In solidarity,

Jim McKinney

AFT 2121 Retiree Chapter Candidates for the 2017 CFT Convention,  Nominated at the AFT 2121 Delegate Assembly, January 24, 2017

Retiree Chapter Nominations of Members of the AFT 2121 Retiree Chapter Executive Committee:

Joe Berry

Ann Killebrew

Renato Larin

Jim McKinney

Retiree Chapter Nominations of AFT 2121 Retiree Chapter Members at Large:

Hilda Ayala

Kathy Berkhov

Camilla Bixler

Ron Bixler

Merle Burnick

Allan Fisher

Ana Fisher

Anne-Marie Fleming

Steve Goldston

Denise Jindrich

Kim Lee

Cliff Liehe

Doug Orr

Jacob Picheny

Patricia Seid

Barbara Shaw

Caroljean Wisnieski

<AFT 2121 Retiree Resolution -- early draft.pdf>

