

MSU Administrative Professional Association MEA/NEA
Minutes of Executive Board Meeting
Virtual Meeting
October 13th, 2020
2:00 PM

APA Board Present: Jared Andrews, Sue Brandt, Tonya Jamison, Heather Litts, Jamie Lynn Marks, Martin McDonough, Nicole Proctor-Kanyama, Todd Ring, Kandy Slack, Laura Wise.

Excused: Darius Bradley, Pat Hampton, Jeremy Romel, Leo Sell, Tim Woods

MEA Staff Present: Shannon Alston

General Members Present: 33 members attended via Zoom webinar.

CALL TO ORDER

Martin McDonough called the meeting to order and conducted a roll call of the board.

Welcome and Introduction

Welcome to all members attending this Zoom webinar!

Approval of Agenda

Sue Brandt moved to approve the agenda with flexibility. Motion seconded by Kandy Slack and carried.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Minutes of September 15th. Tonya Jamison moved to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion seconded by Jamie Lynn Marks and carried.

REPORTS

President's Report

Martin McDonough presented his president's report with discussion regarding member issues, meetings and events. The report was distributed to the board electronically. Martin announced increased activity surrounding investigatory meetings. APA is looking at additional participation with MAHE and MSU RHS meetings. Martin corrected a missed State of Michigan filing which involved a potential penalty charge to the union. Increased discussion surrounding extending yearly appointments.

Vice President's Report

Pat Hampton provided her report to the board electronically. She was excused from this month's meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Sue Brandt provided her report with financial statements from September. The report was distributed to the board electronically.

MEA Uniserv Report

Shannon Alston presented her report with discussion regarding outreach/training, organizing, and member issues. The report was provided to the board electronically. Shannon is working with members regarding the recent LOA on furloughs and the MSU response to COVID-19. She recently conducted a meet your Uniserv Director session. This month's More-You-Know will focus on MEA/NEA benefits. MEA higher Ed conference is a week from this Friday and is open to all dues paying members. Information is available on the MEA website. Discussion regarding impact of voluntary furlough on contractual rights.

Committee Reports

Membership – Kandy Slack presented an update including group and one-to-one new member orientations. As of October 12th, total prospective member count is 2,879. Total number of active members is 1,930 or 67%. 21 new hires so far. Kandy clarified that numbers fluctuate due to retirements and people changing jobs between unions. Kandy announced a virtual campus tour tailored to support staff will be available in November. New members from August 1st - November 30th will go into a drawing for MSU/APA/MEA swag bags. Members are always encouraged to contact Kandy or Martin if they want to get more involved.

Legislative – Tonya Jamison attended the non-partisan MSU Votes meeting this month. Voting resources and events are available on their website. Tonya attended the MLK celebration committee meeting to plan events for the celebration in January. Tonya led a forum with MSU board of trustee candidates on October 7th. Tonya Jamison reminded everyone there is an election coming on November 3rd. Ballots may be requested via mail, online or in person. From September 25th – November 2nd, ballots may be requested at your local clerk for early voting and cast the same day. Voters may register online now through October 19. From October 20th - November 3rd, voters may register at their local clerk with proof of residency. Local clerk's offices are open the Saturday before the election. Requested ballots will start being mailed out September 24th. Please contact your local clerk if you do not receive your local ballot by October 1st. Most local clerks have drop boxes for completed ballots in order to minimize delays with US Mail. Tonya is encouraging absentee voting to maximize accessibility for all registered voters and minimize need to travel in light of the Covid 19 pandemic. Visit www.meavotes.org for MEA recommendations. APA and MEA do not use any member dues for political matters. Links provided in the Zoom chat for ballotpower.org and Michigan SOS.

- Vote Online: <https://mvic.sos.state.mi.us/RegisterVoter>.
- More about Absentee Voting/Vote by Mail: https://www.michigan.gov/sos/0,4670,7-127-1633_8716_8728-21037--,00.html.
- Ballot Power: <https://ballotpower.org>

Grievance – Martin McDonough presented an update. Three grievances at step two regarding recall from furlough. One new grievance filed at step two regarding work conditions. Several grievances in abeyance. Grievances must be brought forward within fourteen calendar days of the occurrence.

Finance – No report this month. All business covered by Treasurer’s report.

MEMBER QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND CONCERNS

Members could submit questions via the Zoom Q and A section or raise their hand to ask a question. Several questions were answered by the board and UniServ director regarding remote work considerations, furloughs, early retirement, vacation time differences across unions, and the October base wage increase.

BUSINESS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

APA Strategic Planning Retreat

Laura Wise reported the first session of the 2020 planning retreat was held last week. The first session focused on the best ways to support members through Covid-19 and how to best communicate our benefits. The next session will be next week.

D.E.I. Committee Member Additions

Martin presented Aaron Dull, Stephanie Hoenig, Soyeon Shin, Jesse Alvarez, Laura Wise, Becky Jo Farrington, Chantel Dawson and Michelle Davis for board concurrence as new members of the D.E.I Committee. Kandy Slack moved for concurrence. Motion seconded by Jamie Lynn Marks and carried.

Annual Membership Meeting

Martin McDonough reminded everyone the annual membership meeting will be November 10th at 5:15PM via Zoom.

Approval for Audit

Sue Brandt moved to contract with ALG to conduct our full audit, which is required every three years. Motion seconded by Tonya Jamison and carried.

JHCC Update

Martin McDonough reported the next meeting is canceled but Martin McDonough and Shannon Alston to attend future meetings. Martin McDonough reiterated the October, 2021 base wage increase is 2.75% split 40% across the board and 60% based on merit. The current healthcare agreement expires the end of next year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming APA Executive Board Meeting

November 10, 2020 2pm Virtual Meeting

Upcoming APA Annual Membership Meeting

November 10, 2020 5:15pm Virtual Meeting

Upcoming MEA Events

October 21st, 6pm, Region 8 meeting

October 23rd, Higher Education Conference

Adjournment

Jared Andrews moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Sue Brandt and carried.

Meeting minutes are respectfully submitted by Jared Andrews.