

OCSEA REP COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, September 10, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President Marlene Simmons at 4:18 p.m. The meeting start time was delayed to allow more members time to arrive to hear Joe Bartell's presentation. The meeting was held at the ACCESS Area 3 Admin Office, 621 W 1st Street, Tustin.

Joe Bartell, CTA board member representing District M (northern Orange County and western Riverside County), introduced himself and shared that his role includes providing resources to local chapters, particularly in the area of governance issues, such as elections, bylaws, standing rules, and budgets.

There was general discussion in regard to emails that had been sent via OCDE email informing certificated staff about their opt-out option as a result of the Janus decision. Joe said these types of emails should not be happening through our school email, and Allison Carey stated she has already contacted the OCDE tech department to ask that they block these types of emails in the future. Joe said CTA is tracking where these types of emails are coming from, and that door-knocking campaigns are a possible future strategy to encourage members to opt out, with some organizations offering their own options to CTA membership.

Further discussion regarding Janus clarified that former fee payers are nonmembers. CTA membership benefits for certificated staff to consider are their representation by the union in negotiations with the County, representation in Levels 1 through 3 in the instance of grievances, as well as other member services. If desired, there is an option for CTA members to opt out of the portion of their dues that support the association's lobbying/political efforts.

Secretary Beth Orlik took attendance of Rep Council members and established that a quorum was present. Absent were Diana Freeman, Jacky Kriskey, Dana Rishagen, and Steve Slack. It was noted that there are now a total of 10 rep council members after the retirements in June.

Approval of the Minutes: Copies of the May 14, 2018 meeting minutes were available for everyone, and time for review was provided. In the Social Committee report, "OCSEA party" was corrected to "OCSEA retirement party." The May minutes were approved with the noted correction.

Treasurer's Report: In John Hall's absence, Marlene stated that the May Treasurer's Report was not yet available, but would be forthcoming. John will also be presenting a projected

budget at the October meeting for the 2018-2019 school year, and the vote on the budget will be held online.

Marlene also said she had gotten the necessary paperwork from the bank to change the designated signers' names on the OCSEA accounts. In addition to copies of driver's licenses and original signatures of new signers, presentation of meeting minutes stating the names of the new Executive Board officers and a letter on letterhead removing the previous signers (Liz Wilson, Loren Myhill, Julie Ames, and Allison Carey) and adding the new signers are required.

Vice President's Report: In Laurie Martinez's absence, Marlene reported that after the June retirements, we now have a total of approximately 258 bargaining unit members, which includes approximately 14 new members. Approximately 51 certificated staff were fee payers prior to the Janus ruling.

Former Vice President Allison Carey volunteered to mail out 2018-2019 CTA membership cards.

President's Report: Marlene announced the election results for the Executive Board for July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020 as follows: Marlene Simmons, President; Laurie Martinez, Vice President; John Hall, Treasurer; Beth Orlik, Secretary.

Prior to the meeting today, Marlene said she had asked John Wells to determine how many vacancies on the Rep Council had resulted after the June retirements. John stated that there is 1 vacancy to replace Lonnie Howerton. Alison Wilson, Chairperson for the Elections Committee, will review the previous Rep Council election results to determine who is eligible to fill the vacancy.

Marlene stated that she had met with a CTA organizer who is going to help us strengthen our union. At least four teachers are being trained in strategies to make our union strong and support our negotiations team; currently they are Adriana Beauchamps, Rob Simonson, Laurie Erickson, and Allen Witten. Strategies being implemented include setting up a Twitter account - @ocseateachers - to inform members about what the union does in general, to notify members about what is currently happening within OCSEA and what action is needed from members to support the negotiations team at a given time. A private Facebook group for the same purpose is also forthcoming. Rob Simonson is being trained to handle the CTA legalities in regard to our using the avenues of social media.

Marlene provided CTA application forms for all present and encouraged members to promote the benefits of CTA membership to prior fee payers and other nonmembers in order to encourage them to join the union. For new members and/or former fee payers, there is a window of 30 - 60 days to drop membership. For continuing CTA members, recommitment cards will be issued. The financial stability of our union is a member benefit. Laurie Martinez

will be the contact for members who wish to opt out of CTA membership. Marlene asked for at least one additional volunteer to assist in this capacity.

Committee volunteers are also needed. A list of committees and their functions will be presented at the October meeting.

Beth Orlik will be sending updates to Monica Azimioara, who is running our website ocseateachers.org.

Barbara Dresel is replacing Roger Urroz on the OCSEA negotiations team. The team will meet before negotiations take place in preparation for negotiations with the County. The team will negotiate for a better result than the 3.5 % raise and watered down PPO plan that classified staff got during their negotiations. For evidence to support a raise, Marlene asked that teachers email her regarding any additional job duties they have been asked to take on within the last 5 years, when the current changes in programs began to take place.

Social Committee: Marcia Garten and Julie Lemonds discussed options for an upcoming holiday party. Marlene stated that she would like to put a holiday party on hold at this time in light of the current climate after the Janus ruling. However, in a view toward keeping members engaged, a grant would be sought for ordering OCSEA t-shirts for members to wear at designated times. There was also discussion to have a party to celebrate once our contract has been settled.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

Our next Rep Council meeting will be on Monday, October 15 at 4:00 p.m. at the ACCESS Area 3 Admin Office, 621 W 1st Street, Tustin.

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