TFESP General Membership Meeting (in person)

5-24-2022

5:38 Called to order by president Kathy Unruh.

Motion made and seconded to approve minutes of April membership meeting. Minutes approved unanimously.

**Treasurer Report-** Laura Robyn: Normal bills this month. Only difference this month being the PSRP conference which cost of total of approximately $2200. This makes the budget for April

 -$978 according to budget only.

**Membership-** Elizabeth Holland: about 80% of our bargaining unit are members. Important to have new employees personal contact information. If a school does not have a building rep, please reach out… we would like to get building reps in each school.

**Labor Management-** Gillian Reese: this month we talked about para cert, and how it is being communicated to new employees, and what the responsibilities are on our and the district sides. There continues to be conversations regarding this.

Calendars for next school year likely will not be finalized until TEA is finished bargaining.

Questions have been asked why our name was changed to Tacoma Federation of Education Support Professionals…. This is because our bargaining unit consists of 23 different job classifications, many more than paraeducators alone.

**AFT WA-** Gillian Reese: AFT is American Federation of Teachers which is our parent union… with AFT National the largest, then AFT Washington and our local is within that.

Conversations about contributing to COPE which supports school related issues and campaigns in the legislature.

Gissel brought paper copies of the survey made by the classified committee, please fill it out if you have not completed the online version.

**PSRP Conference, St. Louis-** Kari Madden: learned a lot about unions and networked with others around the country… shared what we have achieved in bargaining this past year, our wages are now very good compared to many other places, but I did learn some other great ideas to work for in the future as well

Anitra Wise: also learned a lot and enjoyed networking with many others. Learned many new ways to engage our members and is excited to begin working on those.

Gillian Reese: same as above… also felt like we have fought to have a voice and felt seen and heard through this conference.

**Student Behavior-** Kathy Unruh: The district has agreed to talk about student behavior and assaults. The district needs to lead the way to make schools a safe place to work.

**Membership Appreciation-** Rainiers game June 10, link to purchase tickets has been emailed to members and posted on Facebook.

**New Business**

AFT National Convention in Boston, we would like to send 4 delegates. Motion is made, seconded, and voted unanimously to send Kathy, Liz, Kari and Anitra.

**AFT-** Gissel Uribe: There are over 3,000 locals with 1.7 million members in the United States. Our local has over 400 of the 8,000 in Washington State.

The survey mentioned earlier created by school related personnel committee are working to improve the workforce, and fight in Olympia for what we need in our contracts. They will use the responses of this survey in order to create and push legislation in 2023.

Classified Conference offers professional development each year, we decide the classes with approval by the district so employees can receive PD pay for the trainings offered.

**Elections-** Betty Lewis: nominations were extended at the April membership meeting until May 9th. We currently have nominations and acceptance for:

1st Vice President- Kari Madden

2nd Vice President- Anitra Wise

Secretary- Liz Walle

Communications- Gillian Reese

Building Rep Coordinator B- Jode Pulley

Motion is made and seconded to accept these nominations without ballots as there is no contest. Motion passes unanimously. Current positions continue through the end of the school year.

**Q**uestion is made about the 5:30 meeting time being late for many people, the decision was made to make it later to accommodate bus monitors, however we will discuss going back to an earlier time. Communications will put out a survey regarding this as well as whether members like the “hustle” method of communication for meeting reminders.

Q about how to access PD, cost, etc… PD through the district is free and you will receive pay as a contracted employee (substitutes do not get the same amount of hours) Number of hours you have can be found on your employee information. We will print up a “how to” steps to sign up for PDs, find hours, etc.

Q about what does a building rep do: They communicate with members at the building level, report any news, answer questions and bring concerns to the executive board.

We will not be having June meeting because of the get together at the Rainiers game.

Meeting adjourned at 6:37

Kari Madden, Secretary