

Synopsis of the Executive Board Meeting of January 20-21, 2010

Agenda

The agenda was amended to add:

- NUPGE Women's Conference
- Haiti Relief Donations
- Census Issue - timed for Wednesday at 10:00 am
- TILMA
- Social Justice Committee Report
- Staff Temporary Assignment Report
- Workers of Colour Caucus Complaint

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The executive board adopted the OPSEU Executive Board Minutes of December 9-10, 2010.

Treasurer's Report

First Vice-President/Treasurer Rout presented the Treasurer's Report.

Ontario 2020

Heino Nielsen, Administrator, Policy, Planning and Programs, gave the Board an update on this issue. Doug Evetts, A/Legislation Liaison and Lien Huynh, Research Officer were also in attendance for this discussion.

Census Project

Debbie Tungatt, Region 2 Executive board Member; and Heino Nielsen, Administrator, Policy, Planning and Programs; gave the Board an update on this issue.

Audit Committee/BDO Dunwoody

Frank DelZotto, BDO Dunwoody, made a presentation to the executive board.

In-Camera Session

The board had an in camera session and reported progress.

Property Purchase – Thunder Bay

Jamie Tocker, Regional Vice-President, Region 7, made a presentation to the executive board. This issue was referred back to the RVP of Region 7 to bring back to the February board meeting with more information.

Hardship – Report on Options for a Card Signing Initiative

First Vice-President Rout gave the executive board a report on this issue. The executive board endorsed the summary of recommended actions which included the following:

Use existing union programs – Refer “member drives” to the Building Local Capacity project to follow up;

Develop specific resources – have a range of new and not so new materials developed into a toolkit and regularly provide it to LECs – adding new modules to education courses;

Make structural changes – reinforce other actions with a move to formal or informal changes to the LEC structure to build in Member Stewards;

Promote regular LEC actions – such as fall membership building period.

FM Radio Station

This issue was referred to the February board meeting.

Project Ring-IT

First Vice-President/Treasurer Rout gave the board an update on this project.

TILMA

This issue was referred to the February board meeting.

2010 Budget (cont.)

Maurice Gabay, Accountant, presented the budget.

LBED Debrief

Frank Rooney, Administrator, Local Services Division-Head Office, gave the executive board an update on this issue.

Central Labour Updates (OFL/NUPGE/CLC)

President Thomas gave the board an update on labour issues.

Staffing Pilot - Solidarity Funds

The OPSEU Executive Board authorized an additional \$7,500 for ongoing member expenses related to the current staffing pilot on OPSEU's International Solidarity Funds. Funds to be drawn from the Contingency Fund.

Contingency Funding Criminal Appeal

This issue will be brought to the February executive committee meeting.

Staffing Issues

Staffing issues were discussed in camera.

NUPGE Conference - Quality of Women's Lives

A costing for this conference will be brought to the February board meeting.

Convention 2009 Resolution E2

Convention 2009 Resolution E2 carried as follows:

WHEREAS people dealing with mental health issues face systemic injustice and OPSEU is committed to advancing social justice; and

WHEREAS OPSEU has a diverse membership base which includes people dealing with mental health issues working in all positions; and

WHEREAS OPSEU recognizes that healthier, safer, more respectful workplaces are in the interests of all;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OPSEU acknowledge the mutual interests of people dealing with mental health issues on both ends of the service provision relationship; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT OPSEU recognize that a healthy service delivery environment is based on active collaboration between workers and those we serve, driven by our mutual interests; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT OPSEU commit itself to the development of peer-led Recovery Model based education materials and initiatives to promote more equitable communication and collaboration in and amongst our varied workplaces.

Emergency Resolution for Haiti Relief

The following motion carried unanimously:

WHEREAS Haiti has been decimated by an earthquake with Port a Prince being destroyed and millions of people being in crisis; and

WHEREAS the government of Canada has indicated it will match funds donated.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OPSEU match the \$5,000 donation made by the Social Justice Fund to the Canadian Red Cross relief in Haiti and that OPSEU donate a further \$5,000 to Doctors without Borders relief effort in Haiti.

Pension Liaison Committee

The OPSEU Executive Board reappointed Patty Rout and James Sanders as Trustees to the Health Care of Ontario Pension Provider, provided the letter of agreement is signed. The term of the reappointment is one year, commencing January 1, 2010.

The OPSEU Executive board reappointed Shirley McVittie to the CAAT Pension Plan Sponsors' Committee, provided the letter of agreement is signed. The term of the reappointment is for one year, commencing January 1, 2010.

CPAC - Provincial By-Elections

The following motion carried:

WHEREAS Liberal George Smitherman recently resigned from his post as MPP in Toronto-Centre resulting in a by-election, and;

WHEREAS the current provincial government has engaged in an attack on public services including crown corporations, healthcare, and education, and;

WHEREAS OPSEU is a union that has a long-standing history of fighting back against cuts that hurt our communities, and;

WHEREAS this union recognizes in NDP candidate Cathy Crowe the knowledge, experience, and determination needed to speak out against the anti-public service agenda of the current government;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OPSEU contribute \$9300.00 to the campaign of Cathy Crowe, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT OPSEU also assist in the campaign of Cathy Crowe by providing support and assistance by way of a member book-off to actively participate in the operations involved in such a campaign.

Donations

First Vice-President/Treasurer Rout will bring this issue to the February meeting.

Resolution and Constitutional Amendments

The following motion carried:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Executive Board endorse and recommend approval to the 2010 OPSEU Annual Convention all of the Constitutional Amendments and Policy Resolutions contained in the Draft document titled “Constitutional and Policy Amendment – Three Year Terms” presented to the Executive Board and dated January 20, 2010.

BE IT FURTHER THAT should the 2010 OPSEU Annual Convention pass the Constitutional Amendments and Policy Resolutions contained in the “Constitution and Policy Amendment – Three Year Terms” document, term of office for the OPS CERC and Divisional Executives, the CAAT(S) and CAAT(A) Divex and BPS Sector Executive Will also be amended to be 3 year terms accordingly.

An amendment to hold meetings every 18 months to update divisions was defeated. Patty Rout and Carl Thibodeau filed a minority report.

Staff Temporary assignment report

The following motion carried:

WHEREAS OPSEU regularly employs temporary workers to backfill for vacant staff positions, and in some cases over-complement positions for temporary work;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OPSEU offer temporary worker assignment/positions to qualified OPSEU members; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT OPSEU members are invited to send resumes to OPSEU staff relations, stating the assignment/positions they believe they are qualified for, and the geographical area they are willing to work in; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT OPSEU staff relations keep the resumes on file for 2 years from the date of receipt.

Organizing Report

The executive board was given an update on Organizing.

Health & Safety

Sister Orzel gave the executive board a verbal report on this issue.

Social Justice

Sister Snider gave the executive board an update on this issue.

Notice of Motion - Diversity Education

The following motion carried:

WHEREAS celebrating and respecting diversity helps build a stronger and more Inclusive Union;

WHEREAS learning about different cultures helps to create a better understanding and demonstrates a respect for our sisters and brothers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT a course be developed focusing on cultural awareness and developing cultural competency;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT said course be available to be offered at Regional Educationals.

Notice of Motion - Recycled Paper

This issue was referred to the Office of the First Vice-President/Treasurer to investigate cost implications and to report back to the February board.

Adjournment

The Executive Board adjourned at 4:35 pm. All were present except Ted Montgomery. The reason was acceptable to the Chair.