

SVFT Executive Council Meeting

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

President Ed Leavy called the meeting to order at 5:03 P. M.

Motion to amend the agenda to discuss COVID-19 info **M/S/V**

Ed discussed this afternoon's call with the Superintendent that covered the following points:

- Masks (No policy against wearing them)
- Self-quarantine/Child care
- April vacation may be moved/removed
- Only commissioner can grant dispensation to go fewer than 180 days
- Distance learning probably won't work (students without WiFi at home and violation of special ed laws)

M/S/V to accept the minutes of February 5, 2020 Executive Council meeting

Emily Lozinak's Treasurer's Report:

- Emily reviewed the Income & Expense Report from February 2020. Items discussed were as follows:
 - Total Income for the month was \$96,633.34
 - Item 4200 Rebate Income \$9,314.96
AFT CT Rebate for November 2019
 - Total Expenses for the month were \$103,346.71
Line items of note included
 - Items 6005 through 6025
Quarterly stipend for officers
 - Item 6173 Service and Recognition \$5,356.02
Teacher appreciation gifts
 - Item 6250 Network and Support Agreement \$361.39
Computer updates for treasurer
 - Net operating income for the year to date is \$78,896.64

Reminders:

Change in Mileage Reimbursements \$0.575 per mile as of January 1, 2020

Treasurer's GM meeting Report (pending audit) M/S/V

Bob Riccitelli EUR Report:

Administrative Leave

- 5 Members

Arbitration

- None

Grievances

- Level 2 – Summer stipends
- Level 2 – Wright Tech Class Size

Complaints

- Health concerns at Bullard-Havens
- CDL reimbursement

Fact Findings

- Argument between two members

Union issues

- DCF Reporting

Resolved

- Level 2 – SkillsUSA position at Kaynor – Favorable, the Entire position is awarded to an SVFT Member.
- Level 1 – Physical condition of Platt – Favorable, Building has been much cleaner
- Arbitration – Negotiating Pay – Favorable
- Level 2 – Unjust discipline – Favorable, Reduced Discipline
- Fact Finding – Unprofessional posts on Social Media – Cleared, Account was hacked
- Fact Finding - Not following field trip procedures – Reminder to follow posted procedures

Postings (as of 2/28/20)

- 11 Active

- 14 Filled in the Month of February

Paul Angelucci's Vice -President's Report:

Paul discussed the following:

- Health & Safety will be at Norwich tomorrow for the semi-annual inspection and in April will inspect Ellis Tech on the 9th.
- Scholarship Committee: Deadline for entries is May 15th.
- Contract negotiation Committee will meet for the third time on March 19; a survey should be out by month's end.
- Following the Teacher of the Year selection timeline is important. All elections should be completed no later than next Friday, March 20. A union rep or officer must be present for the tabulation of ballots. Contact me if you have an issue getting that done and morning and after school voting must take place, we can assist with that as well.
- Labor Management took place on the March 3rd The minutes are in the newsletter. February's snowed out meeting will be rescheduled.
- The officers' building visit/meetings are underway. Paul asked reps to remind staff to attend. Letters have been sent to the Principals.
- The hiring of new teachers stands at 78 to date. I will continue to inform you as they start and please reach out to them as well.
- Paul will bring ballot boxes to the April meeting for a special election to replace the union Secretary.

Ed Leavy's President's Report

Ed shared the following:

1. I gave testimony Monday on the Minority Teacher Recruitment bill. I have provided written testimony and gave different verbal testimony. The Special Ed bill, 7353, is written testimony only. State Rep. Michell Cook (Torrington) has guaranteed it will get out of committee, so we will try to kill it through back channels later on – either by assigning it a fiscal note (Mr. Wihbey believes we would have to add 15 SPED teachers and maybe 10 BRIM workers; that fiscal note would be roughly \$2 million) and insist it go to Appropriations where it would die, or by having Jan call in a favor and not have it called for a vote on the last day. Therefore, I'm not giving verbal testimony.
2. The AFT-CT Legislative breakfasts have been canceled.
3. I met with the ADs to discuss the contract proposals that were submitted. They seem to

have been generated by a small group, not the entire group. We had an open and frank discussion which probably ended in lots of unhappiness; many of the things they say they want would be devastating for many of them unintentionally.

4. I'm beginning to worry about the contract negotiation timetable. At Labor-Management, the Superintendent discussed a "five-tiered" approach to growing our system moving forward. At least four of those tiers require negotiation. Given that the legislature has to vote on the contracts now, it is imperative we get any contract to them as soon as possible. Our next negotiation meeting is March 19.
5. Retirement seminars have been done in over half the schools; Bullard-Havens was today. We had over 40 people at Prince last week.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Election to choose new secretary: Details are in the newsletter.

O'Brien has added radios to buses and will be adding GPS as well. They are piloting this and it is expected to be rolled out system wide.

Paul asked for motion to use \$1000 for scholarship(s) for culinary senior at Goodwin to honor the memory of recently deceased chef Antonio Johnson. Paul and Bob would work with the department head to select the student recipient(s). **M/S/V to approve**

Good and Welfare:

None

Meeting adjourned at 6:23 P. M.

Respectfully submitted by Greg Beyer, SVFT Secretary