

SVFT Executive Council Meeting

June 12, 2024

Cafe Fiore

President Paul Angelucci called the meeting to order.

Motion to approve May's minutes. M/S/V

Emily DelPiano Treasurer's Report:

- **Emily reviewed the Income & Expense Report from May 2024. Items discussed were as follows:**
 - **Total Income for the month was \$178,547.25**
 - **Item 4000 Dues Income \$153,876.62**
 - 3-pay period month
 - **Item 4200 Rebate Income \$22,504.24**
 - March and April rebate from AFT-CT
 - **Item 4355 Rental Income \$2,155.00**
 - April and May rent for both tenant
 - **Total Expenses for the month were \$150,522.17**
 - **Line items of note included**
 - **Item 6005-6020 Officers**
 - Quarterly stipends paid May 1
 - **Item 6095 Grievances \$1,886.25**
 - Filing fees for 5 arbitrations
 - **Item 6145 Conventions \$2,270.00**
 - Registration for AFT-CT and AFL-CIO Conventions
 - **Item 6165 Miscellaneous General \$4,950.00**
 - Skills USA
 - **Item 6170 Scholarship \$12,00.00**
 - Scholarship and mini grant awards
 - **Item 6171 Teacher of the Year \$1,840.00**
 - Checks and awards for TOY winners
 - **Item 6182 IRA \$1,188.00**
 - Quarterly Stipend for February and May

Net operating income for the year to date is \$162,215.08

Reminders: Submit reimbursements and receipts for End of Year expenses ASAP

Questions for Treasurer:

- Q – None
- A –

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report, pending audit. M/S/V

Bob Riccitelli's Executive Union Rep Report:

4 teachers on Administrative Leave

Arbitrations

- Preference over Outside Hires & Open Position
- Trade NHS
- Prince ISS

Stipulated Agreements

- LMS Technology
- Two team mentees per Mentor
- Shop Team Mentor Stipend of 3/5 of stipend
- Reinstatement of a non-tenure teacher
- Stipulated Agreement 3 day suspension in Lieu Dismissal

Grievances

- Summer Pay Issues – Ongoing
- Pay – Docked every time the member was late 1 minute or more
- Just cause – No due process with prior discipline
- Just cause – Timeliness and Fairness of investigation
- 2 Just Cause – Excessive Discipline
- Administrative Transfers – Late Notice

Complaints

- 1 Kaynor Administration – Failure to protect staff
- 2 Goodwin Administration – Failure to protect staff & Harassment
- 1 Wolcott Administration – Unprofessional Behavior
- 3 Wilcox Administration – Harassment and unprofessional behavior
- 2 Member on Member – Discrimination and hostile work environment
- 1 Norwich BMS – Unprofessional behavior

Fact-Findings

- Unprofessional Behavior
- 7 AA Unprofessional Behavior
- 4 DCF – Unprofessional Remarks

Questions for EUR:

- Q –Any information about the AD's heading into summer
A –I just put out an email to all AD's, CO has decided that they don't have enough money to pay them per diem days. Our lawyer said we have no choice and they have to work year round. So it is not a change of working conditions.
- Q - What is the process of selecting Team Mentors?
A - They should be going by a seniority list.
- Q - What is the status of the stipulated agreement with the long term subs. CO is not providing lesson plans and it is becoming contentious.
A - We have a proposal with CO now to address this. Because of the budget crisis, they don't want to entertain this conversation. We need to know if CO is not following the stipulated agreement.

Makenzi Hurtado's Vice President Report:

Committee Reports

- **Contract Negotiations Committee:**

QR code for proposals in the newsletter.

The link will also be on our website.

- **Health & Safety Committee:**

The committee visited Norwich on 6/6.

- **Labor/Management Committee:**

The minutes are in the newsletter.

- **Scholarship Committee:**

Scholarship Committee met on 5/22. They awarded 10 scholarships and three (3) mini-grants.

- **Teacher of the Year Committee:**

The winners were celebrated on 5/23.

Miscellaneous:

- Several reps have requested that we send out the attendance for reps on a more regular basis. We will start doing that next year. For clarification, reps are allowed two absences before they receive a prorated dues reimbursement. There are no excused or unexcused absences.
- Tuition Reimbursement will be refilled with \$650,000 on July 1.
- ASE Certification - No money
- SPE 531 at University of Phoenix – There are many trade teachers in their first or second year that were told or approved to take SPE 531 by Heidi Griffin. When some teachers went to get their certification, they were denied because the class was not approved. Through an FOI request, I was able to show that Heidi knew that they were not approving the class, but she assumed if she approved it, Certification would make an exception. I gave Dr. Lowe, Dr. Solek, and Dr. Menounos the list of teachers that I found that were affected. Our first request was that they work with Certification to get the class approved for this group. They did not do this. The only thing that they have offered is that the affected teachers can have another year to work on their classes to take a new special education course. We have already sent a demand letter to the district to make these teachers whole, but we are working on a plan to hold them accountable now.
- All Stipulated Agreements are on the website.

Questions for Vice President:

- Q - Are you going to send out instructions to these people that are dealing with this class issue?
A - Yes, I was waiting to get a total number of people affected. I will be sending something out to all of them.
- Q - If someone loses their certification due to this issue, are we as a union going to try to make them whole?
A - As of right now they are not taking away their certifications, but if they do we will absolutely go after them.
- Q - What was Heidi's reaction when they told her she was fired?
A - As far as we know she hasn't been and her responsibilities for certification is being given to someone else.
- Q - Why are we not allowing excused absences for union reps when in the Constitution says we can have excused absences at the discretion of the President? I am curious why we aren't using this option.
A - It is the President's discretion to not excuse them

Paul Angelucci's President's Report:

- Superintendent Search – The June board meeting took place with no mention of the status of the search. I'm assuming Dr. Lowe will receive an extension on his one-year letter that expires on July 1st.
- Board Meeting Update – Not much was discussed other than the retiring of our Chair who is with us today,
- State Employee Meeting Update – Charter schools are putting candidates in Danbury and against Chaffey in Middletown they're putting a huge push in the areas where they have an interest.
- SEBAC Update – Discussion of the 27' sunset date of the SEBAC deal won't start until August of 26' this was shared as well as our next book will most likely be three years but not definite yet.
- Hiring Update – The year ends with 145 new hires on board, which is the second highest in the past 6 years since the JANUS case ruled. All but one have joined the union.

- AFT CT Convention Update - On June 1st the convention was held at Foxwoods, it was attended by most of our officers and most of our delegates. I spoke on a board regarding union density, the SVFT has a 99.96% membership.

Questions for President:

- Q -.New school update for Windham?
A - The engineers report came back good for that property and it should be moving forward. For Vinal it should be happening on the property that is there.
- Q - Do we know what administrators are moving where yet?
A - We only know of a few. When we talked to Justin he said that because of the Cheney job it would start a domino effect. We are waiting to hear.
- Q - When will we get the updated pay scales?
A - They come from CO and we are waiting to get them. As soon as we do we will put it on the website and be making stickers for the contract books.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Good and Welfare: We have an expecting Carpentry instructor

Motion to adjourn M/S/V