



Unifor, Local Union No. 1990
General Meeting - Minutes
October 5, 2016 - St. Mary's High School

1. Opening – Meeting called to order at 7:05 P.M. by Local 1990 President Irene Galvez-Aguilar. Irene started the meeting with prayer. Volunteers as Sgt. At Arms for tonight – Jessie Olson and Jasmine. Harassment Policy was read.
Welcome and acknowledgement of new members and schools present.
Introduction of Executive members.
2. Approval of Agenda
Bernadette O'Connor motioned to accept the agenda. Jay Louise Martel seconded motion carried.
3. Approval of General Meeting Minutes (March 22, 2016) Fiona Vielguth motioned to accept the minutes and adjust next meeting date. Seconded by Lousie from St. James. All in favor, carried
4. President's Report
 - In May, we elected 4 new members of the Executive. Congratulations! Unfortunately, we lost Judy. We wish Judy all the best.
 - In June, we celebrated the journey of our retirees. Our Retirement Banquet is another year of success!
 - We received results of the seven applications of our members' sons and daughters' children to National scholarship. We will strive for the best next year.
 - We dealt with lay off and recall and as a result, we filed 3 grievances. They are still under review.
 - In Consultation with the district, we forwarded some concerns:
 - 1- Unifor to promote Workplace Mental/Physical Health as one of our initiatives this year.
 - 2- Testing center – at 1 school with 16 computers, not enough air circulation and airflow. We have asked for the room to be checked and we received a report. If you would like to see the report, you may see me for that.
 - 3- Personal Growth Plan for all staff – they will reinforce to all the Principals
 - 4- Benefit deductions to distribute over the course of the year – they said not for this yearWe have 5 Consultation meetings this year and the first one will be on October 26, 2016.
 - It was busy over the summer, very challenging but we try to support everyone.
 - Debbie and I attended the 2nd Unifor National Convention. IT'S TIME! is the focus and theme of Unifor for the next three years. Resolutions were discussed - results are on the National website. You will also find the **National Treasurer's** report to see how our dues are budgeted for the last 3 years. At the Convention, we also had the opportunity to recognize our Aboriginal leaders and two Syrian families Unifor has sponsored. Wonderful keynote speakers including Cindy Blackstock, Executive Director of First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada & Associate Professor at the U of A who advocates in child protection and Indigenous Children's rights. Other keynote speakers include **our Prime Minister** and Rachel Notley.
 - I am working with the district about Workplace Mental Health workshop as one of our Local's initiative to work on this year. Unfortunately, it is not possible this year but will continue to work on hopefully to be considered for PD series. Our Unifor National Director of O H & S is very willing to coordinate and conduct this PD for us.
 - We also have the copy of the District's 2015-2016 Annual Report for whoever wants to review. Protocol received from the District – Email to Support staff will be sent by the district, Contact of Unifor, Use of district email.

We will continue to utilize our website as our means of communication.

5. Treasurer's Report

- books are up to date to August 31, 2016
- Question from the floor - Jessie: Does Unifor National have investment choices we could use to make more \$\$ than our GIC currently brings in? Indrani will look into this. Indrani asked for the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented. Paula Helm motions to accept Treasurer's report. Seconded by Jay Louie-Martel. All in favour - carried.

6. New Business:

- a) Training & Conferences 2016-2017 – we are waiting for Unifor National to confirm the Human Rights Training in November. The Negotiations committee will attend the Bargaining training, Thomas and I will attend the OH&S this month.

Last meeting, we discussed about the Educational Support Staff Conference which we joined and attended every year since we were still CEP. At this conference, we collaborate with other Educational Support staff members from other locals - the Edmonton Catholic School district, Elk Island district, St. Albert district, Grande Prairie school district. University of Manitoba joined us last year. We share and discuss our common issues as Education sector to help us understand meaningful negotiations practices, strategies and results. With this, we can learn from each other to promote and gain ideas that could benefit our Education sector.

Last year, it was voted to increase from \$1.00 membership to \$2.00 per member. This will help with the conference expenses including speakers we invite. Speakers include a lawyer with labour law practices and grievances. I am asking for members to give consideration for our local to be able to participate at the next conference in March 3-5, 2017. Our National President confirmed his attendance on Friday, March 3rd.

Motion to accept increase membership to \$2.00 per member by Paula Helm. Seconded by Cheryl Lindsay. 5 opposed; Carried Discussion. Carried.

b) Committee Updates

1. **Women's Committee**

- Shelley Szautner - looks at pay equity, employment equity, etc. - looking for more members - Unifor holds National Conference in Port Elgin, Ontario
- Cheryl Lindsay spoke because she went to this conference in summer, 2016 - educational in nature—politics, public speaking, etc. - strong women; strong union
- Jill Hadden also spoke on her reflections of the Women's Conference - attended Domestic Violence for Women session - December 6, 2016. Wear purple for National Day of Remembrance & Violence Against Women - requested ladies sign up for the Women's Committee

2. **Social Committee** - Cheryl Lindsay - wants to create opportunity for Local 1990 members to mix, mingle, chat - "Meet & Greet" - Tuesday, November 8, 2016 @ Inglewood Community Centre - 6:30pm - 8:00pm - this committee also looking for members - Please sign up See flyer for details.

3. **Professional Development Committee** - Debbie Todd

- read new outline of Application for Professional Development Reimbursemen

4. **Social committee** asked for more volunteers to join. Meet and Greet plan for November 8, 2016 at Inglewood Community Centre. See flyer for details.

5. **Retirement committee confirmed the Retirement Banquet will be June 8th, 2017.**

7. Next Meeting Date: General Meeting January 24, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. Location: TBA

8. Adjourned: 8:35 p.m.