

Union Branch Meeting
February 7, 2007

Meeting called to Order at 7:00 p.m.

Welcome merged Branch 3825. Thank you to Bert Weisner for arranging for the food.

1) Officers not present- Tom Preston- Recording Secretary, Kevin Abernathy- Trustee and Greg Brooks.

2) Minutes from the January meeting –Motion to dispense with the reading and to accept by Shearly Shawn, second by Sergio Lemus, passed.

3) Communications

A) Next Branch Membership meeting – Wed. March 7, 2007 at 7:00p.m.

B) Next Executive Board – Wed. Feb. 28, 2007 at 6:30p.m.

C) Next Steward’s meeting (change due to Valentines Day) - Wed. Feb. 21, 2007 at 6:30p.m.

D) Next Unity – Mid March

E) Grievances of Note announced and discussed.

F) Please make stewards aware of any carriers out after 1800.

G) Please consider signing up for COLCPE.

H) New PTF’S hired – 5 for Germantown and 17 for Rockville.

I) Serious attacks by management with Article 8 violations, PTF's are also being moved off of their Opts. We have escalating remedies on both issues, due to management’s failure to comply with the contract.

J) Management is falsifying clock rings which will have a dangerous ripple effect in other areas. Mgt. is artificially shortening our street time which will seriously affect our route inspections and data; it is also changing our percent to standards and due to the incorrect percent to standards, may change our starting times.

K) NALC Bulletin Feb. 1, 2007 – discussion on the proposed contract items.

L) MDA letter from President Bill Young- there will be renewed efforts to increase fundraising for MDA.

M) Bert Weisner will arrange to have the food for our Branch meetings delivered for the time being.

N) The budget committee has met twice and will meet again on 2-15-07.

O) Stewards, please give soon to be retirees a Form 1189 for Retirement Dues

Deduction. We now have 73 retiree members plus 10 from Gaithersburg. Retirees only have a 6 month time frame to join up.

P) NALC Bulletin dated 1-12-07- President Young will go to Congress to prevent contracting out of the Postal Service.

Q) NBA communication dated 1-19-07- The Post Office will meet with the Dept. of Labor to clarify the 3 day COP waiting period rules. The NBA urges Branch's to be mindful of grievance time limits also.

R) Excellent article from the Postal Record by Dale Hart was passed out to members on DOIS, 3996's and harassment on how long your route will take.

S) Communication dated 1-29-07 from NBA Tim Dowdy read.

T) Note on the Potomac Time clocks regarding possible later starting times.

U) Reported "cost per stop per year" as \$313.00 for us, \$152.00 for Rural Carriers and \$96.00 for contract.

4) Application for Membership- none at this time.

5) Committee Reports

A) We need a picnic committee. Boherer Park was suggested as a location.

B) 2007 Budget Committee is Dominick Lignelli, Ken Lerch, Amy Campain, Tom Preston, Steve Klein and Bert Weisner. Next meeting is Feb. 15 at 6:30pm.

C) By-Laws Committee is needed. As of now, members are George Abid, Chairperson, Chuck Clark, Steve Klein, Shearly Shawn, Amy Campain and Ken Lerch.

6) MBA report- none.

7) Health Benefits Report-None.

8) New Business

A) Executive Board recommendation to reimburse C.C. Toney, for Double Dues, \$176.00. Motion made by Shearly Shawn, Second by Clay Baldwin. Passed.

B) Insurance report given on both offices. All members are welcome to come to office to review if so desired.

C) Executive Board recommendation to send carriers and shop stewards to steward training March 19th and 20th and to pay lost time, mileage (\$25.00 per day) and registration (\$45.00) . Everyone must turn in 3971's. List so far is as follows, Shearly Shawn, Bert Weisner, Tim Bonnett, Steve Klein, Chester Crews, Kenneth

Lerch, Mathew Ackah, Tom Preston, Amy Campaign, Les Gaynair, Mike Curley, Sergio Lemus, Greg Brooks, Tony Gatlin, and Clay Baldwin. Motion made by Sergio Lemus, second by Mike Hotovy, passed.

D) On 12-20-07, the Dept of Labor informed us that we would be audited. The first meeting is 2-8-07.

E) Because the 2007 Budget is not completed, all expenditures must be voted on.

1) EB recommendation to pay \$500.00 for the preparation of W-2s. Motion by Mike Hotovy, second by Mike Shawn, passed.

2) The following- Copy costs for Art. 8's \$987.93, filing cabinet for \$482.32, possible Price club membership \$50.00, lunch with Arbitration advocate, Don Huber, to show our appreciation for his great work \$28.56, Supplies \$214.00, locks changed \$242.00 and other various expenditures were approved in block with a motion by Mike Hotovy, second by Tyrone Butler, passed.

G) EB recommendation that if the President or Vice President does not use all of their Union earned vacation pay, it can be rolled over to the next year or cashed in at the request of the Union Officer. Motion made by Dominick Lignelli, second by Steve Klein, passed.

H) EB recommendation that the President or Vice President will receive one Union vacation day for each 8 hours of annual leave lost above the 5 days already spelled out in our by-laws. Motion by Steve Klein, second by Dominick Lignelli, passed.

I) We need to have a Trustee's meeting. A chair to this meeting must be named. Trustees please choose a date and decide who will be the chair.

J) Steve Klein announced that there are still some vacancies left on the Atlantic City bus trip for Feb. 18, 2007.

K) There is a need for a steward in Diamond Farms and it was decided to hold an election there for 2 stewards. A notice will be put up and elections will be held 15 days later.

L) Questions were asked about the Rockville Intervention. President Lerch said that the whole Intervention process had degraded. RAA Vada Preston will be coming down to sit in on a future session.

M) Shearly Shawn asked for ideas for MDA fundraising.

N) Discussion on Management having carriers sign off on clean cases (no sleepers) and on being told to scan parcels as arrived was discussed. Also discussion on serious Article 8 violations in the Potomac station right now.

9) Improvement of Service-None

10) Good of the Association- It was asked that individual members and tables keep the talking at a minimum so that all members would be able to hear the meeting.

11) Treasurer's Report – Motion to accept by Steve Klein, second by Gary Kirwin, passed.

12) Motion to adjourn by Sergio Lemus, second by Clay Baldwin, Passed.

Recording Secretary,
Amy Campaign for Tom Preston