

Union Meeting Minutes March 7, 2012

Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Guests announced in attendance:

Carriers from Silver Spring.

1) Roll Call- All present, accept for Viktor Fraker.

2) Minutes from the February Meeting. Motion to dispense with reading the February minutes and accept as written and distributed. Motion by, Mike Hotovy. 2nd. by, Vivian Walker.

Motion carries.

3) Communications

Robert Weisner was asked to come up front. President Lerch gave Bert an above and beyond the call of duty compliment. Bert did 133 settlements in a three day period, mostly for money. The Branch gave Bert the proper Kudos, as he was given the Letter Carrier hip, hip hooray.

AA) Passed out Grievance summaries.

A) Next Union meeting is Wed. April 4, at 7:00 pm. National Business Agent, Tim Dowdy will attend. Please tell people to come to the April meeting.

B) Next Executive Board meeting is Wed. March 28, at 6:30 p.m.

C) Next Steward's meeting is Wed. March 14, at 6:30 p.m.

D) Grievances of note.....Read at meeting by President Lerch.

E) Clockrings after 1800. We are doing well in Rockville but, please tell your Steward about Carriers out after 1800 so we can get the clockrings and prevail in Window of Operation cases.

F) Please consider signing up for COLCPE. Our COLCPE coordinator is Shearly Shawn. This money goes to support legislation beneficial to Letter Carriers and their families and to support candidates that support Letter Carriers. We are asking for one dollar per pay period.

G) Any comments on our AWARD WINNING newsletter or our NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED web site? www.nalc3825.com. The web site has been updated many times recently. WE are going to put out a newsletter very soon.

H) Passed out vote by mail FACT SHEET. Read at meeting by President Lerch.

- I) State President, Tonya Detrick, communication. Read at meeting.
- J) President's meeting with Kelvin Williams. Untimely pay adjustments. Lerch suggested that District Manager, Kelvin Williams, put out a letter to all Supervisors encouraging them to make the adjustments within 2 pay periods. Williams' response was, "Sounds like you're trying to tell me how to do my job. I'll let this one go one time and one time only Lerch." President Lerch response was- "It's just a suggestion. You can take it or throw it in the trash." Williams agreed that two pay periods to receive a pay adjustment was reasonable.
- K) NALC Fact Sheet on S. 1789. Passed out and read at meeting. This could be coming up for a vote very soon. Lerch asked everyone to stay vigilant on this all important legislation. The USPS can't survive with the current language in S 1789!!!!!!
- L) Dowdy communication dated February 14, 2012. Passed out and read at meeting.
- M) Jerome Hotten, head of District route inspections, sent the Branch a new schedule for 6 day mail counts. Passed out and read at meeting. Much discussion ensued.
- N) We got letters from three branches thanking us for the fine article written by Mike Hotovy in our newsletter and they reprinted Mike's article in their newsletter. GREAT JOB MIKE!
- O) NALC Bulletin dated February 24, 2012. Read at meeting
- P) Steward elections for Germantown and Gaithersburg Main Office. No one has signed up.

4) Application for Membership- Faith Thomas

6) Committee Reports

- A) George Abid is our by-laws coordinator. Committee so far is George Abid, Kenneth Lerch, Chuck Clark, Tom Preston, Shearly Shawn, Sergio Lemus and Viktor Fraker.(Viktor was not mentioned at this meeting. He submitted his name however, last month) Anyone else? Steve Klein also volunteered. George wants to meet after the budget is passed and that made sense to the Executive Board. The By-laws Committee will meet on March 21, 2012 at 6:30 pm at the Union Office.
- B) Budget Committee met four times and presented a budget to the Executive Board which will be brought up tonight.. The

committee members are Kenneth Lerch, Chuck Clark, Tom Preston, Beth Parsons, Shearly Shawn, Kevin Abernathy, Gary Kirwin, George Abid, Mark Munro and Tim Smith. Steve Klein will also be attending this meeting. (We are bringing in more than ONE THOUSAND dollars LESS every two weeks than a year ago!)

C) NALC Food Drive is May 12, 2012. Shearly Shawn is our coordinator. Shearly would like to have a Coordinator at each office.

D) Picnic Committee. Kevin Abernathy is our Picnic Coordinator. Picnic Committee so far is Kevin Abernathy, Robert Weisner, Sergio Lemus, George Abid, Ismael Lemus and Arlene Galang. Anyone else want to volunteer? Ken Lerch, Clariza Turner, Claudia Jimenez, Kimie Yang, Mark Munro, Walter Peralta, and Tom Preston also volunteered.

7) MBA Report- None

8) Health Benefits Report- None

9) New Business

A) We sent 16 Stewards to two days of intensive training in Hagerstown. President Lerch thought that the training was excellent. We spent approximately \$7,400.00 . Any comments? Kevin Abernathy, Tim Smith, and Shearly Shawn gave sum-ups. All stated that the training was very good. Lerch said that this is an investment in the Branch's future. We want our members to have the best possible representation!

B) The Executive Board recommends that we support the Budget committee's proposal. Do we have a motion to accept the EB recommendation which is being passed out? Major changes- We are bringing in more than one thousand dollars LESS per pay period (\$26,000 less per year) than we used to bring in with dues. We reduced the pay for Union work at the office by \$20,000. We eliminated the Convention reimbursement. And even with all of this, if we make this budget, we will run a deficit of approximately \$17,000. Motion to accept the Budget proposal by, Mike Hotovy. 2nd by, Steve Klein. Motion carried overwhelmingly.

C)The Executive Board recommends that we send 5 more people to the Regional Officers' training in Dover Delaware at the cost of approximately \$900.00 more per person or \$4,500.00. In addition

to President Lerch, Chuck Clark and Beth Parsons, President Lerch wants Kevin Abernathy, Shearly Shawn, Gary Kirwin, Sergio Lemus, and Vivian Walker. Motion by, Robert Weisner. 2nd by, Kirkland Walker. Motion called for a division. Motion passed overwhelmingly.

D) The following were excused by motion at tonight's meeting. 1) Ismael Lemus, by, Erbin Valdez. 2nd. by, Mike Shawn. 2) Theo Anthony, by Mike Curley. 2nd by, Burt Weisner. 3) Viktor Fraker by, Steve Klein. 2nd. by, Shearly Shawn. 4) Bobby Grier by Marcel Ward. 2nd. by, Mark Baker. 5) Greg Brooks, by, Kevin Abernathy. 2nd. by, Tony Gatling. 6) Claudia Jimenez, by Kevin Abernathy. 2nd. by, Don Lewis. All were passed by Motion.

10 Improvement of Service- NONE

11) Good of the Association- No drawings this month.

12) Treasurer's Report- Given by Beth Parsons. Motion to accept by, Steve Klein. 2nd. by, Kevin Abernathy. Motion carries.

13 Motion to Adjourn- Motion to adjourn by Vivian Walker. 2nd. by Buzzy Denell. Motion carries. Meeting Adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas A. Preston
Recording Secretary, Branch 3825