



American Federation of Government Employees Local 476

Affiliated with AFL-CIO

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GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Auditorium C

The following members of the Executive Board were present: Ashaki Robinson Johns (President), Eddie Eitches (1st Vice President), Will Taylor (2nd Vice President), and Kirk Mensah (Secretary). Monique Love (Treasurer) was absent.

Ashaki called the meeting to order at 12:09pm, a quorum of 25+ members was met. Ashaki asked if there were any proposed amendments to the May 28, 2015, General Membership Meeting minutes. No amendments were offered. There was a motion to approve the May 2015 minutes; the motion was seconded and passed. There was a motion to approve the amended January 2015 minutes; the motion was seconded and passed.

Monique presented the Treasurer's Report and explained that the amounts show what has been expended thus far. There was a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report; the motion was seconded and passed.

Old Business

Chief Stewards Report – Ashaki briefed the members about some of the successes of the Union has had including reduced suspension times, reprimands instead of suspension, restored LWOP and telework. Ashaki also briefed the members about the road blocks in the Reasonable Accommodations Office and that a meeting has been set up to address them. Ashaki continued to inform members to bring any personnel issues to the Union's attention.

Food Patron Committee Report – Ashaki stated that there is political will to get the cafeteria open again. She stated that upper management will involve officials from GSA to help move through road blocks. Ashaki stated that the Deputy Secretary's Office is still interested in the idea of a cafeteria. Eddie Eitches mentioned the security issue involving the use of the cafeteria.

New Core - Ashaki reported that the process of transferring BFS to Treasury has presented numerous issues for the Department. The Union, OIG, and members of the US Senate have expressed concerns that there are no real cost savings as previously mentioned. Ashaki mentioned that the go live date of October 1, 2015, is very ambitious and causes a lot of angst. Ashaki stated she has issued a Demand to Bargain because OCFO has moved forward with the move without bargaining with the Union. Ashaki mentioned that the OCFO has promised that no one will lose their jobs but nothing has been put in writing. Ashaki also mentioned that the Union's confidence with the OCFO has waned since the untimely death of the Chief Financial Officer. A member raised a concern about funding for IT functions. Ashaki stated that is also the concern of the OIG. A member questioned with offices will be affected by New Core. Ashaki reported that all offices that deal with financial transactions will be affected from PIH to CPD. Members are concerned with the drop in customer service when/if the transition is complete. Ashaki also reported that the Senate will move funding for New Core from OCFO to OCIO thereby underscoring the uncertainty of New Core. A member asked about the transfer of duties. Will Taylor reported that it will be against FAR regulations to subcontract out inherently governmental functions. Ashaki stated that although it may be against FAR regulations, it does not mean it will not be done.

OCFO BUYOUT- Ashaki stated the Buyout ended abruptly due to negotiations with the current contract. Since the signing of the new contract, OCFO now wants to negotiate the 25K portion of the buyout. OCFO now wants to implement tiered buyouts. Ashaki reported that meditation on the issue is scheduled for August. Ashaki stated that management did not offer the buyout to bargaining unit employees because the Union was being difficult. Ashaki reported that the OCHCO buyout was done in a similar way in that notification was given to the Union approximately two days prior to OCHCO offering the buyouts to its employees without the opportunity to Bargain.

Committed to improving the workplace

New Business

Contract – Ashaki reported that the new Collective Bargaining Agreement was signed on July 23, 2015. Some of the highlights include removing the first line supervisor in the grievance process, Maxiflex, and promotions. Members asked how the contract will be implemented. Ashaki stated that there will be lunch and learn sessions and email blasts.

OPM Breach – Ashaki reported that AFGE National has filed a grievance requesting lifetime credit monitoring among other things. She also stated that OPM has stated that Federal Agencies will be responsible for paying a portion of the monitoring. Ashaki also stated that negotiations are forthcoming and she anticipates funding to be a major impasse.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed. The July 2015 General Membership Meeting was adjourned at 1:03pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirk Mensah
Secretary
AFGE Local 476