

Minutes of the Northwest Conference of the Amalgamated Transit Union

Annual Executive Board Conference

Rio All-Suites Hotel & Casino

Las Vegas, NV

January 22-24, 2009

January 23, 2009

Meeting called to order at 9:03 AM by Conference President Isaac Tate.

17 Registered Board Members (Business Reps) or representatives counted at Conference Opening:

34 Union members present

Moment of silence for 'lost' members

Introduction of Delegates

IVP Don Hansen spoke regarding the new U.S Presidential outcome and hope. He explained the absence of some International Officers from this Conference.

IVP Ron Heintzman spoke regarding his trip to Poland to attend a conference on climate change and the importance of increasing transit and how Unions must be involved. Ron talked about contract negotiating.

Mike Mahar explained the current status on Ottawa Local 279 whose agency had to cut employees' hours by 30% - they worked with the company and decided to cut each members' hours and not do any layoffs.

Isaac inquired about the connection between the ATU International, Poland and Romania. Ron H. explained that the Conference was just held in Poland.

Patty Ceis gave the financial report.

- *Lance Norton made a motion to accept the Financial Report, Rita Dilenno second; passed unanimous. IVP Don Hansen thought correspondence should be sent to Locals inquiring about their per capita tax and/or participation in the NWC.*

Isaac gave a report on the California Conference Board that he attended. He was impressed by their lobbying and legal staff.

Dennis Antonellis commented on the California Conference Board and the WSLC organization.

Local Reports

Bob Bean (unwritten) Local 1433 Phoenix, AZ

Karen Newman Local 398 Boise, ID

10:13 break

Reconvened at 10:40am

Patty explained in more detail what the last 6 months of 2008 expenses were, as requested by a member.

Local Reports (con't.)

Steve Nelson Local 1599 Tri-Cities, WA

Kathleen Custer Local 1576 Snohomish County, WA

Jon Hunt Local 757 Portland, OR

- Karen Newman, made a motion to have the NWC endorse and support that Jon Hunt present his "Victim Impact Statement " (which is public record) to the International for publication in the In Transit magazine ASAP. Rita Dilenno seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

Rita Dilenno Local 1384 Kitsap County

Break for Lunch at 11:56am

Reconvened at 1:40pm

Presentation from Kevin Hawkins and Kitty Simmons, Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS)

2:45 pm break

Reconvened at 3:05pm

FMCS presentation con't.

Local Reports (con't.)

Isaac Tate *Local 758* *Pierce County, WA*

Jon Hunt made motioned to adjourn, second by Karen Stites at 3:45pm.

Meeting Re-convened at 9:10am Saturday, January 24, 2009

Stu Litwinowich *Local 569* *Edmonton, AB*

Mike Mahar *Local 583* *Calgary, AB*

Lance Norton *Local 587* *Seattle, WA*

Rod Dunn *Local 382* *Salt Lake City, UT*

Dennis Antonellis *Local 1015/ATULC* *Spokane, WA*

Karen Stites *Local 1765* *Olympia, WA*

Break at 10:15am

Reconvened at 10:43am

Local Reports (con't.)

Steve Oss *Local 883* *Everett, WA*

Keith Morris *Local 843* *Bellingham, WA*

Greg Winkenweder *Local 615* *Saskatoon, Sask*

Bernie Catlin *Local 1637* *Las Vegas, NV*

Judy Young, Local 587, explained the arrangements made for hosting the June '09 conference in Seattle, WA. She handed out a letter to get head counts for prearranged activities and outline the dates and hours and accommodations. The letter needs to be returned to Judy before May 6, 2009. Per the NWC by-laws, the Conference call letter is sent out 60 days prior to the Conference.

Isaac described our new ATUNWC website.

Break for lunch at 11:52am.

Reconvened at 1:45pm

New Business:

Isaac discussed the cost of this Conference and the number of attendees regarding Article 7 (Executive Board), and asked for some solutions for the future to make the Conference affordable. Mike Mahar thought in the past there was a registration for rep's and guests. Ike read Article 1, regarding attendees for the Executive Meeting.

- Mike Mahar made a motion to change the by-laws to have a registration fee for the Executive board meetings and mirror the June Conference for delegates and guests. Keith Morris seconded. Unanimous. Motion carried.*
- Mike Mahar made a motion to change the by-laws to read that the registration fee will be \$25 each for delegates, members, and guests. Jon Hunt seconded. Discussion. Two nays, motion carried.*
- Motion by Mike Mahar, Lance Norton seconded, to pay bills and expenses of this Conference/meeting. Unanimous. Motion carried.*
- Motion by Mike Mahar, seconded by Dennis Antonellis, to pay Pattie Clark, ATU 758 office administrator, the sum of \$500 for the ATU NWC website. Unanimous, motion carried.*

Discussion about the importance of a good education agenda for the Conferences. Doug Johannes suggested that for the future we should all know that the International has stated willingness to assist in that area. Don Hansen said it must be requested well in advance.

Lance Norton asked if the NWC would consider going on record that since several International Executive Officers will be retiring, and he would support, Ron Heintzman for International President and the NWC endorse him at the International Convention. Ron stated he would be willing to take the position if offered. Discussion followed.

Ron Heintzman stressed the issue of the Teamsters' 'no raid' agreement expiring in March, '09 and that they'll be going after our members at that time. He feels our Union has to get tough with them as soon as possible.

Kenny McCormick motioned, Karen Newman second to adjourn. Unanimous, motion carried.

Isaac Tate closed the meeting at 3:38pm.