

MINUTES – STA BOARD MEETING

SEPTEMBER 4, 2018

Meeting called to order by Jackie Lawrence, STA President at 3:15 PM.

Present: Megan Brady, Rami Bridge, Patricia Di Pasquale, David Di Pietro, Donna Fils-Aime, Laurie Foley, Agnes Gallant, Roy Gardener, Ben Garton, Jamal Halawa, Jacquelyn Lawrence, Sharon Levesque, Deborah Lewis, Karen Murdock, Theresa Nickerson, Deborah Pacino, Nina Romano, Gloria Salazar, Tom Serino, Rachel Shapp, Lis Stark, Stephen Stephano Linda Walsh

Not Present: Carlos Contreras, Deborah Di Russo (E)

Guests: Charlene Buckley, Ana Nogueira, Les Lartey, Laura Brooks, Maureen Cullinane,
Amanda Monteiro, Stu Whitney

Nomination papers were received from the Brown School. A motion was made to accept Sharyn Von Trapp as a Board member.

New Board members introduced themselves. A number of guests attended this meeting.

Mark Kirwan, Chair of the Unit A Negotiating Team, addressed the Board. The hope is that negotiations will continue in good faith and information will go to the members shortly thereafter. The object of the Negotiating Team is to get a good deal. They are looking for positive and productive negotiations.

Mark responded to questions about communications. Negotiations are complicated and it is hard to update members in a timely manner. The Negotiating Team is committed to improved communications. There are restrictions on talking to the media but not to Unit A members.

Mark Kirwan said the process of negotiating between the STA and Management is a process of give and take. One member expressed that they did not understand what the give and take was and is upset about it.

ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

A director asked if it is okay to use a sick say for a doctor's appointment instead of a bed-side care day. If a member needs to attend a medical appointment that cannot reasonably addressed outside the work day, the member can use a sick day.

If members chose not to join the union, there will be a form to sign stating your understanding of such.

The STA received a thank you note from Jay Teixeira for his retirement bowl.

Jackie is giving out MTA cards during open office hours. If members cannot connect, the building reps will distribute cards.

A member is concerned that summer school is always being held at the same school and wishes that it would revolve building to building. Jackie said that almost every school had a program this summer. Summer school work is done outside of the contract.

The STA website is under construction and will be up and running soon. Lots of information will be found there. School e-mail cannot be used for union business – only personal e-mails.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

A motion was made to accept the minutes from the last Board meeting (6-12-18). Motion was seconded and passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Reports made during May and June were given out to the Board. A motion was made to approve the May, 2018 report. Motion was accepted, seconded and passed. A motion was made to approve the June, 2018 report. Motion was accepted, seconded and passed.

GRIEVANCE REPORT

There was a grievance at the end of the school year with SCALE hiring. A letter went out to the members addressing the issue.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Powder House Studios Negotiations Update : They are moving forward with their MOA. The STA has two sticking points: License and seniority lists.

Health Insurance Trust Fund Update

Over the summer, the STA through our attorney assigned by MTA, circulated a consent order to resolve the issue related to the Health Insurance trust fund. Once this order is agreed upon by all city unions and the city, the order (which would be a settlement) needs to be sent to a judge to rule on it. If it accepted by the judge, the money will be dispersed soon in a cash lump sum to people who were enrolled in the city's health plan as of July 1, 2012.

Calendar Review:

A question came up about staggering the STA meetings to different days, not just Tuesdays. The calendar will be given out at the next meeting and discussion will take place.

Unit A Negotiation

A question about getting information out to the members faster and in more details.

Thinking of putting info on the website.

Guest Speaker Policy at STA Meetings

A paper was given out on MTA's policy on guest speakers. The Board was asked to read through it so there can be a conversation about it at the next Board meeting.

Old Business

Membership Engagement Team was wondering what the mechanism is for acting on their ideas. Has questions about by-laws.

New Business

Propose the new mechanism for acting on ideas.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Deborah Pacino, STA Recording Secretary