

AFM Local 1000 Minutes Of General Membership Meeting

Date: 18 February 2013

Location: Folk Alliance International Conference, Westin Crown Center Hotel, Kansas City, MO

Members in Attendance: Tret Fure, President; Debra Cowan, Vice-President U. S.; Eve Goldberg, Vice-President Canada; Scott Berwick, Secretary/Treasurer; Charlie Pilzer, Eastern Regional Representative; Aaron Fowler, Mid-Western Regional Representative, Daniel Boling, Western Regional Representative; Rosalyn Dennett, Laura Dungan, Frank Evans, Greg Greenway, Spook Handy, Joe Jencks, Mara Levine, Cosby Lin, Austin Nash, Kathy Peters, Amber Rogers, Erin Rogers, Angela Saini, Alastair Whitehead, Ken Whiteley, Pat Wictor, Bob Wright (24)

Opening Song: We opened the meeting with a song from Dan Boling “Leadbelly, Woody & Pete”.

Call To Order: There being a quorum, President Fure called the meeting to order at 4:20 PM CST. (24 members present.) President Fure passed the “gavel” to Vice-President Cowan because President Fure's flights had been delayed and V-P Cowan had been chairing the previous day's Executive Board Meeting.

Approval Of Minutes: The Minutes of the previous Membership Meeting from 13 November 2014 were approved on a motion by Austin Nash and second by Cathy Fink.

Treasurer's Report: Secretary/Treasurer Scott Berwick passed around the 2014 Fiscal Year Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Report. He gave a brief summary of their contents and answered questions. The reports were approved on a motion by Austin Nash and second by Joe Jencks. (The Balance Sheet and the Profit & Loss Report are attached to the Minutes.)

Secretary/Treasurer Berwick announced that we had retained the same accountants as we had last year to continue to work with us and that they had reduced their fee from \$4000 per year to \$2500. He noted that we had already closed out our books for last year, had filed our LM-3 report and we were poised to file our Federal 990 form as soon as the IRS made it available.

Next, Secretary/Treasurer Berwick introduced the 2015 Budget that had been prepared by the Executive Board. After some brief discussion, Austin Nash made a motion to accept the budget as proposed. After a second by Erin Rogers, the membership approved the budget. (The Budget is attached to the Minutes.)

Member Gathering at Ashokan: Eastern Representative Charlie Pilzer gave a report on the upcoming Member Gathering at the Ashokan Center, Olivebridge, NY on May 4, 5, 6, 2015. Ysaye Barnwell, Jay Unger, and Molly Mason will be our mentors at this event. We are trying to line up one more. Registration will open soon on the Local 1000 website. Cost per person will be \$275, however we will offer scholarships to help members on tight budgets to attend. We may set up the Registration on a “Sliding Scale” basis.

Canadian Report: Eve Goldberg, Vice-President Canada is looking for Canadian members to join a committee to work on member issues in Canada.

Membership Committee: Midwestern Representative Aaron Fowler reported on the workings of the Membership Committee. First, he passed out a survey the committee has worked up to see what our members concerns and interests are, so that Local 1000 can plan programs to address these areas of interest. He thanked Amber Rogers, Erin Rogers, and Joe Jencks for their help in creating a plan for the committee's work. Plans are in the works to help members understand the Dues structure (Annual and/or Quarterly) and the Pension Plan (how it works, getting vested, and the best strategies for both younger and older participants). We are looking toward hosting online workshops on these subjects for members. They are also looking to create apps that will help with union business and considering some incentives for members who are Joint Members with other locals.

The Utah Phillips Lifetime Service to Labor Award: In recognition of his 12 years of service as Canadian Vice-President, Ken Whiteley was honored with the "Utah Phillips Lifetime Service to Labor Award". The award was presented by President Tret Fure on behalf of Local 1000. In the warm-up to the presentation of the award, new Canadian Vice-President Eve Goldberg presented some outlandishly colorful socks and a flamboyant kitchen apron (from the continuing board members) in celebration of Ken's flair for colorful footwear and his legendary culinary prowess.

Contracts and Work Dues: V-P U. S. Debra Cowan re-iterated the importance of filing contracts and work dues for both the benefit of the member, but also the continued health of the union. Those members working infrequently can opt to pay the "Work Dues Equivalency" of \$69. The work dues are the main source of income that keeps the office functioning. Eastern Rep Charlie Pilzer noted that the web site is now set up to accept automatic scheduled payments.

Announcement: Spook Handy invited interest members to join the chorus on "Banks of Marble" on his upcoming "Pete Seeger Remembered" CD. Those interested could get their track recorded while at Folk Alliance.

Closing Song: Ken Whiteley led the closing song "Quite Early Morning" by Pete Seeger. Frank Evans provided the banjo accompaniment.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:57 PM CST

Respectively submitted,

Scott Berwick, Secretary/Treasurer