

AFM Local 1000 Minutes of General Membership Meeting

Date: 9 November 2018

Location: NERFA, Crown Plaza Stamford Hotel, Stamford, CT

Time: 10:00 AM EST

Members in Attendance: Eve Goldberg, President; Charlie Pilzer, Eastern Executive Committee Member; Scott Berwick, Designated Recorder of Minutes for this Meeting; Daniel Boling; Liv Cazzola; John Dillon; Gina Forsyth (arrived at 10:40 AM); Tret Fure; Bev Grant (arrived at 10:45 AM); Greg Greenway; Joe Jencks; Charlie King; Mara Levine; John McConnell (arrived 10:40 AM); Vivian Nesbitt; John O'Connor; Braden Phelan; Dan Senie; Faith Senie; Steven Suffet;

Observing via Zoom: Aaron Fowler, Vice President from the United States; Gary Hermus, Western Executive Committee Member; Debra Cowan

Excused: Vi Wickam, Secretary-Treasurer; Kev Corbett, Vice President from Canada

Also in Attendance: Local 1000 Administrative Director Richard Coombs.

Opening Song: Scott Berwick led us in singing "Singing Through The Hard Times" by U. Utah Phillips.

Call To Order: A quorum being present, President Goldberg called the meeting to order at 10:15 AM EST. (14 members present plus 3 online via Zoom.)

Introductions: President Goldberg welcomed us and asked each of us present to introduce ourselves in turn.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the 14 February 2018 Membership Meeting were accepted as submitted with 3 spelling corrections: O'Conner to O'Connor; Cowen to Cowan; Raido to Radio.

Gina Forsyth, Bev Grant, and John McConnell joined the meeting. (17 present plus 3 online)

Secretary-Treasurer's Report: Eastern Executive Committee Member Charlie Pilzer presented the reports that had been prepared by Secretary-Treasurer Wickam. After reviewing the reports, they were accepted on a motion by John O'Connor, second by Joe Jencks, and unanimous vote. (Reports attached.)

In the discussion following the acceptance of the reports the group felt that we needed to consider several things to resolve Local 1000's fiscal problems. Items demanding consideration include AFM Per Cap payments, Filing of Contracts, Work Dues, and Work Dues Equivalency payments. President Goldberg decided to create a "Working Group on the Financial Sustainability of Local 1000." Charlie King, Vivian Nesbitt and John O'Connor volunteered to serve on this committee. Other members will also be recruited.

Nominations and Elections:

Nominating Committee Report: Charlie King reported for the Nominating Committee consisting of himself as chairman, along with Erin Mae Lewis and Reggie Harris. The Committee submitted the following candidates for election to terms of office to begin 1 January 2019: Aaron Fowler for Vice President from the United States; Rosalyn Dennett for Eastern Executive Committee Member; Gary Paul Hermus for a one-year term for Western Executive Committee Member. The Nominating Committee proposed that President Eve Goldberg, Founding Member John O'Connor and Secretary-Treasurer Vi Wickam be elected as AFM Convention Delegates to represent Local 1000. President Goldberg thanked the Nominating Committee for their work. (Report attached.)

Election of Vice President from the United States: President Goldberg invited nominations from the floor. Nominations were closed on a motion by Joe Jencks, second by Daniel Boling, and unanimous vote. There being no nominations from the floor, Aaron Fowler is elected Vice President from the United States by acclamation.

Election of Eastern Executive Committee Member: President Goldberg invited nominations from the floor. Nominations were closed on a motion by Bev Grant, second by John Dillon and unanimous vote. There being no nominations from the floor, Rosalyn Dennett is elected Eastern Executive Committee Member by acclamation.

Election of Western Executive Committee Member: President Goldberg invited nominations from the floor. Nominations were closed on a motion by Tret Fure, second by Faith Senie and unanimous vote. There being no nominations from the floor, Gary-Paul Hermus is elected Western Executive Committee Member for a one year term by acclamation.

Election of AFM Convention Delegates: President Goldberg invited nominations from the floor. Nominations were closed on a motion by Joe Jencks, second by Vivian Nesbitt and unanimous vote. There being no nominations from the floor, Eve Goldberg, John O'Connor, and Vi Wickam were elected as AFM Convention Delegates

Liv Cazzola, Greg Greenway, John McConnell, and Braden Phelan left the meeting at 11:30. (13 members present plus 3 online).

President's Report: President Goldberg has learned that we need to make some Bylaw Revisions in order to bring our practice of electronic board and committee meetings into line with the AFM bylaws. John O'Connor has forwarded us language used in the by-laws of Local 443 which we can use to help us craft appropriate language. A secondary issue is whether there is a way to allow for members to participate electronically in membership meetings. This is a more complex issue that the board is looking into and may or may not be possible right away.

She also reported on the progress on the "Sexual Harassment" Policy for Local 1000.

Office Report: Administrative Director Richard Coombs reported that the new "Bill & Pay" system has been a great improvement for billing and collecting members' dues, saving time and effort both for members and for the office staff.

Aaron Fowler expressed his appreciation for the excellent job that both Richard Coombs and Colin Dean do for our union.

President Goldberg reported that she, Aaron, Fowler, Colin Dean, and Richard Coombs were working on completing the Local 1000 Policy and Procedures Manual. A big thanks is due to Debra Cowan, Deborah Van Kleef, and Steve Eulberg for their hard work in putting most of the manual together a number of years ago.

Communications Committee: This committee is presently working to update and upgrade our website, improve our cyber union membership workshops, and update our Facebook pages.

Fair Trade Music Committee: John McCutcheon, Eve Goldberg, Debra Cowan, John O'Connor and John Dillon will be working on growing the program.

New Business: Mara Levine updated us on how some of our members are doing on the Folk DJ charts.

Recognition: President Goldberg thanked outgoing Eastern Executive Committee Member Charlie Pilzer for his outstanding service to the union over the last 6 years.

Charlie thanked Eve and asked our younger members to step up to serve their union so that it will continue to grow and be there for Traveling Musicians in the future.

Closing Song: John O'Connor led the group in singing "Carry It On" by Gil Turner to close the meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 AM on a motion by John Dillon.

Respectfully submitted, Scott Berwick, Designated Recorder