

Minutes – Vancouver Area Council meeting

April 8, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 5:14 PM

In attendance (*delegate designation below means voting delegate for the Area Council):

Sharon Tieman, UPCE 20101 (delegate)
Jazz Nagra, UVAE 20045 (delegate)
S. Marie Lygo, UVAE 20045 (delegate)
Megan Adam, UEW 20147 (delegate)
Rob Hellenius, DCL 20501 (guest)
Rhonda Johns, UPCE 20095 (delegate)
Sam Wiese, CEIU 20949 (delegate)
Jamey Mills, UTE 20027 (guest)
Teri Lee, AGR 20044 (delegate)

1. Introductions

-meeting began with a quick round of introductions. The group welcomed Rob to his first Area Council meeting.
-all shared that they have delegate status to Regional Convention, except for Rob who may come as an observer.

2. Resolutions to Convention

-The Area Council had lively discussion on the resolutions and noted in particular the resolutions they have authored.
-By-Laws resolutions: Sam, a member of this Committee, walked the Area Council through the by-laws resolutions and noted typos for correction. ***Sam will forward these corrections to the committee.***
-General resolutions: it was explained that if no or only some general resolutions are addressed at convention, they can still be referred to the Regional Council, but those that need to go to national convention would have to be submitted by a constitutionally recognized body. Megan, the chair of this Committee, walked through the resolutions.
-Finance: Sam presented the resolutions for this Committee.

3. Regional Convention

-*Motion*: to have the Vancouver & District Area Council pay the Leave Without Pay of its Regional Convention delegate, Jazz Nagra, for Friday, April 18, 2008 and to also cover the convention delegate fee. (m/s Sam, Megan, CARRIED).

4. May Day Organizing Committee (MDOC)

-Monica updated the Area Council on upcoming events of the MDOC:

-**"International Workers Day" Cultural Solidarity Evening on** Saturday, April 26, 2008, at 7:00 pm. Rhizome Cafe, Vancouver, 317 East Broadway at Kingsway and Broadway

Reclaim May 1st, International Worker's Day! March for workers' rights!

May Day March & Rally on Thursday, May 1, 2008

5:30 pm || Gather at Clark Park at Commercial Drive and East 14th

6:00 pm || May Day March

-*Motion*: to continue to endorse and participate in the May Day Organizing Committee; to provide \$100 support; and to send out donation info to affiliated locals to encourage them to also support. (m/s Sam, Megan, CARRIED)

5. Round

- UVAE 20045 (Veterans Affairs) – lack of official languages training is really stunting the members professional development as no one can get a job above PM-03 without being bilingual. Jazz has been team leading (other side of the fence) but has been educating other team leaders who are PSAC members to know their rights, take their breaks. AGM went well, has a representative going to UVAE Convention.
- DCL 20501 (Commissionaires) – they have H&S issues, particularly a lack of a MRSA protocol. There were 8,000 MRSA deaths last year in Canada (the SARS crisis only had 42), yet, little is being done to address this issue. Some info can be found on the PSAC-BC BRUSH forum on-line.
- UPCE 20095 (Purolator) – two new facilities (one in Langley) so the local is gaining members. Have a planning meeting this weekend.
- UPCE 20101 (Canada Post) – holding bargaining demands ratification votes this weekend, Notice to Bargain will be served on May 1st, contract ends in March. Some of their work is going to other bargaining units outside of the UPCE/PSAC: such as APOC, CUPW
- UEW 20147 (Fisheries & Oceans) – no update in particular from Local, but Megan, as PA member negotiator shared the PA group will be tabling their wage package on April 21. SV group is getting apprenticeship language, which is a first in the Public Service.
- AGR 20044 (CFIA/Grain) – Grain campaign is going quite well nationally. Lobbying lots of Members of Parliament, to try and put a stop to Bill C-39 that could force 200 members to lose their jobs. On CFIA side, there's a big demand for Inspectors, can't hire them fast enough. This is the biggest they've ever been, about 9,000 members now.

Meeting adjourned at 7:24 PM