

**United Educators of San Francisco
Executive Board**

Wednesday, June 1, 2005, 4:00 p.m.

Minutes

Agenda (Please note that certain items were taken out of order in the interest of time and speaker availability.)

1. Roll Call..... Roberto Michel, Sergeant at Arms
Brother Michel did an oral roll call of members, including those being sworn in at today's meeting.

2. Minutes Susan Solomon, Secretary
M/S/C to accept the minutes of the May 4, 2005 Executive Board meeting as presented.

Financial Report..... Elaine Merriweather
M/S/C to accept the May 31 financial report as presented. Copies of a letter to Paulette Terrell, Director of Fiscal Services of SFUSD, from Dennis Kelly and Elaine Merriweather, were distributed to explain the situation with UESF's debt to the district for release time, which the district is currently using in a political way. The district has not submitted accurate information to UESF in their billing. UESF has been repaying the district, first at a rate of \$38,000/month for 2000- 2001, and then \$16,000/month for 2001-2002.

M/S/C to move into COPE. M/S/C to accept the COPE report as presented. M/S/C to move out of COPE.

Special Order of Business

1. Brother Kelly introduced Phil Angelides, California State Treasurer and gubernatorial candidate.

Inauguration of 2005-2007 Officers and Executive Board: Phil Angelides spoke, expressing his appreciation and respect for our work, and addressing current issues. He swore in the 2005-2007 members of the Executive Board.

Angelides answered questions from members about his positions on various topics.

Brother Kelly introduced Tim Paulson, Executive Director of the San Francisco Labor Council, who spoke about recent work that unions have been doing. With less than 24 hours' notice, over 300 people were mobilized to rally in front of City Hall, where Schwarzenegger was participating in an environmental event. Brother Paulson spoke about the work we need to do to mobilize and win elections. There are nine counties in which we can win elections, and thereby win the statewide elections. He was with us at our rally on May 11.

Executive Board members briefly introduced themselves to each other.

M/S/C **President's Recommendations for Expenditures**..... Dennis Kelly

1. Laborfest 2005 ¼ page ad (retroactive).....\$200.00
2. AFT ER&D.....\$1,880.00
3. Dist. 11 Democratic Club (6/3, 7pm-Spanish Cultural Center)... 4@\$40.00=\$160.00
4. Pride Parade (June 26th) up to \$600.00

Gerry Meister announced that Sharon Johnson won the election to the HSS Board.

Resolutions

1. This resolution came from a committee and the Assembly, so it requires no second.
M/S/C with one abstention: Counter Recruitment Resolution.....Tom Edminster

Whereas military recruitment has a direct impact on the students and families of San Francisco,

Therefore Be It Resolved, that UESF opposes U.S. military recruiters using public school, college and university facilities to recruit young people into the armed forces; and

Be It Further Resolved that UESF endorses the College Not Combat initiative; and

Be It Finally Resolved that UESF recommend endorsement of the College Not Combat initiative to the San Francisco Labor Council through the UESF delegation.

2. M/S/C as amended: Resolution in Support of San Francisco Peoples' OrganizationBradley Reeves

WHEREAS San Francisco Peoples' Organization is a new non-profit organization currently being formed in San Francisco, with goals that include increasing the rights of educators, and introducing sunshine and transparency into SFUSD, and

WHEREAS San Francisco Peoples' Organization's further stated goals include opposing all forms of oppression and exploitation, and promoting and encouraging the leadership of women, people of color and others from oppressed, exploited and marginalized communities, and,

WHEREAS San Francisco Peoples' Organization is politically independent of any political party, yet aims to create as broad a coalition as possible in San Francisco to forward compassionate, intelligent issues and legislation, and,

WHEREAS United Educators of San Francisco is the third largest union in San Francisco and a recognized leader in labor and education, serving our members through staunch advocacy, and children through support and inhabitation of the institution of public education, and,

WHEREAS the policies of the San Francisco Unified School District have, at times, served to reduce or exclude public input, infringe upon the right of free speech of school workers, and deny school workers and poor and minority parents and children a role in the shaping of school policy, and,

WHEREAS some members of the business community have already pledged substantial financial and logistical support to our District's Superintendent, which she has used to attack the Union and members of the Board of Education who have been critical of policies of hers, and,

WHEREAS the state of negotiations with SFUSD currently is very contentious and many of our proposals have been rejected outright by District negotiators without regard to how embattled and disenfranchised many San Francisco public school workers already feel,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT United Educators of San Francisco will send observers to the San Francisco Peoples' Organization's founding convention on Saturday, June 11, 2005, to be held at St. Mary's Cathedral, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT observers will report back to the September UESF Executive Board to recommend if UESF will become members.

Brother Reeves described the origin and purpose of the organization. M/S/C to offer the floor to Board of Supervisor member Chris Daly and Bruce Livingston, executive director of Senior Action Network, both of whom were involved, along with Brother Reeves and others, in the founding of SFPO. There will be 27 seats on the SFPO board of directors, with 5 dedicated to labor unions. Labor unions are being asked for a \$1000 membership fee, though this could be waived or reduced if requested. SFPO will be a coalition of labor, CBOs, and caucuses comprised of LGBT, seniors, people of faith, people of color, and youth. SFPO's "Points of Unity—Public Draft" was distributed. What SFPO has worked on so far: fair housing initiative, rights of immigrant parents, antiwar resolution, vote-by-mail campaign on the east side, LGBT civil rights. There was a request to get more information in writing. This is a 503(c)4 organization, which means it is non-partisan. There is no

intention at this time to endorse any candidates, but there is and will be work around issues and initiatives. Work to be done will be determined by the organization. There is no San Francisco residency requirement. There is a \$20 fee that enables a member to vote. The registration fee of \$10 for the founding convention allows one to participate, but not vote.

There was a lengthy discussion about whether to endorse and join SFPO, which the original resolution called for.

3. M/S/C Resolution in Support of a Public DemonstrationBradley Reeves

WHEREAS the San Francisco Unified School District has been traditionally underfunded by the state government, resulting in school closures, reduced educational opportunities for children, and the layoff of school employees, and,

WHEREAS this underfunding has been exacerbated by the renegeing of the current Governor's promise to our affiliate unions to fully fund the voter-approved Proposition 98, which cost school districts nearly two billion dollars, statewide, and,

WHEREAS members of United Educators of San Francisco have organized several public demonstrations in recent months, in support of our contract negotiations, opposing proposed policy chances of the current Governor, school closures, and the layoff of school employees, and at least three-hundred members participated in the May 25, 2005 demonstration held on the Capitol steps in Sacramento, and

WHEREAS United Educators of San Francisco, as a merger of American Federation of Teachers and the National Education Association, their state affiliates, and as a merger of certificated and classified unions, occupy a unique and vital place of leadership in the labor and education communities in San Francisco and the San Francisco Bay Area, and,

WHEREAS United Educators of San Francisco's Contract Organizing Team has been charged with organizing activities that support the negotiation and ratification of a fair contract, which would allow our members to live in the San Francisco Bay Area with dignity and work in the San Francisco Unified School District with the proper respect due them,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that United Educators of San Francisco will support the organization of a public demonstration in the Fall of or immediately preceding the start of the 2005-2006 school year to further carry out the goal of educating our members and the general public to the issues which have been raised by the Union in our current negotiations with San Francisco Unified School District and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT United Educators of San Francisco will provide whatever appropriate logistical and organizational support is necessary to make such a demonstration well attended, informative, and successful.

At 6:00, M/S/F to extend to 6:30. M/S/C to extend to 6:15.

Reports

1. President's ReportDennis Kelly

Brothers Reeves and Kelly attended meeting re: opening of a prison, Delano II, and how needed education funds are being diverted.

Only Malcolm X Elementary School has been offered to UESF as a school with which to work on school reform. UESF did not jump at this offer, but Malcolm X staff has been offered spots with AFT's ER and D program. Malcolm X was offered because it was slated to be closed, and is a 1/1 school.

The way the district is handling the issue of UESF owing money to the district is clearly political. SFSOS, which initially had the support of Democrats, has now shifted to advocating for neighborhood schools to the point of advocating segregation. Mayor Newsom has distanced himself from it. Two items at their recent luncheon: Matt Gonzalez' lawsuit

re Ackerman's raise, and UESF's lawsuit re: skipping over probationary teachers at Dream Schools in the layoff process.

2. Executive Vice-President..... Linda Plack

Hudson reports are available for agency-fee payers, and must be distributed.

There are positions available for UESF summer school workers. There are two openings for MSS positions. Applications are due this Friday. Paraprofessionals are encouraged to apply. Mindy Pines resigned as communications director and newspaper editor. The individual who will take this position will also do public relations. Work is needed on the bylaws over the summer.

M/S/C Resolution Honoring Mindy Pines..... Lita Blanc

WHEREAS Mindy Pines devoted two years to building UESF in her capacity as communications director; editor of *SF Educator*; webmaster and field representative,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UESF hereby acknowledges and thanks Sister Mindy Pines for her contribution to building our union and wishes her well in all her future pursuits.

3. Vice-President (Paraprofessionals).....Bradley Reeves

C-10s received consolidation letters in error, which the district acknowledged. Our attorney, Stu Weinberg, is filing a lawsuit against the district because 7 para layoffs were announced after the deadline.

4. Social Activities Committee.....Susan Solomon

There will be a Thank Goodness It's Almost Over year-end celebration at the Beach Chalet, 1000 Great Highway, on Friday, June 3, from 4:00-6:00. All members are welcome.

5. Communications CommitteeRobin Brasso

Sister Brasso urged members to write in support of fair taxation legislation and in support of Eric Mar's article.

6. Staff Reports.....Eric Hall

Sessions for consolidated teachers to bid for open positions will be on June 4, June 11 and August 9. The informational meeting about the process was today.

11. Divisional Committee Reports

a) Middle School Marilee Hearn

Sister Hearn is looking forward to the middle and high school committees working together on student discipline.

b) High SchoolDerrlyn Tom

The committee is meeting with ISO Frank Tom tomorrow.

New Business

M/S/C to donate \$200 "good faith money" to the San Francisco Peoples' Organization.

Good of the Order / Announcements Information was distributed about a fundraiser for scholarships for Mission High School undocumented students.

Adjournment at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Solomon, Secretary