

United Educators of San Francisco Assembly Meeting

Wednesday, September 19, 2001, 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

The meeting came to order at 4:18.

Activity

Reports from SchoolsRudi Faltus

Sister Faltus called attention to the Reports from Schools sheet of the agenda packet and asked that people fill it out and discuss the activities and concerns at sites.

The groups reported from tables with summaries of the conversations including lack of central administrative responsiveness, failure to provide appropriation numbers for Site Council spending, ninth grade class size, one school invited UESF staff to address whole school staff, para seniority, dental benefits, salary increases, different benefit packets for continuation school teachers, UBC not involved in establishing schedules, whole day 7a.m. to 8 p.m. schedule for open house, testing of whole classes, STAR test money not allocated, special ed teachers newly hired got bonuses while people on the job did not, equity of class size, teachers removed from classes for semi administrative tasks, UBC had a role in the opening days to discuss participation levels, dangerous transfer students, mice and other rodents within the school, UBC undertook introducing new teachers on site, clueless principals newly assigned to sites, misplaced special ed students, excessive meetings, varying kindergarten schedules, "decentralization" of decision-making about professional development.

Presentation by Municipal Utilities District.....Kathy Lipscomb

Sister Lipscomb (from SEIU 250) explained that rank and file unionists are needed to win public power in San Francisco. Two items on the November ballot, propositions F and I, are aimed at that end. The municipal utilities district plan will allow a locally elected body determine local energy prices and distribution. Caps come off the amounts that can be charged during 2002, public coffers are being emptied to buy energy. Services are expected to suffer. Private energy companies are on average 18% more expensive to users than public power agencies.

Sister Lipscomb explained how the MUD board would be responsive to the public. She dwelt on public power as a solution to the energy crisis which hit California last spring.

Together F and I would allow San Francisco to become a full service public power city with no cost to taxpayers. MUDS make money through the sales of excess energy to other users. There is about a \$103 million difference between what PG&E collects and what MUD would need. The difference could go into public services and creating renewable energy sources.

Robin David, a candidate for MUD board spoke to thank UESF for its support.

UESF phone bank night is Thursday 18 October at the UESF office.

MSC to endorse Propositions F and I on November ballot.

Minutes

Approval of MinutesDennis Kelly

MSC to accept the minutes

Reports

1. Treasurer's Report.....Lily Gee Hickman

UESF is not buying the office building. The appraisal came in at \$1.5 million, but the union could only get a loan for \$1million. The owners would not renegotiate the price. The union cannot terminate the contract, only the trust, which owns it, can.

2. Vice President's Report.....Rudi Faltus

• Leadership Conference

Sister Faltus directed the body in a review of the agenda for the Saturday Leadership Conference.

- The distribution will be out tomorrow. It includes a bulletin board kit to help Building Reps who have not gotten around to putting one up. (Political material should go on union bulletin boards, not school district bulletin boards.)
- Mindy Pines is the half-time communications staff for the union and is responsible for the bulletin board material.
- Schools should report the elections of their UBCs when the elections occur.

3. President's Report.....Kent Mitchell

- PARS will send out 1105 eligible teachers who are at least 55 years of age and have taught at least 5 years in the STRS system. Meetings will be scheduled in October.
 - Teachers employed the previous year should have received a mysterious check a week ago. It was in response to a settlement of an arbitration over the beginning of the last salary increase. Six days were in dispute. The check was characterized as a bonus, since it could not have an effect on anyone's retirement.
 - Adjustments to faculties are being contemplated based on the ten-day student counts. Balancing classes occurs in well-functioning districts, and is therefore an anomaly in this district. This should result in no job losses, but perhaps 20 people in suspense for up to 20 days. Additional counselors and Instructional Reform Facilitator have not been filled yet. (UBCs will have a role in the hiring of IRF personnel.) Some 50 or 60 positions should open and be filled. This process should not be as bad as the previous year and should become smoother as the years go on.
- Comments from the floor dealt with the chaotic situations created at schools where there are classes over class size and the additional problems made when teachers are moved out of schools after the start of the school year. Methods to publicize the role of the UBC in IRF selection was also discussed.

Human resources personnel are insisting that principals follow all rules in consolidations. This inhibits some principals who were used to having more latitude.

• Bargaining Proposals

The district's initial bargaining proposal was issued 11 September and is focused on many of the same activities that UESF supports. This is a significant difference from 1998.

Training on collaborative functioning with the UESF Executive Board and members of the school board and administrations is being planned for the next month.

- Last Tuesday was declared an emergency and the ADA for that day is excused under the Ed.Code. It will not need to be made up.

Action

New Business

1. Resolution to Amend Bylaws.....Kent Mitchell

This resolution is presented here for first reading.

2. Resolution to change date of next Assembly Meeting.....Kent Mitchell

MSC to move the October Assembly meeting to 10 October.

Old Business

Good of the Order

Substitutes did not get any of the classroom supplies money. UESF has taken this matter to the district and has heard that substitutes will receive a \$100 card.

Adjournment

A moment of silence and adjournment was in honor of the people who suffered with the bombings and destruction last week in New York, Washington, DC, and Pennsylvania.