

**United Educators of San Francisco
Assembly Meeting
Wednesday, May 17, 2006, 4:15 p.m.
Minutes**

Minutes

Approval of Minutes Susan Solomon
M/S/C to accept the minutes of the April 19, 2006 combined executive board and assembly meeting as presented.

Financial Report Elaine Merriweather
M/S/C to accept the April 30, 2006 financial report as presented. M/S/C to move into COPE. M/S/C to accept the April 30, 2006 COPE financial report as presented. M/S/C to move out of COPE.

Special Order of Business

1. Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws..... Tom Edminster
(Proposed amendments included in meeting packet.) Brother Edminster pointed out and explained proposed amendments to the UESF Constitution and Bylaws. This was a first reading. Amendments to the proposed amendments and further amendments to the Constitutions and Bylaws may be proposed at the next Assembly meeting in September. If members have questions about the amendments, they should e-mail Brother Edminster.

Emergency Resolution

1. Carried: "Addicted to War" as supplemental Social Studies Text....PJHR Committee
 - a. Including spending authorization up to \$800.00

Whereas UESF has supported opposition to US pre-emptive military adventures, including the current Iraq war; and

Whereas UESF supports critical thinking and access to multiple points of view for students in evaluating the study of our world; and

Whereas "Addicted to War" is an accessible, interesting and engaging book the reading and discussion of which will benefit the students of San Francisco public schools;

Therefore be it resolved that UESF recommend adoption of "Addicted to War" as a supplemental text in SFUSD; and

Be it further resolved that this recommendation be communicated to UESF members, appropriate SFUSD school board commissioners and curricular coordinators.

Addendum:

and be it finally resolved that, in order to further the adoption process and the involvement of UESF members in the adoption process of Addicted to War and its future use in SF schools, that UESF purchase approximately 100 copies of Addicted to War for distribution to UESF high social studies teachers.

The book is notated with the California State Education Standards, and is primarily for use in high school social studies.

The cost for the purchase of 100 copies is \$300.

Resolution

M/S/C Resolution urging UESF to support Newcomer High School and all San Francisco Public Schools in the goal of having an adequate and safe school site.....Darlene Anaya

Whereas, Newcomer High School was founded on August 14, 1979, as the first program of its kind in the nation and continues to be a model for other Newcomer programs; and

Whereas, Newcomer provides San Francisco with a transitional, entry level high school program for all newly arrived immigrant English Language Learners; and

Whereas, The San Francisco Unified School District recommended to the School Board, without prior notification to Newcomer, that Newcomer be relocated to enable the SFUSD to lease Newcomer’s current site; and

Whereas, the proposed relocation of Newcomer to either the Edison Charter school site, the DeAvila school site, or the Cabrillo school site was derailed by the SFUSD preemptively entering into agreements with other tenants for these same sites, the tenants being a non-public school, a charter school, and a short-term lease to San Francisco City College; and

Whereas, the San Francisco Unified School District then recommended that Newcomer be relocated to Mission High School, thereby impairing the learning environments of both schools and jeopardizing Mission’s Prop A funds; and

Whereas, it is the responsibility of the San Francisco Unified School District to provide and maintain its school buildings for the benefit of the public school children of San Francisco; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the United Educators of San Francisco does hereby urge the San Francisco Unified School District to implement a policy to give district public schools priority to use district buildings over their use by non public school, charter schools and potential lessees; and also be it

Resolved, that the United Educators of San Francisco does hereby urge the San Francisco Unified School District to permanently provide an independent public school building for the use of the current and future students of Newcomer High School.

Reports (These Reports are welcome to be made in writing – 5 Minutes each)

- 1. COPE ActivitiesKen Tray
 - a. Postcards: Members were busy during the meeting putting address labels on postcards urging people to vote for Tim Paulson, executive director of SFLC, for the San Francisco District 3 Democratic Club.
 - b. Phone Banking/Precinct Walking with SFLC/Distribution of Angelides literature: CTA and CFT have endorsed Angelides for governor, and UESF is helping to staff phone banks to get out the vote in the primary election. Brother Tray circulated a signup sheet for phonebanking.
 - c. There are still a few tickets available for GGSSC’s legislative breakfast at the Westin Hotel in Millbrae, 9:00 a.m., Saturday, May 20.
- 2. President’s ReportDennis Kelly
 - a. Adjunct Duties Election: See the sample ballot in the meeting packet. Principals may decide to exclude homeroom, but if they are going to

consider homeroom an additional class, then it may be grievable because then teachers would be teaching 6 classes.

b. Report on Labor Notes Conference Adrienne Johnstone

Andy Libson and Sister Johnstone attended the conference in Detroit. Many labor activists from private and public sector unions were present. They heard much about the crises that private sector workers are facing with takebacks in health care and retirement benefits. Public sector unions have largely been able to hold the line. Sister Johnstone will provide a written report.

c. Posting of Staff Jobs: field representative applications are due May 30.

3. Executive Vice-President's Report Linda Festa Plack

- a. Dianne Feinstein School: Last week, Linda Plack spoke at the school board meeting at which the board voted to hire 7 teachers, who are from outside the district, probationary and temporary. Three grievances have been filed: one on behalf of JBBP West teachers, one on behalf of Cabrillo teachers, all of whom are consolidated and who were not offered positions at Feinstein; and one on behalf of all consolidated teachers, who were not told they were consolidated. A writ of mandamus will be filed in court.
- b. Speech pathologists: the district considers them "centrally assigned" though there is no contract language like that. The members have been informed that as soon as they get a notice of change of assignment, they should inform UESF and a grievance will be filed.
- c. Correction to calendar: this was sent out in an e-mail. The May 18 Budget Committee meeting was rescheduled to June 1.
- d. Special Education Meetings: There will be district-paid professional development for special education paraprofessionals before school starts. They will be able to meet the teachers with whom they will be working, read brown folders and become familiar with the work they will do with special education students.
- e. ER&D-School Reform Committee Meetings: This committee is open. Members can get credits for participating.

Mark Murray pointed out that job requirements for listed openings are detailed to the point that it seems that there are particular people in mind. Also, principals are soliciting teachers for their schools, even at schools where there are no posted openings. Sister Plack urged members to inform the union of any incidents of hiding positions. She is also inquiring about why School Health Programs are in charge of hiring for positions using Proposition H funds.

4. Paraprofessionals Bradley Reeves

A flyer announcing May 24's meeting was distributed. Brother Reeves was absent and continues to be recovering from his hip problems.

5. Substitutes Sandra Mack

A written report was available at the meeting. If members have posted The SubWay that was sent in the mail, the additional page that was distributed at the meeting should be included.

Brother Kelly urged members to take a packet of Angelides literature.

6. Social Activities Committee Susan Solomon

The Contract Victory party will be on Friday, June 1 at the Plumbers Hall. Fliers were available at the meeting.

7. Retired Division..... Gerry Meister

The division saw a 63% voter turnout in their first mail ballot. Karen Breslin's opponent for Health Service Board withdrew, so she will be put in by acclamation.

Announcements

The Socialism 2006 Conference will take place in New York, June 22-25. For more information, contact Andy Libson.

Our USP members are not allowed to be members of CTA State Council, so they cannot sit on the delegate floor; therefore, all UESF delegates have sat in the back of the room for 18 years. A vote to make USP members full State Council members will take place at the June 2-4 State Council.

There will be a McAteer reunion on June 16.

A flyer was available for a special showing of *Granito de Arena*.

Members were reminded to participate in Saturday precinct walks.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Solomon, Secretary