

**United Educators of San Francisco
Assembly Meeting
Wednesday, September 20, 2006, 4:15 p.m.
Official Minutes**

Approval of Minutes Susan Solomon

M/S/C to accept the minutes of the May 17, 2006 Assembly meeting as presented.

Financial Report.....Elaine Merriweather

M/S/C to accept the September 2006 budget report as presented. UESF has repaid SFUSD all that was owed.

Special Order of Business

1. COPE ActivitiesKen Tray

a. Phone Banking/Precinct Walking

Alliance for a Better California has announced that working on the Phil Angelides campaign will be a priority. UESF has also endorsed Bob Twomey, Kim Shree Maufas and Hydra Mendoza for the Board of Education. Brother Tray spoke of the importance of participating in Monday-Thursday phone banking and Saturday precinct-walking for UESF's endorsed candidates, as well as for city Proposition A and state proposition 1D. There were sign-up sheets posted for phonebanking and precinct-walking. Members were strongly urged to sign up.

2. M/S/C as amended Resolution RE: Retired Div. Constitution & By-Laws Amendments.....Gerry Meister

Whereas UESF-Retired Division members did not have an opportunity to consider the proposed UESF Constitution & Bylaws amendments affecting the Retired Division before the amendments were introduced for first reading at the May Assembly meeting, and the next Retired Division membership meeting is not until September 28, and

Whereas the Retired Division Executive Board surveyed the membership this summer to determine their initial reactions to four of these proposed amendments, and responses from more than 200 members indicate that many are concerned about possible immediate and long-term effects of these proposed amendments,

Therefore be it resolved that the vote on the entire packet of amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws be postponed until the October Assembly meeting.

[Original language before amendment: "Therefore Be It Resolved that the UESF Assembly table the attached amendments affecting the Retired Division for consideration at the January Assembly meeting."]

Many members spoke to the resolution and asked questions.

M/S/C unanimously the substitute motion: that the "therefore be it resolved" be changed to: That the vote on the entire packet of amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws be postponed until the October Assembly meeting.

M/S/C the substitute motion, which became the main motion.

3. Amendments to Constitution and By-Laws (2nd Reading)..... Tom Edminster
(Hand out) Tabled until October Assembly meeting.

4. Bargaining SurveysDennis Kelly

Suggestions were made for several changes to the surveys, and there was a lengthy discussion about some of the items in the survey.

When the survey is analyzed, it will be possible to determine to which division the member who has filled each one in belongs.

Brother Kelly introduced Brian Hong, CORO fellow. He has been helping with the survey.

Items that were addressed during the discussion: The only reason that teachers get paid 10 times a year is that the district cannot figure out how to pay one check a month. For paras, it is a little more complicated because they are paid hourly.

Discussion re: 7-hour workday and schools moving to 7 periods. UESF lost an arbitration the last time middle school was increased to 7 periods because, as long as the UBC is consulted and additional personnel is hired, the district can increase the students' instructional day.

Brother Kelly described a conversation with Superintendent Chan, who said there is no dress code.

Resolutions

1. M/S/C Resolution on School Year CalendarKenyatta Scott

Whereas the 1st semester for SFUSD schools ends after a two-week winter break; and

Whereas instructional time is utilized for review when returning from winter break so that students are better prepared for finals after winter break; and

Whereas statewide testing begins in April (especially the CST); and

Whereas all standards may not be covered by the time state testing occurs; and

Whereas most post-secondary education institutions are on a different schedule from SFUSD and possibly each other which may pose problems for the grade posting in a timely manner for seniors, as well as problematic for the grade posting for student who are dually enrolled in SFUSD schools and post-secondary educational institutions; and

Whereas contract negotiations for the 2007-2010 UESF-SFUSD will be underway shortly;

Therefore be it resolved that a "School Calendar Review Committee" be formed to explore potential options for an adjustment of the school year instructional calendar that would end the 1st semester before Winter break; and

Be it finally resolved that this "School Calendar Review Committee" would then submit their findings to the UESF Executive Board and Bargaining Team.

Point of information: In order to end the first semester before the winter break, school would have to start earlier in the summer. The second semester would then end earlier in the spring.

Members who are interested in joining the committee were asked to speak with Brother Scott.

2. M/S/C Election Committee Recommendations (reminder)..... Charlie Hibbard

M/S/F to substitute the second resolved with: It is further resolved that a committee be appointed to implement and test a hybrid electronic and paper ballot election in a smaller fall election or mock election for possible implementation in future UESF elections. The results and findings will be presented to the Executive Board and Assembly.

M/S/F to strike the third whereas and the second resolved.

M/S/C to extend debate by 8.5 minutes.

Members who wish to be on the committee were asked to sign up.

M/S/C to endorse the antiwar march. The flyer was in the meeting packet.

M/S/C to endorse the Teachers 4 Social Justice annual conference on October 14, 2006.

Reports

1. President’s ReportDennis Kelly

a. Contract Committees: Brother Kelly announced that he has appointed chairs to convene the 11 committees established during negotiations and that the committees will be convening soon.

2. Executive Vice-President’s ReportLinda Festa Plack

a) Sister Plack urged members to take and distribute the Angelides literature.

b) The governor vetoed the Kuehl health care bill.

c) Parcel Tax committee meetings: Initially, the district only wanted the parcel tax to cover teacher salaries. UESF insisted that all school employees be included, and that position has prevailed. UESF is opposed to Proposition 88 because it is a regressive tax. Every parcel would get taxed \$50. Also, only top decile schools and private schools would benefit.

d) There will be a Special Education Committee meeting on October 16.

3. Paraprofessionals Bradley Reeves

Brother Reeves has continuing health problems, so he is still on leave. Paraprofessional Carolyn Samoa will be working as an MSS several afternoons a week to help with paraprofessional issues, as will teacher Gale Ow.

4. Social Activities Committee Susan Solomon

The August 25 TGIF at El Valenciano was very nice. Other events will be planned. New members to the committee are welcome.

5. Retired Division..... Gerry Meister

Sister Meister thanked the Assembly for the additional month for the division to evaluate the Constitution and Bylaw amendments.

Good of the Order: Issues of concern: Ed-Join ads which require additional qualifications and job expectations beyond the contract, and how/if substitutes’ green sheets will be used after the new substitute system is in place.

Announcements

On Friday evening, September 8 at New College, there will be an event: No One is Illegal. Andy Libson has tickets.

Next week is Banned Book Week.

Siggy Mo’s son was badly burned in a fire in Sacramento. He has health insurance through the UESF contract. The Assembly sends best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Adjournment at 6:28 p.m. in memory of Stan Diwicki and Ted Samuel.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Solomon, Secretary