United Educators of San Francisco
Assembly Meeting
Wednesday, February 15, 2017
Minutes

(Committee of the Whole (w/o quorum) @ 4:25 p.m.)

Approval of Minutes (CALLED TO ORDER W/QUORUM @ 4:58 p.m.)

- Approval of Agenda/Minutes M/S/C as amended .......... Lisa Gutierrez Guzmán
  + p. 6: Move “Debate and Discussion” to under Paraprofessional Report

Officers Reports

1. President’s Report.......................... Lita Blanc
  + Andrew Pusder withdrew his nomination as Secty. Of Labor.
  + Sarah Wilson, full-time organizer, came on staff on the 13th. Sister Wilson said a few words, w/emphasis on internal organizing during upcoming bargaining period.
  + Patting ourselves on back for participation in January actions (19th, 20th and 21st)
  + Beginning of bargaining, District and UESF sunshined articles we wanted to address (p.7&8) in January; we based our articles on the surveys
  + Working on specific proposals (across the board raise #1 priority)
  + Bargaining Team has met a few times.
  + Our contract expires 6/30. Bargaining may go into the Fall.
  + Will be at bargaining table every Tuesday through May
  + Went over ground rules, told SFUSD that we’re inviting non-BT EB meetings to observe (1-2 @ a time)
  + SFUSD laid out gloomy budget picture
  + M.Leigh said he wouldn’t approve new programs, but $4M budgeted on new projects
  + Increased contributions to CalSTRS
  + 660+ vacancies projected for next year
  + Came with unrestricted funds budget, asked them for budget for SPARK (corporate donors), QTEA
  + School Site Summit on ¾
  + Bargaining for the Common Good/Statewide Strategy Network

Sister Solomon: Trying to anticipate why District,’s actions, meeting again on 21st to continue work, q members should feel comfortable in giving their suggestions

DEBATE AND DISCUSSION: Bargaining e-mail contact info, clarifying questions about sunshined proposals, SPARK budget

SISTER WILSON: Creating political will to find money, will need to organize @ school sites, bringing contract fight to functioning UBCs (calendaring dates 2/21 – 3/8)
BROTHER HARDY: Tee shirt order form, rank-and-file members shared stories @ BOE meeting last night, 2/28—next Board of Ed (looking for paras, subs, new teachers who have stories), looking @ tactics/ideas to further struggle

SISTER LASDEN: Referred to actions of Testing Committee w/emphasis on Testing “Opt-Out” campaign: Opt-Out forms in Spanish, English and Chinese, Ed Code, Info from CTA, bring forms to parents during conferences

BROTHER TRAY:
+ Bay Area Resistance/Emergency Response Network (led SFO protests): Text 41411: Tap “Resist” in body of text to be connected and ready to help resist and support immigrant students;
+ March 4th: All-day training and conference re: what we can do to help our immigrant families, 1:30 – 5:30 p.m.
+ May 1: Day of Action re: public ed + “General Strike on May Day” (work in progress)
+ April 29th: Environmental Justice action (TBD)
+ Sanctuary City: Budget Justice Coalition, trying to put “meat” in proposal to protect our status, need to go after money in S.F., political approach
+ March 8th: Special hearing of Board of Supervisors, 3:00 p.m., led by Hilary Ronen, addressing crisis of lack of educator housing
+ COPE Campaign in Spring

DEBATE AND DISCUSSION: Parents impressed by our stories @ Bd. Of Ed., reclassifying students (SBAC included, but not needed to reclassify); SBAC in high schools; opting out of CELDT, clarification re: legal rights (can’t encourage parents); plan vs. Betsy DeVos; Arab Resource Center

2. Vice-President’s Report ................................................................. Susan Solomon
  + Report in writing on p. 11 & 12
  + Stories make the difference, continue telling them at Board of Ed and other venues
  + Item #2: Continuation of AROS actions; next projected date: 5/1
  + #3 and #4: Want to include contract lang. which would increase parent voice
  + #5: CFT Racial Justice Task Force
  + #7: Upcoming meeting re: SPED
  + #8 & #9: Safe and Supportive Schools: Want to put together a position paper

DEBATE AND DISCUSSION: Six large unions possibly going out at the same time throughout California (refer to p.10)

*Special Order of Business*
Report on Elections Committee............................................................... Lita Blanc
  + On-line election in progress, Big Pulse handling vote (1200 will receive paper
    ballots; all others who gave private e-mails)
  + Jeremiah Jeffries stepped down as Elections chair on Saturday
  + Three parts of ballot: Local delegates to NEA Rep. Assembly, local delegates to CFT
    Convention and state delegates to N.E.A  R.A. (Golden Gate Service Center Council
    conducted the state delegates to Representative Assembly)
  + 14 members wrote letter to president, concerned about former Elections Chair
    Jeffries running
  + Referred to p.13 and articles from UESF By-Laws
  + Jeremiah needed to withdraw his candidacy or withdraw his participation from
    election committee (see above)
  + Brother Jeffries’ use of his personal e-mail for prior work on election committee
  + E-mail blast and web site includes language about use of personal e-mails
  + Information on Big Pulse
  + Leslie Clark/Michelle Ceruto will continue on Election Committee, need volunteers
  + Big Pulse vetted by CTA, used by most CTA locals, presentation in June

DEBATE AND DISCUSSION: A lively debate was conducted with pros and cons of how
Election Committee has been run up to this point; need results of substitute election

Divisional Reports Not to exceed 5 minutes each (Reports may be in writing)
  1. Early Education Committee Report............................................ Betty Robinson-Harris
    + Committee meeting w/admin. next Tuesday
    + Working on summer schedule (changes due to TK-12 summer school schedule)
    + Concerns re: para schedule
    + Inclusion issues
    + Encouraging everyone to use 18 hours, particularly paras
    + Para-Teacher Program (SFUSD given 25 slots for paras to go back to school)

  2. Paraprofessional Division.............................................................. Carolyn Samoa
    + Para survey ended last Friday after extension, will get # of returned surveys soon
    + Para Leadership Network: Janet Eberhardt, Para on Special Assignment, and
      another PSA giving PDs (paras training other paras); more info on web site
    + Summer School applications out now, on-line
    + Para-to-Teacher Program

DEBATE AND DISCUSSION: Mentoring orientation meeting for Para-to-Teacher
Program this Friday
3. Retired Division .............................................. Rudi Faltus for Diane Doe
   + Retirees active in demonstrations, concerned about future generations, working
   hard in “own” issues

Sergeant at Arms Report .......................................................... A. J. Frazier
   + 43 members from 27 various schools

Old Business/New Business/Good of the Order / Announcements: None given

Adjournment @ 6:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Gutierrez Guzman