# MAPE Local 601 Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 6, 2020 | Noon—12:55

https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/345011837

United States (Toll Free): 1 866 899 4679

Access Code: 345-011-837

## Welcome – Jason Bonnett, President

Announcement: Statewide Election Committee; be sure to not use any state equipment to listen to the candidates. If you do not have access to your own computer, please call into the phone number listed above.

## Status of MAPE Contract

The House bill approving our contract (HF 2768) has been approved by all committees and awaiting a floor vote.

The Senate bill approving our contract (SF4006) has yet to be heard in committee. At this time it is unknown if our contract will be ratified before the end of this legislative session.

## COVID-19 Information Discussion – Chet Jorgenson

Lyz Martin is filling in for Chet as he was pulled way at the last minute. Many members have been asking about planning for returning to work; the meet and confer teams have been having this discussion and are pushing to continuing telecommuting for as long as possible.

### Frequently Asked Questions

**Question:** Since individuals working on priority 1 and 2 project have had their vacation restricted; will be able to keep accruing time off if they reach the vacation hour cap?

Answer: Vacation hour cap is 275 (260 is retirement payout); be sure to talk to agency about going over the cap if needed reach out to your steward.

**Question:** Can teleworkers cancel their parking and bus passes?

Answer: This detail must be worked out with your agencyl HR department.

**Question:** Cube spaces redesigned?

Answer: This is not been a discussion yet; but, Lyz will take this discussion point forward.

**Question:** When “work at home” is lifted; will people be brought back to the office in sections?

Answer: Yes, this is part of the governor’s plan and will be discussed at a town Hall meeting. However, there is not another Town Hall Meeting scheduled at this time.

**Question:** Will the agencies be screening employees as they enter work (wearing masks etc.)

Answer: Has not been determined at this time. Most likely will follow governors advise.

**Question:** If contract is not ratified what happens to step increases and monies increases? Will we have to pay money back?

Answer: We will revert to old contract terms including our rate of pay. We will not have to pay the monies back.

**Question:** Can the executive order be challenged in court?

Answer: Unknown

**Note: *All candidates were asked to email their talking highlights to the secretary by end of day 5/6/2020. I have included what was received.***

## IV. Candidates for Statewide President

* Megan Dayton
  + Hello Local 601, I’m Megan Dayton and I’m running for Statewide President to represent MAPE members. I’m running because I believe in a Minnesota where everyone can thrive. That means living-wage jobs with good benefits, it means a well-funded, well-supported State workforce, it means access to healthcare coverage that is quality and affordable, and it expands who participates in our democracy. More than that, I’m running because I believe in organized labor and the way that we build power can actually improve people’s lives
  + Successful unions provide an opportunity for all members regardless of socio-economic status, race, religion, or gender to succeed. I’ve been active in State government for the last eight years as a Senior Demographer in our State Demographic Center. My research has informed efforts to improve access to healthcare coverage, end homelessness, reduce the achievement and opportunity gaps, and increase funding for English-language learners, among countless other initiatives. Additionally, I create the data politicians use to make our state’s budget.
  + Through this work I have built relationships with elected officials, community leaders, and residents throughout the state. I have also earned the endorsement of your Local President Jason Bonnett, the Chair or our Statewide Organizing Council, Sarah Evans (who is a 601 member), and many others I am honored to have posted on my website MeganDaytonforMAPE.com. As President I will take those relationships and I will continue to build on them to represent MAPE members and all Minnesotans.
  + I look forward to having an opportunity to talk to you a little bit more, for you to get to know me and where I stand on the issues. Thank you for being here today and thank you from the bottom of my heart for the invaluable work you all do for the State of Minnesota.
* Lynn Butcher

Please direct folks to the MAPE website for my candidate statement, and my website: [Lynn Butcher for ONE MAPE](http://www.lynnbutcherforonemape.com/) for additional information.

* Ted Snaza
  + Hello fellow MAPE members, my name is Ted Snaza.
  + For a little background on me, I grew up in St Paul, then went to Winona State University.  I joined the military and went to South Carolina and Texas for my training.  I’ve lived all over Minnesota and am now living in Washington County. I’ve held over a dozen different jobs in my life including lifeguard, church camp counselor, Store Manager, construction, Collection Officer, bartender, just to name a few.
  + I’ve been at Revenue for 12 years, have been in MAPE the whole time, and have increased my activity level as the years have gone on.
  + My father was a police officer for over 20 years and was the President and top Steward in his Local.  He instilled a deep sense of Justice and Fairness in me, and that is truly my motivation for almost everything I do.  I am extremely passionate about fairness for every MAPE member, and that is the main reason I’m running for President.
  + I’ve seen Commissioners, Legislators, Governors, and Directors walk all over MAPE members at every chance they get.  I’ve watched, as MAPE has on a larger level taken a very passive stance when it comes to protecting our members in regard to our contract, our rights in the workplace, and researching new ways to increase our media presence.
  + In the 12 years I’ve been active, I’ve stood up for thousands of members, and fought hard for those members in mediations, grievances, and investigations. I’ve spoken at Delegate Assembly, met with Legislators at Day on the Hill, and have met the Governor on multiple occasions.  I have helped lead classes at Delegate Assembly, and the Steward Summit, and have pushed for increased cooperation between Regions.
  + The first part of my plan is to create a culture of transparency and inclusion, increase our organization, and to eliminate all of the infighting and drama that has infected MAPE in the upper levels.
  + We need increased collaboration between regions, and more importantly collaboration between Unions. There’s no reason we haven’t been coordinating our efforts with the many other Unions and Locals in the state.  All of us need to stand together, at the same time, and in one voice.
  + My union family of nurses and police, will never let me stop fighting for your rights.  I will never abandon you to go run for office, I will never ignore your issues because you’re only one person out of 13,000, and I will never stop supporting your rights.
  + And if you elect me as your next President, I will make sure that MAPE never stops supporting you.
* Ellena Schoop
* Maurice Wilson
  + As a state employee and MAPE member of nine years, I am running for statewide President of MAPE to bring a more culturally responsive, accessible, and solution-focused community. I commit to making your mission my mission. By calling upon my experience as a member of the Minnesota Army National Guard and Iraqi vet, I will continue to defend the rights of our union. While representing local 1002 as President, I see how powerful we are, and we need to be recognized as the pillar of the MN workforce! I cannot do this without your support!
  + Today starts a new beginning to challenge our contractual language to be embedded within the state’s budget, not an afterthought. Together, we will build a community that insists on inclusivity to our members through fair wages, by creating growth opportunities, demanding increased options for retirement, and introducing support stipends for our Chief Stewards who work tirelessly to advocate for our concerns.
  + As a team member of the Minnesota Department of Education, I focus on innovation and community. Through supplemental bargaining, we achieved the opportunity for all MDE employees to participate in telework, One MDE Diversity Council, and Professional Development. As your statewide President of MAPE, I will bring my values of community, collaboration, and supportive communication.
  + View my website for more information. <https://www.mauricewilson.com/>

## VI. Candidates for Political Council

* Nicole Juan - Proxy is Sarah Evens
  + Hello Local 601! My name is Nicole Juan and I currently serve as a Community Relations Specialist at the Department of Human Services. I previously worked in the Health Economics Program at MDH and was a proud member of Local 601 for over two years. I am a steward in my local 2101, am on the political council for MAPE, and am the Vice Chair of the MAPE PAC (political action committee).
  + I am running for re-election to the MAPE Political Council because I believe strongly in the power of organized people to make political change.
  + I grew up in a Wisconsin union family, and I saw what happens when anti-labor legislators are elected. In 2011, decades of worker protections were reversed in mere months. That experience instilled in me the vigilance and passion needed to maintain and advance the worker protections that we hold dear in Minnesota.
  + We are in a unprecedented times - as a union, as a state, a country, and a global community. With that we are presented with some urgent challenges. Our contract still needs to pass, with only a few days left in the legislative session. We are on the precipice of local, state, and federal elections. Minnesota has a $2.426 billion dollar shortfall, and our leaders are leaving “all things on the table” to mitigate this deficit, including the state workforce. Now more than ever we need to build our political infrastructure at MAPE and get active to make sure we are loud and clear about the importance of our work and the value we bring to Minnesota.
  + I am ready to get to work with you all and appreciate your vote for Nicole Juan for Political Council starting May 13. THANK YOU!!
* Amanda Hemmingsen-Jeager

I have seen the power of MAPE members coming together, and I want to bring my blend of education and experience to advocate for YOU by:

* Blending my scientific and policy background to understand and communicate policies and initiatives to members.
* Using my depth of MAPE knowledge (local leadership, Regional Director, Government Relations Committee) to effectively collaborate and engage members.
* Utilizing my networking with legislators and experience with local campaigns to break down barriers so members feel more empowered and comfortable talking to the people who decide our contract.

Please feel free to contact me ([ahemmingsenjaeger@yahoo.com](mailto:ahemmingsenjaeger@yahoo.com), 612-770-7414) to chat

* Tony Aarts
* Charles Dixon
* Tyler Lyons
* Tanya Belanger
* Marijke Decuir
* Stuart Orlowski
* Ajeet Yadav

## VII. Candidates for Region 6 Director

* Tabatha Ries-Miller
  + Hi, everyone. Many of you know me for my past work, some of you because I have directly worked on your behalf.
  + I am a research analyst for Minnesota State. Two and a half years ago, I joined Region 6 from Region 13 and within a few months, I volunteered for the vacant chief steward role and you elected me as your Regional Director. I introduced contract education into our monthly local meetings, hosted monthly training events for stewards, and held countless one-on-ones. A year into my term, I was injured in a car accident and as a result, I stepped down as Regional Director.
  + Yet, I continued to stay active. I was one of the two top membership recruiters, served as steward for dozens of members, continued mentoring new stewards, and answered your contract questions.
  + So, you know who I am, but not the why. For better or worse, I have always been compelled to act when I see something that is not right. That has not always made me popular. As a freshman in high school, I was called into the principal's office. You see, along with my other 500 classmates, I witnessed a senior oppose our annual MLK Day event by running through the halls screaming "I'm not going to no effing N\* word assembly". I wrote a story about it that was published in our local city newspaper; the negative press was the reason the principal wanted to speak with me. That same compulsion for activism is why I am involved in MAPE.
  + If you elect me to represent you, know that I will always advocate for what's right. Ordinarily I would encourage any member looking for new leadership opportunities. However, this past year, the Board has experienced division and divisiveness. There have been displays of disrespectful behavior, and individuals putting their own interests above those of our organization, paired with closed meetings that keep you in the dark. So, you need someone who has experience, is well versed in the bylaws and the contract, and who is ready to speak up even when it is not popular.
  + My track record demonstrates my dedication to MAPE with an emphasis on transparency and fairness. If you elect me, I will continue to work hard for you. I also encourage you to be careful when voting for other candidates and ensure they have reliably demonstrated a record of their commitment to members.
* Nathan Hierlmaier
  + My name is Nathan Hierlmaier, I am a senior researcher for the Health Economics Program at the Minnesota Department of Health, and proud MAPE member for nearly 11 years.
  + As union members and public servants, we face threats from all sides—anti-union forces pushing to divide us, anti-government ideologues that want to privatize our jobs, and a pandemic that threatens our very lives.
  + To address these problems, I bring a fresh perspective, first-hand experience in union and faith-based organizing, and a data-driven mindset that will help grow membership and build new allies in our shared struggle.
  + As Director, I will place our members first by actively listening to their needs and celebrating their successes.
  + As Director, I will also clearly communicate an expectation for steady, forward momentum to overcome any internal and external challenges.
  + My personal philosophy is the same as what I have been trying to teach my two young daughters: ask yourself each day—how am I helpful, how am I grateful, and how am I hopeful?
  + I will bring this approach to the Board to renew confidence in our ability to enforce our contract, discover untapped talent among our coworkers, and bring your voice to the table.
  + For example, after analyzing membership data, and talking with others on the Local 601 membership committee, noticed that Disability Determination Services had lower membership rates compared to other agencies and motivated a new leader to step forward to do new member outreach.
  + I also agree with our members that I have spoken to that we need to show more support and gratitude for our stewards as their morale was low even before this pandemic. It will be even more important to stand together during this budget crisis.
  + Lastly, I agree with members that say we need to push our union forward to build on successes of rallying unclassified workers, demonstrating in front of our state capitol for our contract in subzero weather, and pushing for paid family leave that will not happen without a fight.

## VIII. Other items:

* There is a good chance the next MAPE local 601 meetings will be virtual even if we are back in the office.
* There are only two weeks left for the contact to be ratified; however, this is not unusual.
* Since the meeting time was double booked; Tabatha Ries-Miller will be sending out the PowerPoint slide deck training regarding MNSCU layoffs.

## Adjourn

## Next Meeting: Noon-12:45 p.m., Wednesday, **June 3**, 2020: TBD

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