Local 1601

Date: 11/23/21

Time: 12PM-1PM

Zoom

1) Local 1601 Vice President, Christina Sundgaard called the meeting to order.

2) October 2021 minutes were approved.

3) Introductions

4) Treasurer’s update from Kevin Martini: We continue to be in good financial standing. Gift cards will be posted on the November statement. Local officers need to submit their 2021 stipend forms to Kevin.

5) Chief Steward, Jesse O’ Connor was not present. There are no reports from the region.

6) 1601 Membership Secretary, Susan Sunde provided a membership update: We currently have above 70% membership. Numbers are down slightly due to several new hires who have not yet registered.

7) No updates from Regional Negotiations Representative, Don Lucksinger as he was not present today.

8) Regional Director’s Report: From Darren Hage via Susan Sunde:

* Board of Directors had a 2-day strategic planning with M-State partners.
* Options of governance was explored (opportunities and strengths).
* Equity Diversity and Inclusion was also discussed.
* Local budgets need to be submitted soon.
* Vaccine Mandate issues were discussed with members from Fergus Falls. These questions will be brought forward to MMB.
* MOU allows member sick leave codes for various COVID leave situations (e.g. child sick leave).

9) Organizing Business agent, Dan Englehart gave the following updates:

* 2021-2023 Contract
  + Look forward to retroactive pay on December 17, 2021.
  + Contract is currently in interim effect.
  + Contract has yet to pass the full legislature. This will be addressed in 2022.
  + Open enrollment ended on November 17th, 2021.
  + The contract changes include several improvements for temporary unclassified workers, equity and inclusion, etc. These changes can be viewed in the new contract.
  + We are looking to call non-members on December 17th the check that they have received their retro-pay.
* Membership
  + Statewide, only 35% of new hires in the state are becoming MAPE members. Members are encouraged to reach out to non-members to share the benefits of membership and encourage others to join. There is power in numbers and strong union representation for our rights.
  + Dan highlighted the pros and cons of the flat rate membership fee (which we currently have) versus progressive dues.
  + Organizational structure: There are 39 locals and 21 regions based on geographic location. Should this organizational structure change?

10) Chet Bodin was not present. No political council updates today.

11) Old business: None

12) Good & Welfare: None

13) New Business: The motion to increase stipends for local officers to $480/year was passed. This goes into effect January 2022. Anyone interested in participating in the Annual membership drive, please contact Susan Sunde.

14) Gift Card: John Sandberg won the gift card drawing.

15) Next meeting will be held 01/25/22 at 12PM via Zoom

16) Meeting adjourned.