

# Meeting Minutes

December 14, 2021 WebEx

## Meeting agenda – via WebEx poll

* Approved

## Opening remarks – Liz Pearson

Liz opened the meeting by taking a moment to honor the lives of the workers at the Amazon plant in Illinois and the workers at the Candle factory in Kentucky, along with the people in other states that were affected by the unseasonal storms on the 10th and their families. Recent reports from people who were in both facilities suggest that management did not allow them to leave when they requested, and they were threatened with termination if they did so. Liz stated that she is grateful for the contract that protects each of us from this type of abuse and that she hopes that these tragic events will continue to inspire workers to organize at Amazon and other organizations.

## Lunch Donation – Liz Pearson

* **Vision Loss Resources** – (<https://visionlossresources.org/>) Vision Loss Resources is a nonprofit provider of training, classes, social activities and support groups for people with vision loss living in the Minneapolis-Saint Paul area.
* **The Trevor Project** – (<https://www.thetrevorproject.org/>) Mission: to end suicide among lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer & questioning young people.

## Welcome New Members – Alexis Stafford, Membership Secretary

* Welcome to our new MAPE members: Alicia Baker, Shana Nguyen, Jane Cunningham, Thomas Howley, and Kelsey Carlson
* Join Alexis at one of our First Friday lunch time meetings. Last Friday we had a lot of people join and had some great conversations about MAPE and the challenges and amazing things we accomplish while working at DHS. We will send out an invite for the January meeting in January. We try to change up which Friday the meetings are held each month and make sure to include our newest MAPE members.

## MAPE Stewards – Dylan Adams

* Wanted to reinforce Liz’s opening statement that Amazon does not care about us or their workers and recommends boycotting them.
* Our stewards help enforce our labor contract for members if there is a dispute with HR or management. We are also there to advocate for the safety of our MAPE members in the event of an emergency. If you have any issues or concerns, reach out to Dylan or any of our other MAPE stewards.

## 2022 Budget for Local 2101 – Matt Berg

* An email should come out this week from MAPE Central this week to vote on our local 2101 budget for 2022.
* We reviewed the budget during our November 2101 local meeting and provided a copy of it in our meeting minutes.
* Only members are allowed to vote on our budget so the poll will only go to dues paying members.

## Contract Planning and Negotiations – Christine Retkwa

* You also need to be a member to vote on our contract! You will be seeing the favorable impacts of our contracts soon, such as our pay increase in our The December 17th paycheck.
* We are currently in discussion with our councils for actions to take over the winter. We are planning a lobbying week starting March 7th and will have more in the coming weeks. Remind your representatives that we are here and keeping the state running.

## Political Council and Political Action Committee – Nicole Juan

* Political Council:
	+ The political council had an all-day meeting last Friday to make plans for the 2022 legislative session. We are planning another Day on the Hill event for the legislators. Last year we focused on agency budgets, but this year we are focusing on our contracts.
	+ We want our MAPE members to reach out to their legislators so they can hear from their constituents. During Lobby Week MAPE will be scheduling meetings from March 7th through the 11th depending on where you live and where your legislators are located. There will be another meeting again in January for more specific planning. We will also be holding a rally towards the end of session.
* Political Action Committee:
	+ We had an all-day meeting yesterday to discuss questionnaires for endorsement and the endorsement schedule. The redistricting maps should be made available on February 15th and then the screenings and endorsements will happen after that on a rolling basis.
	+ We had two openings on the PAC and have interviewed the candidates so we should have a full PAC board soon! The PAC is looking forward to being at full capacity for the upcoming 2022 election cycle.
	+ Member question: Is it possible to endorse ALL the candidates that are pro union regardless of party? It seems we only endorse the Democratic Party candidates. Clarification: This is referring to Independents and Green Party.
	+ Response: We have endorsed people who are not Democrats, but it is usually Democrats who get the endorsement. We have screening questions based on union and MAPE priorities that candidates have to complete. Candidates also have to request to be endorsed. We have screened and endorsed people other parties such as Jim Abeler. We have also not endorsed Democrats if they did not support us. If someone gets a bad screening score, will not be endorsed. We have also removed endorsements such as the last time the contract was up and Rep Marquardt did not vote for it.

## Update from Organizing Council – Lauren Siegel

* Retro pay day is this Friday December 17th. We are leveraging this opportunity to do a massive member engagement effort. Please ask take to Friday off and sign up for our membership event at our MAPE office, we will cover lost time. There will be music, lunch, and training in the morning, and prizes. Please bring your laptop and cell phone.
* We will be contacting all people who are non-members, possibly twice (calling both their cell phones and later in the day their work phones) to encourage them to join MAPE. People may also receive a text message reminder that it is retro pay day.
* The event will be mindful of COVID and will require masks, COVID testing, and will have everyone spaced 6 feet apart. We also have a virtual option for attending.
* Sign up to volunteer on the [MAPE website](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmape.us20.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Dbe8f7b5c26877c8f1d2e3c496%26id%3D7c12b3a97c%26e%3D5263153030&data=04%7C01%7Cgina.a.smith%40state.mn.us%7C71df9af876854bbc6d2308d9ba7ae4bd%7Ceb14b04624c445198f26b89c2159828c%7C0%7C0%7C637745859246099208%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=e9EujCM6t86cEUQohFNt2F8vwDXRwLpJTURhd7PONwQ%3D&reserved=0). You cannot indicate on the MAPE website whether you will be participating virtually, but someone from MAPE will reach out to you to confirm.
* Contact Lauren if you have any questions lauren.siegel@state.mn.us.
* Member question: is it possible to do a half day?
* Response: It is preferred for people to commit to all day since the morning will be covered the training, however if you can only do half a day, we are still happy to have any help we can get.

## Update from our Regional Director – Vanessa Vogl

* Instead of holding the Friday board meeting, we will be participating in the membership recruitment effort.
* Update on the MAPE strategic planning process: We have now wrapped up the information gathering phase and have talked to over 3,400 members. The board held a 2 day retreat to sift through the information and had some hard but productive conversations around important issues. Next month we plan to hone in on our core questions and make decision, draft a strategic plan, and in early February present it to membership.
* MN Management and Budget (MMB) has sent the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for our contract to allow employees to use sick leave to care for children who must quarantine due to COVID exposure to the Subcommittee on Employer Relations (SER). The MOU could be implemented as soon as January 11th, depending on the outcome of the SER.
* Todd Maki, our long time statewide treasurer will now be the MAPE Operations Director, who will be in charge of our infrastructure and human resources. Congratulations Todd!

## Looking back on 2021 and forward to 2022 – Liz Pearson

* A copy of the presentation is included with the meeting minutes as a separate document.

## Member Concerns and Other Announcements – Liz Pearson

* **Brandin Barren is our new Treasurer and Gina Smith is officially our new Secretary!**
* At our monthly meetings we draw four member’s names for $20 gift cards. This month’s meeting: Amy Camp, Asuman Yucel, Camille Miller, and Tina Tran

## Upcoming meetings

* Next Officers’ meeting: Thursday, January 6, 2021, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m., via Teams. Let Liz Pearson know if you would like the invite.
* Next General Meeting: Tuesday, January 11, 2021, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m., via Zoom (or WebEx). Stay tuned for the invite.