Local 1601 Meeting October 24, 2023

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| **Order of Agenda** | **What to do or discuss** | **Time** |
| **Call to order:** | President | 1 min |
| **Approve previous minutes** | Review and motion to approve.  September minutes if posted by 10/24/23.*Motion: Sean Higgins* *Second: Sheri Reuss**Darren: we invited 1602 members to the meeting today. Welcome!* | 2 min |
| **Presidents Report:****Laura Czech** | Introductions and time allotted for any motions from the floor.  Out-Christina will chair. *16 attending* | 5 min |
| **Treasures Report:****Kevin Martini** | Local Financial Standing.*Sitting good, have one expense for the in person meeting last month.*  | 3 min |
| **Chief Stewards Report:****Jesse O’Connor** | Updates on any issues in the region. *Jesse unavailable. Darren said not much to update on, been quiet.* | 7 min |
| **Membership Secretary:****Susan Sunde** | Membership totals.  *Totals are 74.40% members and 25.60% non-members. Susie has been doing a good job reaching out to new members.* | 2 min |
| **Regional Negotiations Rep Report:****Susan Sunde** | Update on any contract information. Negotiation plans and CAT. *No update at this meeting.* | 7 min |
| **Regional Directors Report:****Darren Hage** | Update on any regional business.  *Local elections were held: Laura Czech President, Christina Sundgaard VP, Treasurer vacant, Mel Markert Secretary, Regional Negotiator Suzie Lundsten. Thank you Susie Sunde for all the work and time you spent in this role. It is a lot of work and it isn’t easy and we appreciate you. Susie will remain the Membership Secretary.* *(None of the positions were contested, so there was no need for a ballot to be sent out.)**Another position is available as a pilot in 1601 and 1602 as a Community Engagement Officer. They would work with political council. Create engagement at the locals levels. Check this link for more info on PC:* [*https://mape.org/sites/default/files/files/political\_council\_charter\_est\_2019.pdf*](https://mape.org/sites/default/files/files/political_council_charter_est_2019.pdf)*If you have any interest, please contact Darren.* *Everyone should have gotten COLA increase on their paycheck. Check your paycheck. We did have one incident of one person not getting their increase or backpay. Work with HR if there is an issue.**DA is this weekend!**Strategic Plan: based on member input and covers 2022-2027. Can be found on the website if you would like to review or learn more.* *Strategic Plan:* [*https://mape.org/strategic-plan-2022-2027*](https://mape.org/strategic-plan-2022-2027)*We need financial resources to build membership. Which grows our power. Members are the foundation of everything we do. Union approval is at the highest it’s been in 70 years! Unions give workers a voice!* *Delegate Assembly will vote this weekend on a new dues structure. Part of the Strategic Plan was how to make dues fairer and how we can restructure them. There have been many meetings, proposals, revisions, etc. We have not done an increase in over 10 years (2013, went from $17 to $21). We are also one of the lowest dues paying memberships in MN. A large chunk of money went into savings which has allowed us to delay another dues increase.* *Currently we have a flat rate for membership, which does not keep up with inflation or increased costs faced by MAPE. In order to keep the union running and not drain our reserves something needs to change. If we do not increase dues we will be in the red. The new structure would be percentage based and amount to 75% of an hour’s pay per pay period. Nobody would pay more than $32.50 per pay period. Basing this on a percentage means we do not need to revisit dues regularly. The Board went through 33 different variations of a dues restructure proposal.* *To save money MAPE dropped in person Delegate Assembly for several years, one floor of the MAPE building (MAPE owns) is being rented out to another business, board members forewent pay in order to pull together a plan for dues, among other things.* *This restructure is an investment in the union and in our own futures as state employees.**There is a dues calculator online:* [*https://mape.org/dues*](https://mape.org/dues)*Budget is also voted on at Delegate Assembly and will likely be voted on separately from the dues restructure. If the budget passes it will be implemented in January 2024.**MAPE was able to remove the legislative approval process from the negotiations process of our contracts. Once the contract is agreed upon between MAPE and MMB is it adopted. There is no longer hold up in the legislative approval process. It removes the doubt that the elected officials might turn it down if there is not a labor friendly majority. This is one great example of how MAPE improved the negotiations process and made it easier for members to get a fair contract.**Please reach out to Darrin or any other delegates if you would like to share your thoughts on the dues structure. Please also reach out if you have any questions. Local Delegates are : Laura Czech, Don Lucksinger, and Suzie Lundsten* *We know not everyone will agree with this. If you disagree, we welcome ideas on what a better option could be. We need to take action and want to know what members think is the best option.* *All Delegate Assembly resolutions and dues proposal information can be found here:* [*https://mape.org/committees/delegate-assembly-da*](https://mape.org/committees/delegate-assembly-da)*The state works because we do!**Question about how Local budgets play into dues structure and overall budget. Many Locals have a relatively small budget and are sitting ok. Other Locals have to request money from central. But we want our Locals to be able to work and have events. We could be doing more as a Local too if we chose to.*  | 7 min |
| **Organizing Business Agent:****Amanda Prince** | Updates on any organizational business.*Amanda was out* | 7 min |
| **Political Council:****Chet Bodin** | Updates on any political council business.*No updates this meeting* | 7 min |
| **New Business** | Strategic Plan, MAPE Darren will cover  | 5 min |
| **Old Business** | Elections | 1 min |
| **Good and Welfare** | *none* | 1 min |
| **Gift Card Drawing** | Christina or Kevin will draw: Amy!  | 1 min |
| **Next meeting**  | 11/28/23 | 1 min |
| **Adjourn** |  |  |