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MAPE LOCAL #1301

MEETING MINUTES 5/21/24

Meeting was called to order at approximately 12 noon by Linda Spears, Membership Secretary.

**Attendees:** Hannah Bach, Monet Bromley, Tarsha Davis-Martin, Rebecca Enstad, Tomas Gajeski, Elizabeth Gieseke, Amanda Haug, Jakob Tenofsky-Ealy, Erin Lynne, Tadd Heichel, Ann McArdle, Tammy McDonough-Gast, Marissa Dibba, Angela Rowe, Anh Tirinh, Rebecca Enstad, Linda Spears, Nancy Torres, Jadwiga Piskorski, LeAnn Santana and MAPE Business Agent, Meron Negussie.

**Discussion regarding Life Insurance, Short-Term Disability (STD) and Long-Term Disability (LTD)** **benefits** offered to state employees: There is a survey out right now asking for membership feedback, asking how important these benefits are to employees and why. It can be found at: [Life and Disability Benefit Feedback](https://mape.org/news/provide-your-feedback-life-and-disability-benefits-mape-members). Please complete the survey. It can take two to three years and several appeals to get approved for federal disability benefits from Social Security. Everyone should think about how they would meet their financial obligations if they became permanently and totally disabled for two to three years until Social Security benefits are received. For those of you who don’t know how much SSDI you would qualify for if you became permanently and totally disabled, or if you have other questions, you can contact the Social Security Administration at SSA.gov.

**Upcoming Events and Trainings –** register online at mape.org/events

* Basic Steward Training 6/14/24 @ MAPE HQ
* Advanced Steward Training 6/238/24 @ MAPE HQ
* Home Buyer’s Seminar 8/20/24 @ MAPE HQ
* Basic Steward Training 8/23/24 @ MAPE HQ

**State Fair and Parade Volunteers:** Meron Negussie mentioned that MAPE is looking for volunteers at the state fair for Saturday, August 31st and Monday, September 2nd and for volunteers to walk the parade. Here is the link for more information and how to sign up  [MAPE at State Fair](https://mape.org/news/sign-staff-state-fair-booth).

**Affinity Plus MAPE Local #1301 Authorized Bank Account Signers:** There was discussion about the need for more signers on the account to be able to pay for refreshments at meetings at various locations as we do more outreach membership meetings and need to pay for expenses associated with other events, like the Fall Festival. Thomas Gajeski made motion to add LeAnn Santana and Linda Spears on the account. Elizabeth Gieseke seconded the motion. There were 14 members in favor, 3 members non-responsive or against. Motion carried.

**Hennepin Technical College MAPE meeting**: It was a meet and greet meeting with approximately 15 attendees on campus at HTC. Linda Spears did the MAPE 101 presentation. Meron Negussie and Nancy Torres answered questions. Attendees reported the group was, “fired up” and said that the meeting was very helpful. Volunteers to help host meetings on other college campuses or at other employment sites to help with logistics (room reservations) and communications with MAPE represented employees at that location are needed**. If you’d like to have a MAPE meeting at your workplace, please contact anyone on the leadership team.**

**MAPE Local Restructure** – There is a committee working on the MAPE local restructuring. Adam Novotny was contacted for an update and said that they are still in the idea collection and feedback phase. Members are encouraged to provide ideas and feedback on the survey at <https://mape.org/restructure>.

**Volunteers to Encourage Membership**: Nancy Torres said that members can get lost time, mileage and meals paid for reaching out to try to get new members. Arrangements would have to be made in advance. She suggested conducting this from the MAPE office. Contact anyone on the leadership team if you would like to participate.

**Changes at AMRTC**: Linda announced that on June 1, 2024, BA1s (Behavior Analyst 1s) at AMRTC will be reclassified as CPT1s (Clinical Program Therapist 1s). She stated that the BA1s are at the mercy of HR, benefits won’t change, but STEP pay may change. She will update the local membership if further action is needed.

**Meeting Minutes and Agenda:** A member asked where the meeting minutes are and the agenda. LeAnn Santana stated that ideally, the minutes, agenda and meeting reminder would be sent out to members about two weeks in advance of the monthly meeting. Meeting notes are posted under “Minutes” tab on the local page <https://mape.org/locals/1301>.

**Newsletter:** A request was made for a volunteer to create the monthly newsletter – Nancy Torres stated that there may be compensation of wages for one to two hours to do that monthly. There is a template for it. Please let Nancy know if you’re interested.

**Local #1301 Election Update:** Linda Spears formally accepted the position of Membership Secretary, and Roshunda Coleman accepted the position of Secretary. LeAnn Santana accepted the position of Negotiator for Region 13. According to the MAPE website, Christopher McDonald and LeAnn Santana accepted nominations for Delegate Assembly Members.

**Donation Request from East Side Freedom Library:** LeAnn was unable to find evidence of the organization being a 501(c)(3) organization through Charity Navigator or on the library’s website. She proposed that the person who brought the request present further information. Update: The MN Attorney General’s website has it listed as a “charity”, with no comment about donations being tax deductible. The request can be considered at the next meeting.

**Gift Card Drawing Winner:** Tammy McDonough-Gast won a $20 gift card to Hy-Vee. Congratulations Tammy! There were no new members for April 2024. If you get a member to join, your name will be entered in a special drawing.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1 PM.

The next meeting will be held via Microsoft Teams on June 18, 2024 at Noon.Bottom of Form