**February 5,** **2025 -** [Teams Link](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_MTY1NjQ0YzktNTljYS00OGYzLTliZTUtMzRlNDM4ZGE0MThj%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22eb14b046-24c4-4519-8f26-b89c2159828c%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%227f6ef213-e7f5-416e-ad30-08b96084c8e0%22%7d" \t "_blank)

Start time 12:05 PM End time 1:00 PM

***Meeting Summary - scribed by Derek Duran***

Date, Time & Location: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 – [[Microsoft Teams Link](https://www.gotomeet.me/MAPELocal601" \t "_blank)](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_MTY1NjQ0YzktNTljYS00OGYzLTliZTUtMzRlNDM4ZGE0MThj%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22eb14b046-24c4-4519-8f26-b89c2159828c%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%227f6ef213-e7f5-416e-ad30-08b96084c8e0%22%7d)

Next Meeting Date, Time & Location: Noon-1:00 p.m., Wednesday, **March 5, 2025**, online via Microsoft Teams.

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| **Topic** | **Key Points Raised** | **Decision/Action** |
| Welcome – Lisa Becker, President | The meeting started with a discussion of the potential impact the federal policies and cutting of funds will have on our Local as well as MAPE/state employees as a whole. MAPE central is getting together to create a game plan for this fast moving reality. | No Action |
| Membership Secretary Report – Christian Noyce | The Membership Committee had it’s first meeting and is looking for more people to join. They are reaching out to new hires and members to introduce them to MAPE.  Contact Sophie Nikitas ([sophie.nikitas@state.mn.us](mailto:sophie.nikitas@state.mn.us)) or Christian Noyce ([Christian.noyce@state.mn.us](mailto:Christian.noyce@state.mn.us)) with questions. | No Action |
| Treasury Report - Michael Zajicek | Overall Local 601 has a very healthy reserve of funds which may help pay for Lobby Day. Other trends include not spending as much on food due to fewer in person meetings.  Contact Michael Zajicek ([Michael.Zajicek@state.mn.us](mailto:Michael.Zajicek@state.mn.us)) with questions. | No Action |
| Steward Report – Mary Heim | Many of you have reached out regarding concerns with federal funding freezes and state budget constraints. Please know that MAPE leaders are aware of your concerns and actively looking to provide education and guidance. Our steward team will be undergoing additional trainings on layoff procedures to support any member or represented employee who receives a notice they are at risk for or are being laid off. Please review the resource page on MAPE’s website, Public Worker Response Resources, for how you can best respond to these threats to public workers: Public Worker Attack Response Resources | Minnesota Association of Professional Employees. We need each represented employee and member to act: register to be a MAPE member, share your story about how your work positively impacts Minnesotans (the site provides a convenient online form to do so), contact your legislators using the template provided and register for lobby day.  Please review the seniority roster for your agency, issued most recently in November 2024. Often these are posted on agency intranet or Sharepoint sites. You can reach out to a steward in your agency or one of the regional steward directors if you have difficulty finding your seniority roster: Find Your Steward | Minnesota Association of Professional Employees. The rosters list each employee in the order of Classification Seniority; and reflect each employee's date of Classification Seniority, date of State Seniority, and class title and date for all classes in which the employee previously served. The rosters also identify the type of appointment if other than full-time unlimited, and include the class option, if any. If there are factual errors listed in the seniority roster, please reach out to your business agent, Frank Cave Lacoste at: fcavelacoste@mape.org  During these threats to public workers, the need for stewards has significantly increased. Our next basic steward training is on April 25th 2025. You can register on the MyPortal section of the MAPE website: Creating a My Info Account | Minnesota Association of Professional Employees. You are paid by MAPE at your hourly rate for attendance. Lunch is paid for if you are in attendance. Taking the training does not obligate you to be a steward. You can serve MAPE in other ways. Reach out to a steward if you have questions about becoming a steward. Stewards support each other and can pick the cases they want to assist with and take breaks when needed. Frequently we assist with representing employees during disciplinary investigations, Americans with Disability Act accommodation interactive processes, providing guidance and a listening ear during workplace conflicts, harassment, discrimination and bullying and answering questions about the contract. No one is expected to know everything. We work as a team, along with Frank, our business agent.  Contact Mary Heim ([mary.heim@state.mn.us](mailto:mary.heim@state.mn.us)) or Catherine Okoneski ([catherine.okoneski@state.mn.us](mailto:catherine.okoneski@state.mn.us)) with questions. | No Action |
| Regional Director Report – Nate Hierlmaier | Nate reiterated that we are stronger together, especially as face attacks against federal and public workers generally. Unions need to play a key counterbalance. Part of this is understanding what powers we do have and how to wield that power.  Additionally, Nate is working with other regional board members to create a [MAPE Health Policy Lab Report](https://docs.google.com/document/d/12x41W1-IcgsDCHiwipKFDC8fefs30rOPs3xnUNbG4XE/edit?usp=drive_link).  Contact Nate Hierlmaier ([nhierlmaier@mape.org](mailto:nhierlmaier@mape.org)) with questions. | No Action |
| Lobby Day Explanation and Pitch as well as Fund Our Future – Rachel Wittkopp | Rachel described Lobby Day as perhaps the single most important day for the union. It’s an important action for contract/wages and shows our collective strength. It’s 2-3 hours with legislators and then 4 hours of rallying. The Agenda is in flux due to the moving political environment, both federally and locally. A few logistical questions were answered regarding transportation, lost time, safety concerns, and ADA accommodations.  Rachel also answered questions with Jason Bonnett (the Local Negotiator) on contract timelines and underscored the importance that CATs will have in that communication.  Ongoing effort: Enlisting CATs  CATs can lead meetings, conduct townhalls, direct action plannings, conduct listening sessions, and recruit members.  Sign up to be a CAT today!  QR Code for Joining    Contact Rachel Wittkopp ([Rachel.wittkopp@state.mn.us](mailto:Rachel.wittkopp@state.mn.us)) with questions. | No Action |
| Business Agent Report – Frank Cave-LaCoste | Frank Cave-LaCoste is our new MAPE Business Agent – Welcome back Frank!  Contact Frank Cave-LaCoste ([fcavelacoste@mape.org](mailto:fcavelacoste@mape.org)) with questions. | No Action |
| Adjourn | Next Meeting: Noon-1:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 5, 2025, online via Microsoft Teams | No Action |

**Local 601 Leadership Team**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Position | Name | Email Contact |
| President | Lisa Becker | [lisa.becker@ssa.gov](mailto:lisa.becker@ssa.gov) |
| Vice President | Roberta Suski | [roberta.suski@state.mn.us](mailto:roberta.suski@state.mn.us) |
| Secretary | Derek Duran | [derek.duran@state.mn.us](mailto:derek.duran@state.mn.us) |
| Treasurer | Michael Zajicek | [michael.zajicek@state.mn.us](mailto:michael.zajicek@state.mn.us) |
| Membership Secretary | Sophie Nikitas  Christian Noyce | [sophie.nikitas@state.mn.us](mailto:sophie.nikitas@state.mn.us)  [Christian.noyce@state.mn.us](mailto:Christian.noyce@state.mn.us) |
| Regional Director | Nathan Hierlmaier | [nathan.hierlmaier@](mailto:nathan.hierlmaier@)mape.org |
| Regional Steward Directors | Mary Heim & Catherine Okoneski | [mary.heim@state.mn.us](mailto:mary.heim@state.mn.us) & [catherine.okoneski@state.mn.us](mailto:catherine.okoneski@state.mn.us) |
| Community Engagement Officer | Andrew Ulasich | [andrew.ulasich@state.mn.us](mailto:andrew.ulasich@state.mn.us) |
| Regional Negotiator | Jasen Bonnet | [jason.bonnett@state.mn.us](mailto:jason.bonnett@state.mn.us) |
| MAPE Assigned Negotiator | Kirsten Peterson | [Kirsten.peterson@state.mn.us](mailto:Kirsten.peterson@state.mn.us) |
| Local Contract Action Team Lead | Rachel Wittkopp | rachel.wittkopp@state.mn.us |
| MAPE Business Agent | Frank Cave-LaCoste | [fcavelacoste@mape.org](mailto:fcavelacoste@mape.org) |