**Organizing Council (OC) Meeting**

**October 20, 2023**

**Present:** Chair Lauren Siegel; Vice-chair Sarah Weiss; Bobbie Miller-Thomas; Zac Echola; Genzeb Terchino, Lolita Davis Carter, Mike Samuelson

* General updates:
  + Lolita has been accepted into the U of M’s MULP Program! Starting next week
* Scholarships Executive Committee Discussion
  + Postponing decision on what to do with scholarships. For now this is not going to be part of OC’s work
  + Potential to move scholarships to locals if scholarships continue. Could be part o a larger conversation with locals about identifying leaders and building power;
  + OC will return to this item at future meeting
* OC Elections
  + Several people were nominated but only Bobbie and Lauren accepted.
  + No other OC members are up for election. Janaya to share list with members of when their term is up.
* Labor Notes
  + Has been a good way to identify future leaders
  + Angie Halseth and Lauren are developing a process for MAPE members to attend the conference and then have attendees share what they’ve learned. Lauren to share with OC members for their review.
* Dues decision and discussions
  + Need to think about the approach for people who are planning to drop if dues restructure changes.
  + Important to talk about what MAPE’s money will be going towards: strike fund, staff costs, lost time
  + More organizing needs to be done around this topic. People need to be heard and a place to share. The more people can share and be heard, it tends to lower the temperature.
    - Potential for a campaign
  + Can’t always change people’s decision to drop, but can change how they feel as they leave
* Steward organizer training
  + Adding an organizing component into Steward training
  + Planning for a full day of training related to organizing. Be able to answer the question “What do we do when something isn’t a union grievance?”
  + Goal also is to get all leaders to take Steward training
  + Zac to develop share document for training with draft schedule
* Equity outreach
  + Lolita will develop goals related to potential training.
  + Want to minimize the chance that we create harms as part of these trainings
  + OC will think about potential names since the phrase DEI can be polarizing
  + Need to embed this work into all parts of MAPE
  + Carolyn Murphy has been tasked by board with leading DEI work
  + Lolita will bring back more information at a future OC meeting
* Membership blitz
  + Will email locals about membership blitz for an update