**POLITICAL COUNCIL MEETING**

**August 13, 2021**

**Minutes**

Chair Cotter called the meeting to order at 9:07 A.M.

**Roll Call:** A quorum was established

**Present:** Chair Cathleen **Cotter,** Vice-Chair John **Ferrara**, Secretary Amanda **Hemmingsen-Jaeger**, Nicole **Juan,** Chet **Bodin,** Tess **Flom**, Kristin **Kirchoff-Franklin,** MAPE Staff Leah **Solo,** MAPE Staff Devin **Bruce**

**Absent:** (excused)

**Abbreviations:** Political Council (PC)

**Business:**

* Welcome
* **Motion:** Approve July 9th minutes
	+ Passed by consensus
* Welcome new members!
	+ Tess Flom – Region 12 Director
	+ Kristin Kirchoff-Franklin – Negotiations Team
* Onboarding, Orientation, and Centering for PC
	+ Reach out to Sierra Plunkett (splunkett@mape.org) for swag catalog and ordering
	+ Fill out and submit to Cathleen with Lost Time:
		- Political Council Oath of Office
		- Code of Conduct Agreement
		- Conflicts of Interest Disclosure (if applicable)
* Legislative Update (**Solo**)
	+ Vaccine or test mandate introduced
		- Concern over lack of bargaining and discussion prior to announcement
	+ Decision(s) at Governor/Administration level is not unique to MAPE (other unions observing, too)
	+ Contract/TA information available online
		- Next steps: Membership vote -> SER -> Full legislature
* Executive Team Meeting Update (**Cotter**)
	+ Kathy Fondness is retiring on October 1st
	+ Discussion of “Board Reorganization” proposal PowerPoint (from Board of Directors meeting)
		- Proposal highlights:
			* Decreases the size of the Board of Directors
			* Adds an extra layer of Regional Representatives
			* Removes Political Council Chair, Organizing Council Chair, and Meet & Confer Speaker from Executive Team
		- **Motion:** Move to Executive Session (**Ferrara**)
			* Second: **Kirchoff-Franklin**
			* Passed via consensus
* 11:25-12:12: Executive Session
* September Meeting in Rochester planning update:
	+ Check “In-districts meeting” channel on Slack for coordination
	+ Eligible for hotel stay and mileage reimbursement
		- Opportunity to conduct morning 1:1 before meeting
		- Work with Sierra for hotel accommodations
	+ Room reserved
		- Hybrid classroom with option to broadcast Zoom meeting
	+ Save the Date sent to members in SD25 and SD26
	+ Goal: Develop list of Community Engagement Zone teams (leads + people)
	+ 8:30 AM-11:30 AM - Morning meeting at RCTC classroom (reserved all day)
		- 8:30-9:00 - Introduction of PC members
		- 9:00-9:15 - Brief overview of PC (what we do, accomplishments, etc.)
			* Handout? **Juan?**
		- 9:15-9:30 - Legislative priorities
		- 9:30-10:00 - PAC presentation (**Juan**)
		- 10:00-10:15 - Break
		- 10:15-10:30 - Region 20 presentation
		- 10:30-11:00 - Contract approval and current path (**Solo/Bruce**)
		- 11:00-12:00 - Member questions
	+ 12:30-2:00 – Lunch (Whistle Binky’s on the Lake; 247 Woodlake Dr, Rochester)
		- 2001 Officers
		- 2001 Stewards
		- Associate members
		- Meet and Confer leads
		- Other recognized leaders (e.g. Kim Hicks, Rebeca Sedarski, Jess Garcia)
		- Send invite to everyone
	+ 2:30-4:00 - Plan for 1:1’s at worksites (Goal of 3 discussions, 15-20 minutes each)
		- Ask: Will you be a part of the local development zone team to drive engagement for the SD25 and SD26 elections, including door knocking, phone banking, and other volunteering?
		- Target people: Those who attend meetings to become engaged to increase turnout
		- **Cotter, Ferrara,** and **Bruce** will develop script/talking points
		- Collect personal contact information for follow-up
			* **Cotter** will check with MAPE staff for contact cards
		- Deliverables:
			* Map
			* Where to park
			* Masks/proof of vaccination?
		- Need to coordinate juice/carb for morning refreshments
		- **Ferrara** coordinating with site leads
		- **Ferrara** will work with MAPE staff, and secure space at RCTC to conduct Zoom 1:1’s
		- Work-site assignments (**Ferrara** will get us contact names):
			* DNR – **Hemmingsen-Jaeger**
			* DOT – **Cotter**
			* DEED – **Ferrara**
			* PCA– **Kirchoff-Franklin**
			* TBD - **Bodin**
	+ 4:30 PM - Evening gathering for PC to recognize former PC members
		- 5:30 PM **- Cotter** say a few words to thank former PC member and present appreciation gift
		- **Action:** E-mail John any dietary restrictions, preferences, or confirm you have none
		- Current PC members
		- Former PC members
		- Staff associated with PC
		- Region 20 Director
	+ **Cotter** will coordinate communications with MAPE
	+ Timeline:
		- August: Text and/or phone bank
		- Week of: One last push
		- September 10th – PC meeting in Rochester, and Zone action
	+ Ideas to drive turn-out (hoping for 20):
		- Send stack of postcards with leaders for when they meet
		- Text bank
		- Phone bank
		- Newsletter (**Cotter**)
* Other updates
	+ Next Community Engagement Zone meetings
		- Saint Cloud next: Tentatively Wednesday, November 10
			* **Cotter** to contact Regional Director (**Terhune**) to discuss feasibility
			* Maybe work Brainerd into this?
		- 1401/1501 (Grand Rapids, Bemidji) to revisit this fall (**Bodin)**
		- TBD later:
			* Stillwater (**Hemmingsen-Jaeger**)
			* Ely (**Juan**)
			* White Bear Lake (**Flom**)
			* Maple Grove (**Kirchoff-Franklin**)

**Next meeting:** Friday, September 10th at 8:30 AM (RCTC, East Hall #241, Rochester, MN)

**Adjourned at 2:50 PM**