Local 301 Membership Meeting

January 9, 2019, 12 pm - 1 pm, DNR Lobby Gallery, 500 Lafayette Road

Meeting called to order at 12:00 by Membership Secretary, Barb Peichel

**Announcements – Barb Peichel, Membership Secretary**

* Brett Nagle is our new Local 301 President. As most of you know, Anne Claflin vacated her position as President as she was elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives. Following our bylaws, Brett who was serving as our Vice President (VP), automatically moves into the position of President. That means that that we have an open position for VP now for Local 301.  As was mentioned in an email, please email your VP nominations to Rachel Olmanson at Rachel.olmanson@state.mn.us by February 9, 2019. If only one person accepts their nomination, we will elect them at our February local meeting. If more than one person accepts their nomination, then we will vote electronically.
* New employees who started in the last 6 months introduced themselves.
* Local meetings are being move to the 2nd Tuesday of the month. The next meetings will be held on February 12, 2019 and March 12, 2019. These meetings will be held in the DNR Lobby Gallery.
* Mark your calendars for Day on the Hill, which will be held on Tuesday, March 26, 2019. More information will be provided at our next meeting, but this is a great opportunity to meet with your legislator and share why we want a strong contract.
* Please share your ideas for topics and/or speakers for future meeting on the notepad that is being passed around or email ideas to Brett Nagle.

**Contract Negotiation Update – Bill Dunn, Contract Negotiations Representative**

* Folks are sorting through the thousands of contract ideas and discussing different strategies for contract negotiations. Compared to older contracts, we now have many more, higher paying job classifications. Some years we get a cost of living increase and sometimes we don’t but it has been important for members to speak up about what their priorities are.
* The new organizing strategy that will be used for this negotiations period is for each local to form a Contract Action Team (CAT). Bill is looking for folks to join this team to help him reach out to our local during the contract negotiations process. It will be most helpful to have different folks representing all the agencies, floors, and locations of 301. Please let Bill know if you are interested in joining this team.

Volunteer opportunity!!!

Contract Action Team (CAT) – 14 members (member names in parentheses)

Lafayette Road

Basement – EAO

1st – Mnit

2nd – BWSR and RMAD

3rd – EAO and Watershed

4th – MUN, OPS and RMAD

5th – REM and IND

6th – OPS and RMAD

Pine Street

BWSR (Peter Jordet)

* MAPE’s contract representatives will get together in March with the Governor’s team to start negotiating. Anticipate that we may vote on our contract this summer.

**Volunteer Committee Update – Mark Snyder, Local 301 Treasurer**

* MAPE folks (a few locals) raised $1,947 for the Sheridan Story, a charity designed to fight child hunger. Our Local 301 folks contributed the majority of this funding – thank you for being generous.
* Sheridan Story also has packing events – let Mark know if you are interested in volunteering.
* The Volunteer Committee only has a few folks on it and really need a few additional members – please let Mark know if you are interested.

**Chief Steward’s Report and New Year’s Resolutions – Bill Dunn, Chief Steward and Stewards**

* It would be great to have more stewards in Local 301. If you are interested, please sign up for Basic Steward Training on Friday, January 25, 2019 in Shoreview.
* Stewards need your feedback on a couple of issues:
	+ Training:  Ask for training opportunities.  It is important to ask if we want to continue to be offered opportunities for self-improvements
	+ Breakroom appliances:  None of the agencies in local 301 buy employees appliances, but we know other agencies do not make employees buck up.  Gives us input!
	+ Starting before 6 am:  If this is what you are doing or want to as your assigned hours.  Please give us feedback.
	+ Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA):  It appears that across the entire state system is implementing the federal law differently in recent years.  Give us feedback.
* New Year’s Resolutions stewards wish you would have – (1) don’t share specifics about sick leave, (2) seek out a steward if you get a poor performance appraisal or letter of expectation, (3) work with a steward or human resources on FMLA or American Disability Act (ADA) requests, (4) If part-time, check that sick and vacation leaves are properly prorated, (5) limit personal use on a state computer to lunchtime and not go to unauthorized websites, (6) go to HR to review your personnel file before seeking new positions, (7) that you have 21 days to act related to contract violations, (8) meet with MSRS representative and use your vacation time so you have no regrets near retirement age, (9) make sure you get a 3-month performance appraisal during probation and notify a steward if you don’t get certified.

**Membership Committee Update - Barb Peichel, Membership Secretary**

* Membership Committee meets with new employees within their first few months – we want to get to know people and let them know how they can be an active MAPE member
* Local 301 has a 82% membership level – we’ve held this percentage even through there has been many retirements and new employees which is great. Thanks to Membership Committee members who volunteered their time. Always looking for more folks to join the Membership Committee – only requirement is that you are friendly.
* Not a member yet? Sign up today! Already a member? Help new employees feel welcome.

Federal shutdown:  For those of MAPE members here that have lived through the state shutdown, we know how lonely and challenging this time is for them.  Keep them in mind and remember that MAPE has an existing MOU to dictate how the shutdown can effect MAPE members.  If this drags on – MAPE will be sending out guidance.

Birthday drawing – Jennifer Thoreson

Meeting adjourned at 12:55 pm.