**Local 301 Membership Meeting**

**Tuesday May 9th, 12-1pm**, **Skype**

**Meeting called to order at 12:05 pm by President Nagle**

**Attendees: 89**

**Welcome/Announcements, Brett Nagle, Local President**

* Theresa Gaffey asked folks to send her ideas for things to include in the PCAToday while we are teleworking, similar to the home office feature.
* Brett introduced himself and discussed how he lives in 3rd Precinct in South Minneapolis. Brett talked about the civil unrest, systemic racism, and George Floyd. Brett’s house was built in 1919 and for decades it was illegal for anyone but a white person to live there and this was written into the deed. We all need to reflect and make MPCA a better place to work for everyone. Brett also shared some happy news that he and his wife are expecting a baby in November.
* Jason Ewert shared a mapping prejudice website: <https://www.mappingprejudice.org/>.
* Contract update: the MAPE contract has been ratified by the house and senate and is in full effect. We have been under interim effect for some time. The Senate majority made a case that state employees should not get a cost of living increase during session. The Senate amended the contract that allowed the cost of living increase that went into effect last year, but voted to freeze the increase for this year. MMB ruled the contract ratified as negotiated, before the Senate amendment.
* Dave Kamper, MAPE Business Agent discussed that we have never had the House and/or Senate reject our contract, but they tried to amend it, similar to what happened with Paid Parental Leave. The senate approved the contract, but tried to amend. However the governor passed it. This shows how important it is that we have a State Senate that supports workers. We came as close as we have ever come to a branch refusing to ratify our contract. We should be aware of this issue and work towards a labor friendly Senate in 2021.
* Monthly Lunch Donation: We have been donating our average monthly lunch expense of $900 to the [Sheridan Story](https://www.thesheridanstory.org/). We will make another donation this month and the organization sorely needs the money.
* Mark Snyder, newly elected local Vice President discussed how the Sheridan story started six years ago w/ one school and one neighborhood partner. They worked w/ teachers who had determined that kids were not getting enough to eat on weekends. The organization collects food for kids to take home to their families on weekends and have now have partnered w/ more schools around metro. They have stepped up their operations to cover breakfast and lunch, especially now w/ the pandemic and have increased the work that they have been doing. The organization relies on folks like us to help out. Mark talked about how as local VP, he will be looking for more opportunities for Local 301 to help the Sheridan Story and other organizations.

**Election Results – Statewide Elections, Brett Nagle, Local President**

* Statewide President – Megan Dayton (Local 701). Brett discussed how Megan has great ideas and energy and is looking forward to seeing what direction she takes the office.
* Statewide Treasurer – Todd Maki (Local 1001). Todd ran unopposed.
* Political Council – Nicole Juan (Local 2101), Amanda Hemmingsen-Jaeger (Local 502).
* Organizing Council: Sarah Evans (Local 601), Bobbie Miller-Thomas (Local 201), Adam Novotny (Local 1101)
* Local 301 Elections – President: Brett Nagle, Vice President: Mark Snyder (former Treasurer), Treasurer: Anne Morris, Membership Secretary: Chuck Krueger, Secretary: Rachel Olmanson

**New Local 301 Officer Introductions**

* Anne Morris introduced herself. Anne has worked in the Remediation program at the MPCA for 6 years. She watched Shanna and others work on the Food Committee. She thanked Brett and talked about how we need to fix many issues for our children. She is excited to work with MAPE.
* Brett Nagle thanked Barb Peichel for her service. Barb will continue to act as a steward. Chuck introduced himself. Chuck works in Petroleum Remediation and has been at agency for about a year. Chuck came from consulting where there are no unions. He wanted to find a way to help out, and this opportunity seemed like a good fit for him. Chuck talked about how great and helpful Barb has been. Chuck mentioned that any new members/employees are free to call him and reach out anytime.

**New Member Introductions**

* New members introduced themselves including: Jayme Hammond (Remediation), Chris Goscinak (REM Site Assessment), Carl Stenoien (Data Services), Jeff Thuma (REM Development Unit), Alan DeVries (MnIT), Sopie Greene (PFAS Coordinator), Nicole Tillma (Business Solutions), Rachel Tucker (Permit Writer)
* Melissa Wenzel, Steward: made a note to new staff to let MAPE leaders or stewards know if you have trouble w/ vacation accruals, or need help with anything else.

**New Local 301 Elected Representative Introductions**

* Kristin Kirchoff – Franklin, Region 3 Negotiator
* Hannah Field, Meet and Confer Committee Chair. Hannah Field introduced herself. Hannah is a Data Specialist at MPCA in the Resource Management Assistance Division (RMAD). Hannah has been at MPCA for about 18 months and is excited to help us and ready to step up and help people. The purposed of the Meet and Confer Committee is to identify, address and discuss policies and issues of concern specific to agencies. The Committee Hannah is on is just related to MPCA. Different agencies have their own Meet and Confer Committees. The committee discusses policy issues w/ MPCA management and HR. They discuss mutually identified issues through problem solving approach. Some topics include child care, health insurance, safety, training, diversity/equity, etc. There will be a meeting June 22nd and will be discussing phased retirement, student loan reimbursement, and a bicycle commuting benefit. Any employee can have input w/ out being on committee. Let Hannah know if you have any concerns or issues you want to talk about. Brett Nagle, Anne Morris, Melissa Wenzel, Mel Markert (Rochester), Shanna Schmitt, Kristin Kirchoff-Franklin, Claudia Hochstein, and Joel Peck are all on the team. Email Hannah at Hannah.field@state.mn.us.
* Bill Dunn mentioned that the Labor Management Committee (LMC) needs MAPE members on the team since several have retired. Talk to Bill or Brett if you are interested.
* Delegate Assembly is Sept. 19, 2020. We currently have four delegates, Mark Snyder, Kristin Kirchoff-Franklin, Rachel Olmanson, and Hannah Field plus Brett Nagle. We can have up to five alternates attend Delegate Assembly. Let Brett know if you are interested.

**Board of Directors Update, Shanna Schmitt**

* Shanna encouraged people to check-out MAPE scholarships. There is one for dependents of MAPE members too. Let Shanna know if you have any questions: https://mape.org/news/mape-scholarships-available-members-and-their-families and the application materials are here: https://mape.org/scholarships.
* Priority 1 and 2 employees can request extension for using vacation time. Once per fiscal year MAPE employees need to get down to 275 hours just once.
* We are at 79.23% membership, the union as a whole is at 71.6% membership.
* Shanna thanked Jen Jevnisek for becoming steward.
* Organizing Council is working w/ membership secretaries to organize a virtual, mental health week. If any members are interested in leading yoga/meditation let us know.
* Shanna apologized for Delegate Assembly being scheduled on Sept. 19th, which conflicts w/ Rosh Hashanah, a Jewish holiday.
* Board meetings have all been virtual. The Board might have more meetings that are shorter in length.

**Chief Steward’s Report – Kristin Kirchoff-Franklin, Local 301 Chief Steward**

* Jen Jevnisek introduced herself as a new steward. She has been at MPCA for five years and is excited to help people.
* Kristin mentioned that you can cancel parking if you want. You will likely get your spot back in the back parking lot, but would probably end up on waiting list for front parking lot. Contact Sonda Binsfeld.
* Seniority rosters are posted. Review them to make sure there are no errors. Seniority Rosters are important for lay-offs, etc. If you have an issue w/ the info contact your HR representative.
* Contact David Allan for parking questions if you work at MnIT and John Michalko (lafayetteparking@gmail.com, 651-330-0557) if you work at BWSR Pine Street location. Metro passes can also be suspended
* Local 301 Stewards – Bill Dunn, Jen Crea, Jeannie Given, Lucy Dahl, Barb Peichel, Melissa Wenzel, Denise Wilson, Jen Jevnisek
* MMB is having a special mid-year enrollment period to add coverages for self/dependents. You can’t change plan, but you can add people to dental coverage. This will not be open this fall so do so now if you need to. You can also make changes to pre-tax accounts, dependent care/medical/etc. It’s a good opportunity if you’ve saving on daycare, medical expenses, etc. Enrollment ends June 24th. You can’t do it through Self Service, have to go on SEGIPs website.
* Someone mentioned that remember that child care deductions are use it or lose it. If you do not spend your childcare money this year, it is gone.
* Dave Kamper mentioned that COVID leave is tied to the peace time emergency which is supposed to end on June 13th. Dave has asked SEGIP about child care deductions, but unfortunately the federal regulations prohibit option to get money back. This is not SEGIPs choice.
* Dave talked about how COVID leave will change. The state has said to our union that they want to do something to get something closer to federal leave, which is less generous in money and how much, but they haven’t given any details. There is a chance that COVID leave for daycare will end soon, but we don’t know when, so start thinking about options. There is a call at 1 pm with the union and MMB. We hope to know more soon.
* Dave mentioned that agencies are being told to prepare for a 5% reduction in budgets. Encouraged to reduce budgets w/out layoffs.

**Open Discussion**

* Kristin mentioned that stewards are here to help and to reach out to us if you have concerns about COVID leave, etc.
* Brett will send out an email about parking.

**Meeting adjourned by Brett Nagle at 12:59**

**Next meeting July 14th**