**Local 301 Membership Meeting**

**Tuesday October 13th, 12 – 1 pm**, **Microsoft Teams**

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

**Attendees: 84**

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

* Brett introduced himself and welcomed everyone to the meeting. We will be using Microsoft Teams from now on.
* Monthly meetings are a space for members and non-members to share information with each other. Brett talked about teleworking and how it may impact new hires since it is more difficult to meet new people when we're teleworking.
* New folks and others will be hearing from our membership committee and we will ask you to consider joining the union. Membership numbers are especially important this year because it's a contract negotiation year. Our local is at about 80% membership, but we can do better! We are expecting a tough contract fight this year due to the pandemic. Please help us spread the word to staff on the importance of membership and what it means.
* The past two years we received cost of living raises. We got this because our membership demanded it. Bill Dunn and others negotiated hard for our benefits and made it happen.
* Kristin Kirchoff-Franklin and Claudia Hochstein are on the Contracts Negotiation Team this year and will be fighting that fight again.
* Another new benefit we received during our last contract negotiation was the private sector vacation credit. If you need help getting this benefit reach out to one of our stewards.
* Another great benefit we have is paid parental leave. We all have access to six weeks of paid parental leave. Members of this local were very involved in making this a reality for us.

**Elections, Brett Nagle, Local President**

* There is an election coming up on Nov. 3rd. This election is extremely important. Brett talked about how he voted early this year and was able to turn in his wife's absentee ballot. It was very smooth, safe, and efficient. Brett encouraged everyone to vote early.
* We have language in our contract that refers to "Election Day". Don't hesitate to send an email to your supervisor to say you're going to take time to go vote. If anyone gets pushback, please reach out. We are allowed to go and vote during work time if needed.
* Brett stressed that there is so much at stake in this election. Our local is politically diverse, but we can talk about politics without being partisan. This is a pro labor space and we want pro labor candidates to run and get elected.
* Imagine how different our contract approval process could be with a labor friendly house and senate!
* So what can you do? Races in outstate MN are critical. The union is trying to make helping out as easy as possible. They have organized member-to-member phone banks for us to participate in and other activities. Brett discussed how he participated in member-to-member phone banking last week and it was fun and easy. His group made over 500 phone calls to MAPE members.
* See the MAPE Get Involved website for more information: <https://mape.org/2020-minnesota-elections/get-involved>.
* Dave Kamper, MAPE Business Agent, talked about his experience with phone banking and how people are struggling more than ever. It's extremely important to reach out and your phone call could really make a difference to people and help them think and talk through things.
* See the MAPE Local 301 website for information: <https://mape.org/locals/301>.
* All MPCA staff should have received an email about waiving the shift differential. If you would like to alter your schedule for any reason, talk to a steward. There will be new telework agreements coming out that we will all need to sign. Let us know if you have any questions. The shift differential waiver is only applicable to MPCA at this time. We are not aware of MNIT or BWSR getting this waiver.

**Local 301 Charitable Donations, Anne Morris, Local Treasurer**

* If you are new to MPCA, or new to these meetings feel free introduce yourself in the chat box.
* Anne introduced herself and talked about how this is her first year working in our local.
* Anne discussed how at our last monthly meeting the local decided to donate the money we usually spend on lunches to charity organizations. It's wonderful to help others during this challenging time.

**Delegate Assembly Resolutions, Brett Nagle, Local President**

* We had our first virtual Delegate Assembly (DA) this year in September. There are a few hundred delegates and it was challenging to debate all of the resolutions. We were not able to make it through all the resolutions.
* Brett discussed the resolutions that were discussed at DA.
* See the MAPE website for more information: <https://mape.org/news/mapes-first-ever-virtual-delegate-assembly-recap>.

**Board of Directors Update, Shanna Schmitt, Regional Director**

* The board didn’t have a meeting in September because of Delegate Assembly. They did have a special board meeting last week to work on strategic planning. We are discussing how we can communicate with people while people are working from home. If anyone has any ideas please let me know. We want to continue to engage membership and move forward. We have a meeting coming up this Friday.
* One item the board will be discussing is if MAPE should respond to a recent executive order by the president regarding training for federal employees related to environmental justice.
* We are also trying to gather information on what other locals are doing with electronic bulletin boards. The Attorney General's office has an electronic bulletin board that Melissa Wenzel found, and we want to discuss if we can do something similar.

**Lead Steward's Report, Kristin Kirchoff-Franklin, Lead Steward**

* Kristin urged people to please vote!
* Dave and Kristin met w/ HR about out-of-state teleworking (temporary) and discussed the procedure for doing this. Right now you should work with your supervisor and your supervisor will work with HR. You may have to fill out another telework form. Please reach out to stewards if you have questions. There should be a procedure coming out soon. There are some tax implications for working out of state and each state has different thresholds for how long someone can work in the state without being taxed. There are also payroll implications.
* Stay Interviews – you may have been invited to do a stay interview. These are fairly high level interviews and if you feel comfortable go ahead and do it. You don't have to do it if you don't want to.
* Note: staff have until October 31st to complete their 200 points in Virgin Pulse for their $70 contribution to deductibles for 2021. This is in replacement of the reduced co-pay.

**Contract Negotiations Update, Kristin Kirchoff-Franklin, Claudia Hochstein, Contracts Negotiators**

* The contracts team had another meeting earlier this month. We will be doing listening sessions later this month to talk about what you want to see in the contract. Stay tuned for more updates.

**MPCA Meet and Confer, Hannah Field, Chair**

* Hannah introduced herself. She is the current chair of Meet and Confer since last spring. Hannah thanked people who attended listening sessions in August.
* Our first official meeting w/ the Commissioner's Office is Oct. 30th. The committee is currently drafting an agenda of topics and issues we want to cover at the meeting.
* Feel free to email mape\_pca@mape.org if you have any comments or questions.

**Meeting adjourned at 12:58 pm by President Nagle**

**Next meeting Nov. 10th at noon**