**MAPE Local 802 Meeting Minutes**
**Date: Tuesday, March 27, 2018**
**Time: 12:00 – 12:45**
**Location: Retirement Systems of Minnesota, 1st floor Training Room**

Present: President Jerry Schmitt, Vice President Anteneh Fulas, Treasurer Jeff Jacobson, Secretary Afiya Krueger, and Business Agent Dave Kemper.

The meeting was called to order at 12:07 pm by President Jerry Schmitt.

**Afiya Krueger, Secretary:** Meeting minutes for February 7, 2017 were distributed with the meeting notice prior to this meeting. No changes or comments were given by members on the meeting minutes so a motion was made to accept by Madelyn Lewis and seconded by Kailee Anderson. Passed unanimously.

**Jeff Jacobson, Treasurer:** Budget is on track. Check book audit completed in March went well.

**Jerry Schmitt, President:**
**First VP Special Election:** Details are on the website. Nominations close April 6, 2018. Voting for this special election opens May 9 and closes May 30, 2018.
**Rally at the Capital February 20, 2018:** 1100 MAPE attendees turned out. A good showing considering the weather.
**Day on the Hill March 21, 2018:** Last week drew a good crowd.
**Steward Training:** Email Jerry if interested in becoming a steward.

**Dave Kemper, Business Agent:**
**Contract Approved:** On October 5, 2017 the Legislature’s Subcommittee on Employee Relations (SER) SER meeting voted 6-4 to recommend that the Legislature not approve MAPE’s and AFSCME’s contracts. On March 26, 2018 Senate approved the bipartisan contract bill, 56-10 and the House passed by a 93-33 vote. Our actions helped secure our contact by attending the Rally (~1250 people), participating in Day on the Hill (~250 people), and sending letters. Email HR about private sector vacation accrual process, so they are aware how many people are interested.

**Janus vs AFSCME:** Minnesota will lose the ability to collect money from fee-payers, when the decision is rendered around June 2018. As opposed to us vs them attitude let’s instead make the union an organization everyone wants to join. When we lose the fee payer money MAPE will be okay as long as we retain our current membership. See the October 16, 2017 news article on the MAPE website for more information. Home / News / Q&A: Janus v. AFSCME.

**Recommit to MAPE:** For those who became members prior to 2016, they can stop membership at any time. By recommitting to MAPE and signing a new membership card, MAPE membership is not as volatile because it commits on an annual basis that is renewed automatically year to year. This will also help retain our current membership.

**Michigan:** After Michigan became a right to work state, a private group funded by the Koch brothers went door to door to convince members to drop their union membership. This tactic worked. Roughly 5000 teachers left the union. We don’t want to see that in Minnesota.

**Other Items:**

* Union dues can be deducted for taxes, but there is not a MN tax credit being pursued. This may become an option to explore once legislature is union friendly.
* At a future MAPE meeting we can have presenters discuss details on what happened in Wisconsin and Iowa when their states went right to work.
* There are no proposals to raise MAPE dues. When we lose fee payer money MAPE will be okay as long as we retain our current membership. To help retain current membership we wouldn’t want to increase dues. Budget was reduced last year to prepare for the loss of fee payer contributions.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:37 pm.

Submitted by Afiya Krueger | MAPE Local 802 Secretary