**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**