

**POLITICAL COUNCIL MEETING**

**October 8, 2021**

**Minutes**

Chair Cotter called the meeting to order at 9:05 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** (morning)**,** Mike **Terhune** (Region 17), MAPE Staff Devin **Bruce,** MAPE Staff Britton **Mikkelsen,** MAPE Staff Leah **Solo**

**Absent:** Kristin **Kirchoff-Franklin** (excused)

**Abbreviations:** Political Council (PC), Political Action Committee (PAC), Day on the Hill (DOH)

**Business:**

* Welcome
* **Motion (Ferrara):** Approve August and September minutes
  + Second (**Juan**)
  + Passed by consensus
* Implementing out Base Building Plans
  + Reflect/debrief on Rochester meeting
  + Days on the Hill discussion
  + Plan November meeting in St. Cloud (9:00 AM start time)
    - Determine best time to meet with members (**Ferrara**)
    - Reserve room (**Terhune**)
    - Purchase coffee/bagels (**Mikkelson**)
    - Reach out to local groups for breakfast (**Bodin/Cotter**) (7:00 AM)
      * Central Minnesota Workers
      * Fe y Justicia
    - Agenda:
      * PC presentation
      * PAC presentation
      * Presentation from Region
      * Contract approval and current path
      * Member Comments
      * Lunch
      * Debrief
    - Save the Date (**Cotter/Solo**)
    - Targeted outreach to members (**Cotter**)
      * Nicholas Snavely (1702)
      * Barb Gosch (1702)
    - Text banking?
* DA Recap
  + Rule changes for budget portion were well-received
  + Positive experience
  + Get survey results and share with Political Council (PC) (**Cotter**)
  + Resolution #4 discussion and clarification
* New Secretary
  + Skills combo of note-taking, strategic vision, and data management would be valuable
* Reorg conversation
  + Original referred to strategic planning committee
  + Reviewed and discussed PC alternative proposal
  + Discussion about strategic planning meetings
    - Dues conversation
* Training/Development of team members
  + Introduce Advanced Leadership Training at organizational level (**Cotter**)
  + Discussion about training for December meeting
    - Potential joint meeting with Organizing Council and Negotiations for December
    - Agenda development (**Juan/Ferrara**)
    - Planning for Day(s) on the Hill
* Looking Ahead to Legislative Session
  + Adding mental health campaign to the legislative agenda
    - Slim possibility if November budget forecast shows a large surplus
    - Introductory discussions among other unions and MAPE members
    - What does this look like?
      * Restoring staffing at DCT, DOC hospital(s) (minimum)
      * Additional FTE
      * Pay increase
    - Opportunity to share member stories
    - General consensus to continue exploring and supporting this issue
  + Legislative Action Plan
    - **CONTRACT!!!**
    - All-call Day on the Hill (DOH) (Rally + Legislative meetings)
      * In-person vs. Zoom challenges and benefits
      * Lunch trainings in advance of DOH
      * Legislative meetings with members at the beginning of session
      * Rally closer to spring/contract vote with other unions?
        + Sign-making sessions
      * COVID precautions
      * Text banking recruitment
      * Contact Leah and Devin with ideas

**Next meeting:** Wednesday, November 10th at 9:00 AM (St. Cloud)

**Adjourned at 1:46 PM**