Local 1601

Date: 10/26/21

Time: 12PM-1PM

Zoom

1) Local 1601 Vice President, Christina Sundgaard called the meeting to order.

2) September 2021 minutes were approved.

3) Introductions

4) Treasurer’s update: We continue to be in good financial standing.

5) Chief Steward, Jesse O’ Connor shared there was an investigation in Wadena. Some members have asked about worker’s compensation for COVID.

6) 1601 Membership Secretary, Susan Sunde provided a membership update: We currently have 72.42% membership (27.58% non-membership). Our membership drive will likely boost these numbers. The approx. cost for gift cards is $5880 if we get same discount as last year.  That does not cover cost of postage, letters or envelopes.  We will not be sending letters to non-members this year, but instead trying to connect with them virtually or by phone.  The motion to continue the membership drive this year with the gift cars was approved.

7) Regional Negotiations Representative, Don Lucksinger shared the following updates.

* The Subcommittee on Employee Relations (SER) approved the contract on 10/1/ 2021.
* The contract is now in interim effect.
* The legislative session reopens February 2022.
* No health insurance premiums for the month of March 2022.

8) Regional Director’s Report: Darren Hage gave updates on the following topics:

* Sick leave may be used for supervision of minors who are pending COVID results.
* Region 19 Director, Lynn Butcher resigned this month. Elections to fill her position will occur.
* Administrative assistant and operations director positions are posted on the MAPE website.
* Retro-pay will begin December 17th.
* There was a survey sent out to MAPE members. There is a link to this survey on the MAPE website.
* Chief Steward introductory training occurred last month.
* Budget proposals for local regions are due January 1st.
* Strategic planning meetings will occur November 3rd and 4th. Lost time is available for each of these sessions for those who participate in these groups.

9) Organizing Business agent, Dan Englehart gave the following updates:

* 2021-2023 Contract
  + SER passed the contract 9 to 1 earlier this month.
  + Legislative session continues in February 2022.
  + The retro pay will not include interest.
  + Changes in language about break times. This allows more flexibility to take breaks throughout the day.
  + Please reach out if there are questions/concerns about contract language.
  + The contract will be available to view on the MAPE website very soon. Books will not be available until Spring 2022.
* Changes to health insurance
  + 3% increase per year for health insurance plans
  + Positive gains with ER access in greater MN, coverage for 3D mammograms, etc.
  + Please pay attention to these changes during open enrollment.
  + There is a point-system implemented through SEGIP. If 200 points are reached by 10/31/2021, $70 will be taken off your deductible.
* COVID/Testing
  + Please reach out with any questions or concerns about COVID-19 as it relates to your job.
* Membership
  + Statewide, only 35% of new hires in the state are becoming MAPE members. Members are encouraged to reach out to non-members to share the benefits of membership and encourage others to join.

10) Chet Bodin provided political council updates:

* The political council is helping with the strategic planning process.
* If you would like to participate in the focus group for strategic planning, please reach out to Chet. Lost time will be provided.
* Outreach to locals is ongoing.

11) Old business: None

12) Good & Welfare: None

13) New Business: Membership drive motion was approved.

14) Gift Card: Heidi Haugen won the gift card drawing.

15) Next meeting will be held 11/23/21 at 12PM via Zoom

16) Meeting adjourned.