

# Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2022 via Zoom

## Meeting agenda – via consensus

* Approved

## Welcome New Members – Alexis Stafford, Membership Secretary

* Welcome to our new MAPE members: **Sarah Loepfe, Farris Hassan, Crystal Cunningham, Emma Rice, Nikki Peterson, and Raina Kelly!**
* Farewell and thank you to our Membership Secretary Alexis! She has taken a new position with Direct Care and Treatment (DCT) and will no longer be a part of our local 2101.
* We need a new Membership Secretary, if you are interested in learning about this vital role reach out to one of our MAPE officers.

## MAPE Stewards – Teresa Barnes, Head Steward

* Basic Steward Training is January 27th
* Advanced Steward Training is March 10th
* Deputy Steward Dylan Adams will still help to co-lead.
* You will need to take time off work to attend the trainings but will get paid lost time directly by MAPE.
* Even if you are already a steward and have taken Advanced Steward Training, we encourage you to take the March 10th advanced training as a refresher. The training has a lot of case studies and new issues happen all the time.
* Stewards can specialize in different areas such as the contract or representing someone in grievances, you don’t have to be an expert in everything to be a steward.

## MAPE Community Outreach – Chris Smith, Vice-President

* MAPE will be at the **Twin Ports May Day event on April 30th**. Chris has volunteered to go up there and set up a booth. We want to get MAPE out at different community events throughout the year. If you have any other events in the state that we should have a presence at, please let Chris know. Community connection is great
* Regarding universal health care, there is some movement in legislature. The DFL majority wants to expand MinnesotaCare as a public buy-in option. There is also still movement around single payer healthcare, where the State of Minnesota takes over as insurance for every Minnesota resident and employee.
* Minneapolis 4 Rent Control held strategy meetings with different rent control recommendations. The Minneapolis City Council is drawing up rent control ordinance with a 3% cap on rent increases, vacancy control so land lord can’t double rent when someone moves out. While it is a good plan, there is still a loop hole that capital improvements can be passed onto tenants. All of this is still suggestion not a policy yet. There is another policy with essentially no rent control as it allows up to 10% rent increases plus inflation and landlords can bank these increases until a person moves out, which could allow them to increase rent by 50%. Minneapolis 4 Rent Control is working for the best and strongest rent control policy in Minneapolis.
* For everyone to have good healthcare, talk to your legislature and governor.
* If you want rent control, talk to your city council and local folks, be a bug in their ear.

## Contract Planning and Negotiations – Christine Retkwa, Contract Negotiations Rep

* We are getting closer to negotiations opening day in early April. Later this week the Negotiations committee will review proposals and discuss with MAPE Meet and Confer chairs on priorities that they have gathered from their individual agencies.
* Get ready to take action! In late January MAPE members will receive petition for our contract priorities. In 2021, we provided a list of thousands and thousands of names who signed that petition to MMB’s commissioner (the head of management side of negotiations). It is when we show how many people are supportive of MAPE and our proposals, that we have power. We need to be visible. Remember it is MMB we negotiate with, not the legislature, although having the legislature fund programs aka budget does play into it.
* Another action is that we will be asking you to join a communication network regarding negotiations and actions. Because when you know what is going on, YOU can be more likely to get those benefits you reasonably want. More to come on what that will include.
* What else do you need to do to get some progress on the rights and benefits in our contract and that high COLA? You need to participate on the Contract Action team. We found that people who received reminders directly from a colleague, were more likely to take action.
* We need a majority of MAPE members to take action throughout the negotiation prep and actual negotiations time. That means over 600 in our local taking action. That means every single one of you in attendance, plus about 500 more. In fact, we do need people to send those friendly reminders to up to about 10 colleagues. I have a bunch of people who want notification, but no “coordinator” to do that.
* If we want strong rights, we all must act in one way or another to make that happen. MAPE is providing you with opportunities and guidance. I don’t ask this for me - I ask this for you. Don’t wait for someone else to do it - because they’re waiting for you to do it. You be the action taker, together with your 1200+ Local members!
* Please contact Christine at [Christine.Retkwa@state.mn.us](mailto:Christine.Retkwa@state.mn.us) to be part of our Contract Action Team! Help facilitate and encourage your or your colleague’s engagement in our contracts!

## Political Council – Nicole Juan

* Political council will meet this Friday January 13th to check in on what has happened since over 200 bills have been introduced so far. It is great to have labor friendly majority but there is also a longer list of things introduced, so we need to make sure our items and agency bills make it to the top of the list.
* In March we will have our annual day on the hill. This will be back to being held in person since legislature is meeting in person. This is an opportunity for MAPE members meet with their legislators to make sure our programs are funded. We need to make sure we have a good turnout. Our local has traditionally had a good turnout but may be different with so many people working from home.
* Lost time is available. There will also be a rally. We will let people know details when they are finalized.
* If you have any questions you can contact Nicole Juan (MAPE Political Council and/or MAPE PAC) at [njuan@mape.org](mailto:njuan@mape.org)

## Organizing Council – Lauren Siegel

* If you follow DHS Today you probably saw there is a relaunched new employee orientation (NEO). It is supposedly new and improved, focusing on information relevant to a new employee, with more info about benefits and things they need to sign up for.
* We need presenters for NEO to talk to new hires about MAPE! You don’t need to know everything about MAPE to be a presenter. If you are interested in being a presenter for NEO contact Lauren at [lsiegel@mape.org](mailto:lsiegel@mape.org)
* MAPE Day of Service to Honor Martin Luther King Jr. is Saturday January 14, 1-3 pm at the MAPE office, 3460 Lexington Ave N, Suite 300, Shoreview, MN 55126. Email the Organizing Council to RSVP, [OrgCouncilHome@mape.org](mailto:OrgCouncilHome@mape.org) There is also an opportunity to do the same thing the following Saturday, January 21st at the MAPE office organized by local 601.Please join us, we will be compiling kits for hygiene and winter weather, which will be donated to people experiencing homelessness
* Feel free to bring family members, spouses, domestic partners, anyone is welcome to participate!
* Save the date: **Feb 25th will be a membership recruitment event for knocking on doors**. This will be to speak to non-member doors for other locals. This time it will be a contained geographic location, so you don’t need to drive very much. There will also be fun things at MAPE office afterwards. Save the date, we will be in touch with more details to come.

## Member Concerns and Other Announcements – Liz Pearson, President

* Represent MAPE in the **St Paul Winter Carnival Grand Day Parade on January 28th**. Contact Liz, [Elizabeth.pearson@state.mn.us](mailto:Elizabeth.pearson@state.mn.us) to sign up. [Information on our webpage](https://mape.org/news/st-paul-winter-carnival-sign)!
  + Meeting at labor building off west 7th and smith at 1:00, parade starts at 2:00 pm, meet back at labor center afterwards. MAPE is limited to 20 people in the parade so sign up soon!
  + Parade participants will get MAPE winter swag!
* We audit our spending each year and we need three people to volunteer to be a part of our auditing process. Please reach out to Hari ([hari.lamitarey@state.mn.us](mailto:hari.lamitarey@state.mn.us)) you are interested in participating. This will happen in the first quarter of 2023 and will involve a couple hours. **Our audit report is due March 15, 2023**.
* **Happy Hour! Thurs Feb 9, 4:45-7pm at Urban Growler Brewing company** (UrbanGrowlerBrewing.com, 2325 Endicott St, St Paul, MN 55114 near Hwy 280 and Hwy 94, St. Paul). A chance for real, in-person laughing and talking with your co-workers! <https://www.facebook.com/events/1375349093266224/?ref=newsfeed>
* A second MAPE happy hour coming soon in the south side of the metro. If you want to help plan these events, contact Liz Pearson ([Elizabeth.pearson@state.mn.us](mailto:Elizabeth.pearson@state.mn.us))
* We are looking for someone who can serve as co-host at our monthly MAPE 101.
* At our monthly meetings we draw four member’s names for $20 gift cards. This month’s winners are: **Dennis London, Becky Johnson, Elishia Garcia Sathre and Rachel Hedin.** Congratulations!

## Upcoming meetings

Next Officers’ meeting: February 2, 12:30-1 pm, via Teams

Next General Meeting: February 14, 12-1 pm, via Zoom