*Local 2101 Meeting
Meeting Minutes*

October 8, 2019

Anderson Bldg. Rooms 2370 & 2380
Lunch: Old World Pizza (including gluten free and vegetarian options!)

**Welcome and Announcements – Liz Pearson**

* Good thing we had emergency preparedness month in September- let’s hope we have our winter kits in our cars now, just in case (!)
* Welcome to people new to MAPE and our meetings!
* HUGE shout out to our Lunch Committee, especially Nacole Lind! This is her last time as the fearless leader of lunch crew. We need someone to step up and take her place, and we need more people in general to be on the committee. Contact Liz Pearson (elizabeth.pearson@state.mn.us) if you’re interested. Decide what’s for lunch, and set up before and clean up after meetings. It’s an easy and fun way to get more involved with MAPE!
* Tomorrow, October 9 is Slice of Autumn! Hope you signed up to take a class (or two)! Your supervisors should allow you to participate- this is meant to be a day of enrichment for all staff. MAPE will have an info table and membership drive on the 2nd floor at ELA 12-1pm: please visit us! There will be treats and an opportunity for members to enter a drawing for fabulous prizes!
* MAPE Political Council listening session is happening Tuesday, October 15 from 12-1, room 2360. Nicole Juan will provide more information later in the meeting.
* MAPE 101 is Tuesday, October 22 from 12-1, room 2360. Contact Liz Pearson (elizabeth.pearson@state.mn.us) for the meeting invite.

**Approval of meeting minutes and agenda – Liz Pearson**

* **Last Month’s**[**Meeting Minutes**](https://mn-dhs1.co.dhs/FileShares/MAPE/Local_2101/Common/Monthly%20Business%20Meetings/2019/September/20190910MAPEMinutes.docx)**– Approved**
* **Meeting**[**Agenda**](https://mn-dhs1.co.dhs/FileShares/MAPE/Local_2101/Common/Monthly%20Business%20Meetings/2019/October/October20192101Agenda.docx)**– Approved**

**Listening House Donation Request – LaDonna Morrison & Amelia Fink**

* **Request from HCA and CSA Employee Engagement Committees**
* **Asking for $250 donation from our local to the Listening House (made a similar request last year)**
* [**Listening House**](https://listeninghouse.org/)**is sanctuary for homeless and disadvantaged to find shelter and support**
* **Request approved by majority of membership**
* **November 6 HCA and CSA chili cook-off and open house- will be asking for donations during this event as well. And MAPE will have a table at this event, too.**

**Delegate Assembly recap – Brian Kreklow**

* Has been in MAPE for a little over two years and wanted to get involved. DA was a good way to start doing that
* Nice opportunity to connect with people across the state
* Highlight was the speakers- especially Tim Walz and UAW (United Workers of America)-General Motors striker
* Getting to see MAPE as a collective- beyond our local- brought a new spirit to get involved
* Interesting to be a part of the DA process- to see what the sticking points were and what resolutions passed
* Appreciated the honest discussions and about how you feel you want MAPE to go into the future (it was not about voting a certain way because this person said so)
* Unique way to participate
* **What is Delegate Assembly?**
	+ Annual meeting for statewide MAPE to discuss changes to organizational documents for our union. People propose changes, we discuss and vote.
	+ We also network, listen to speakers, learn about new organizational councils, learn how we can work together to make our union stronger, and find out about challenges on the horizon
	+ We are only as strong as the number of people who join us and say yes, I want to have a say in what my workplace looks like and feels like!
* **Notable proposals**
	+ Last year we determined that political and organizing council positions should be considered offices, and a person cannot hold more than one office. A resolution was proposed this year to not consider political and organizing council positions as offices, but it did not pass. While recognizing that this can be a challenge for our smaller locals in greater MN, we want to avoid having just a small group of people in multiple offices.

**UAW General Motors strike and Regional Director Update – Sarah Sinderbrand**

* Board of Regional Directors did not meet in Sept because of DA, so no updates at this time
* UAW strike started 3 weeks ago, against GM. Currently 50,000 workers on strike in 33 plants across the country
* Background: During the 2008 recession, workers offered to forego compensation, with the understanding that when things got better for GM, things would also get better (at least go back to status quo) for the workers. Things have gotten better for GM- the CEO made $22 million last year. But things have not gotten better for workers- “Tier 2 workers” (hired after 2007) get no pension, just 3 unpaid vacay days/year, make half the wages of other workers, and have no seniority.
* UAW local in Hudson, WI. One of the striking workers spoke at DA and was so, so inspiring (a lot of us may have not not cried). At DA we voted to contribute to the UAW strike fund
* Sarah went out to the picket line over the weekend: Striking is hard, esp 3 weeks in. workers are picketing 24/7, middle of the night. Strike pay is $200/wk. But they have received outpouring of support from other unions, which has inspired them to pay attention to other unions and give their support in return
* We encourage you to show up to the picket line, too. Wear your MAPE swag and comfy shoes. Talk to the workers, see how they’re doing, learn about them and their strike
* If you have questions or need a picket line buddy, talk to Sarah
* Strikers from the UAW local in Hudson are specifically requesting firewood and pet food, and money
* GM is losing $50-$100 million per day because of this strike. UAW is not necessarily calling for a boycott of products but it’s probably not a bad idea to not buy them
* Their fight is our fight!!

**Our Local has a Facebook page!** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/mape2101/>

* You will find more information about the UAW GM strike, the MAPE contract, and the hearing on October 22 before the SER (legislative Subcommittee on Employee Relations) regarding our contract
* Join the group!

**Statewide Political Council update – Nicole Juan**

* The newly-formed MAPE Political Council is planning its work and wants to hear from you!
* The Council is hosting listening sessions to learn:
	+ What effect does politics have on your life?
	+ What effect does politics have on your job?
	+ What do you want elected officials to focus on?
* Piloting sessions with a few locals, 2101 and 201 (Lafayette) are part of the pilots
* Please join us at a listening session:
	+ ELA: Tuesday, October 15, 12-1 p.m., Room 2360
	+ LAF: Thursday, October 17, 12-1 p.m., Room 3146
* See [flyer for more details](https://x/MAPE/Local_2101/Common/Monthly%20Business%20Meetings/2019/October/DHS%20Listening%20Session%20Flyer%20v2.pdf)

**Update from our Business Agent – Debbie Prokopf**

* **Hearing before the SER to vote on our contract is happening Oct 22 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 1150 of State Office Bldg. Important that we pack the room. Show the SER that MAPE can and will show up!**
* **Room holds 75 people- trying to get 100 people to show up**
* **Debbie passed around a sign-up sheet for attending**
* **For attending MAPE activities, you have options. You can (1) use your break time; (2) use vacation time; or (3) flex your time with supervisor approval.**
* **If you cannot make it to the SER hearing, contact your representatives and tell them to pass the contract (especially if they are**[**members of the SER**](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ser.leg.mn%2Fmembers.html&data=02%7C01%7Cvanessa.vogl%40state.mn.us%7Ca8d065a240794106bc4008d74dbb73af%7Ceb14b04624c445198f26b89c2159828c%7C0%7C0%7C637063339802697472&sdata=%2FM1mm3Gk6c0iRzHF8e7l7uPJrC1kOrFASm0f%2FNN%2FhMo%3D&reserved=0)**)!**
* **Meet and Confer team: Sue Hall, Faye Bernstein, and Whitney Terrill. Hopefully we now have a permanent commissioner to meet and confer with. Current issues:**
	+ **Student loan repayment language in new contract. If you have a good story about student loans, contact Debbie, Sarah Sinderbrand, or anyone on the Meet and Confer team- we are using stories to create compelling case to effectively implement this new policy**
	+ **Proposal to split DHS into 2 or more agencies. As MAPE do we want to take a position on this, and if so, what is our position? Lots of factors and complicated variables- will be holding listening session about this TBD, as well as sending a survey to everyone in DHS. Note: Meet and Confer means DHS, not MNIT, but MNIT folks are welcome to attend listening session and they will be included in survey.**
* **The Liberty Justice Center (a Koch Brothers funded law firm) is sending antiunion literature to state workers across the country**
	+ **Goal of finding a plaintiff for another case to bring another antiunion case to the Supreme Court. Antiunion people are desperate- they thought Janus would have more of a negative impact.**
	+ **Have been sending letters to state workers home addresses (not sure how they got these)**
	+ **These solicitations will come out every year, likely at the end of summer because they mostly target teachers**

**Pack a Purse Drive – Cratè Darden**

* **Black Women’s ERG is sponsoring Pack a Purse Drive: fill personal items in gently used purses or backpacks to benefit women that are homeless**
* **Items will be donated to**[**the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center**](http://www.hallieqbrown.org/site/)**or**[**Dorothy Day Center**](https://www.cctwincities.org/locations/dorothy-day-center/)
* **Items will be collected Oct 10 through Oct 28 at the ELA front desk**

**The ERGs are doing great work- consider joining one!**

**Membership Dialogue – Liz Pearson**

* **Questions considered:**
	+ **Why are you here at this meeting? Do you consider yourself active in MAPE?**
		- **Motivated to join 100 people at the SER hearing on Oct 22!**
		- **Committed to equality**
		- **Supporting our workers in this building and elsewhere**
		- **To stay updated**
		- **When our bottom line is threatened- e.g., when the SER voted down our contract in 2017**
		- **WE are MAPE!**
	+ **What is keeping you from being more active? What would motivate you to be more active?**
		- **Approval from supervisors and clarity about time commitment (remember that there are lunch hour activities and other opportunities to be active outside of the workday!)**
	+ **What action can you take in the next month, six months, year, to strengthen MAPE?**
		- **Bring a friend to the next MAPE meeting**
		- **Encourage a coworker to join MAPE if they haven’t already**
		- **Join UAW strikers at the picket line in Hudson**
		- **Participate in Day on the Hill**
		- **Contact your senator and your representative**
		- **Doorknock for union-friendly candidates**

**Gift card winners**

* **Nelly Torori, Carol Brady, Cindy Grebin, Gary Travis**

Upcoming meetings

* **Next Officers’ meeting: Thursday, October 24, 12-1 pm, ELA 5335**
* **Next General Meeting: Tuesday, November 12, 12-1 pm, ELA 2370-80**