

Local 301 Membership Meeting

Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 12:05 pm – 12:55 pm, Microsoft Teams

Meeting called to order at 12:05 pm by Local 301 Vice President Shanna Schmitt

Attendees: 102

Welcome/Announcements, Vice President Schmitt

Brett said introductions and welcomed everyone to the meeting

- Local 301's Executive Team:
 - President: Brett Nagle
 - Regional Director: Mark Snyder
 - Vice President: Shanna Schmitt
 - Treasurer: Leya Charles (will start in March)
 - Membership Secretary: Chuck Krueger
 - **Secretary: vacant**
 - Regional Steward Director: Anne Claflin

Announcements

- Bagels & Coffee!
 - Tomorrow, February 14, 2024 at 9:30 AM in the Cafeteria
 - Wear your MAPE gear or pick up a button at the event!
 - Bring a reusable plate and/or mug if you can. We will also have some available.
- Local elections later this year
 - Local 301 will elect new local officers this fall. Start thinking about if you'd like to run for a local officer position! New terms start in January 2025!
 - President
 - Vice President
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Membership Secretary
- Reminder to let the executive team know about life events:
 - Life events, such as births, deaths, and illnesses happen. We appreciate knowing about events so that we can support our members if needed. Please reach out to anyone on the Local 301 Executive Committee, <https://mape.org/locals/301>
- February Donation – Neighbors Inc.
 - Neighbors, Inc. is a non-profit, social-service agency providing essential services to low-income community members.
 - <https://www.neighborsmn.org/>
- Local 301 Lunch
 - Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 12:00 pm (typically the 4th Tuesday of each month) in the Lower Level Conference Room of the MPCA
 - **Menu:** Soups from the French Meadow Cafe (vegan, vegetarian, and meat options)

- MAPE Discord Group
 - Would you like more opportunities to connect with your fellow union members, share a good union meme, or ask questions regarding contract negotiations?
 - We've started a discord group for our locals and we would encourage you to join and share with others! If you need a separate link, email Barbara Monaco at monacoba@gmail.com

Steward Update, Anne Claflin, Local 301 Regional Steward Director

- Our stewards are:
 - Anne Claflin, Lead Steward (MPCA)
 - Hunter Vraa, Deputy Steward (MPCA)
 - Jen Crea (MNIT)
 - Barb Peichel (BWSR)
 - Melissa Wenzel (MPCA)
- <https://mape.org/locals/301> (Officers & Stewards tab)
- Reach out to stewards with your questions.
- Let us help you make sure you are getting the right information about leave, relocations, shifting to new positions, ADA accommodations, respectful workplace issues, FLSA exempt/non-exempt status, comp time and anything else that comes up!
- Especially reach out if we can help you with disciplinary actions.
- Join the stewards!
 - Advanced Steward Training: Mar 22, Jun 28
 - Local Steward Retreat: May 31

Board of Directors Update, Mark Snyder, Regional Director

- Board of Directors met on January 19th
- The Board approved a funding request from Political Council for Lobby Day, approved a reimbursement policy for statewide officers and onboarded new directors
- Opportunity: Lobby Day
 - March 19th (8AM - 4:30PM) - Register by March 12th!
 - State Capitol
 - Breakfast and lunch will be served and Lost Time will be available
 - Virtual trainings on 3/13 (noon - 1PM) and 3/14 (5-6PM)
- Feedback is welcome, contact me at mark.snyder@state.mn.us or msnyder@mape.org!
 - If you use the msnyder@mape.org email, please send heads up via Teams prior!
- Every board meeting has time set aside for member comments (usually at 11:30 AM). If you have interest in addressing the board, Mark can help you with getting invited and other details.

MAPE Restructuring Update, Kristin Kirchoff-Franklin, State-wide Secretary

- Will be holding 3 listening sessions before April 30th
- Webpage will be available soon and will include a feedback form
- Contact Kristin Kirchoff-Franklin if you'd like to discuss issues directly

MPCA Meet & Confer Update, Kaity Taylor, MPCA Meet & Confer Chair

- Members
 - Kaity Taylor, Chair (St. Paul)
 - Kevin Mustonen, Vice-Chair (Duluth)
 - Mel Markert, Secretary (Brainerd)
 - Kristin Mroz-Risse (St. Paul)
 - Brett Nagle (St. Paul)
 - Joel Peck (St. Paul)
 - Shanna Schmitt (St. Paul)
 - Hunter Vraa (St. Paul)
- <https://mape.org/committees/meet-and-confer-committees/pollution-control-mpca>
- Quarterly Meet and Confer Update email sent out 1/23/24
- Received new information about length of service request for vacation accrual from members and HR staff - corrected quarterly meeting email sent out
 - No set policy on vacation accrual, but internships are not currently approved.
 - Unsure about fellowships, will ask and get back to members.
- Making progress on career development, student loan reimbursement, and commander pay.
 - Kaity Taylor will be attending the Let's Connect
 - MPCA put student loan reimbursement in the budget, not all agencies did
 - Commander pay structure drafted, so the initiative is moving forward
- MAPE vacancy on Safety Committee. Please reach out if interested in joining. Term is 2 years
- Katrina is particularly interested in hearing feedback on recognition at the Agency. Please reach out to her or Meet and Confer with your thoughts.
- Next Meet and Confer with Exec Team - March 13th, 2024
- Next internal Meet and Confer meeting - TOMORROW Feb 14th, 2024
- Wanting to expand how many regional offices we have represented on Meet and Confer, if you know of a MPCA MAPEr in a different local that would be a good fit, let Kaity Taylor or Kevin Mustonen know.
- As always, if you have anything you want to let us know, we want to hear from you. You can email us at mpca.mc.mape@gmail.com or at any of our state emails individually.

BWSR Meet & Confer Update, Suzanne Rhees, BWSR Meet & Confer Member

- Members
 - Melissa King, Chair (St. Paul)
 - Jason Weinerman, Vice Chair (St. Cloud)
 - Annie Felix-Gerth (St. Cloud)
 - Matt Fischer (Bemidji)
 - Steve Hofstad (Detroit Lakes)
 - Erin Loeffler (Duluth)
 - Suzanne Rhees (St. Paul)
 - Gwen Steel (St. Paul)

- <https://mape.org/committees/meet-and-confer-committees/board-water-and-soil-resources-bwsr>
- M&C met January 10th @ 11:30 AM
- M&C meeting with Exec Team was January 22nd @ 1:00 PM
- On Jan 30th 11:30 AM - HR presented an overview of BWSR internal bidding process

MPCA Labor Management Committee Members

- MAPE Members on Committee
 - Brandon Montgomery (St. Paul)
 - Kurt Carlson (Duluth)
 - Cindy Osborn (Duluth)
- <https://lorax.pca.state.mn.us/labor-management-committee>
- Meets quarterly
- Work statewide with multiple unions
 - we are asking for regional members (any union!) to sign up because we're missing representation
 - Work directly with AFSCME, the MGEC, and also MMA
- We need a MAPE member to serve on the MPCA Safety Committee. Please let us know if you're interested!
- In the last 10 years, because we asked and were involved, we have
 - Vacation accrual for non-government jobs
 - Paid parental leave
 - Student loan reimbursement
 - Phased retirement

Vote for June picnic time

- Weekday evening = 71%
- Weekend day = 29%

Prize Drawing, Chuck Krueger, Local 301 Membership Secretary

- Winners for the gift certificates for February:
 - Megan Wedel
 - Tom Kopischke
 - Anne Heinz
 - Jennifer Thoreson

Meeting adjourned at 12:52 pm by Local 301 Vice President Schmitt

Next meeting is Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 12:05 pm