**Organizing Council Meeting**

**May 8, 2020**

Chair Sarah Evans called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

**Roll call:** a quorum was established.

**Present:** Chair Sarah Evans; Vice-chair Lauren Siegel; Treasurer Zac Echola; Adam Novotny; Kirsten Peterson; MAPE staff Dave Kamper. Guests who joined the meeting during their designated agenda item include Mike Asmus, new MAPE Director of Member Engagement, Development and Organizing; Ashley Erickson, MAPE Public Relations Coordinator and communications liaison to the organizing council.

* 1. Introductions with Mike Asmus, MAPE’s new Director of Member Engagement, Development and Organizing
     1. Mike will be the new primary MAPE staff contact for the organizing council.
     2. Developed a strategy to host listening sessions with meet and confer chairs, local presidents, and negotiations representatives, in order to begin developing the structure to obtain meaningful contract negotiation issues for the negotiations convention to be held in September 2020. This will help the bargaining survey to have items rooted in what members want and are willing to organize around**. Dave Kamper** is pulling together proposed groupings of Meet and confer chairs, local presidents, and negotiations representative and Organizing Council members **(Lauren, Kirsten, Kristine, Adam**) will be responsible for hosting these sessions.
  2. Ashley Erickson, the communications liaison for the organizing council, joined the meeting at 11:00 am to help the council develop listening session questions for the sessions described above. **Ashley** will send the listening session questions out for editing and use by the organizing council. **Ashley** will also research the best virtual platforms to use for these listening sessions.
  3. The council will host a Zoom meeting for people who attended the virtual labor notes conference or who viewed the recordings. This conversation should mobilize MAPE members to organize on salient issues for MAPE. **Lauren** will create a document to start the collaboration on content and logistics. **Budget note – please purchase a Zoom pro license for the organizing council to use ($15 a month). Use the organizing council’s budget.**
  4. The council identified the need and opportunity to host MAPE specific virtual new employee orientations, during the time of COVID-19, as regular NEOs are being postponed. **Dave Kamper** will send a list of active membership secretaries and NEO leaders who can help to create the content and coordinate this effort to **Sarah and Lauren**.
  5. Adam has contacted a number of MAPE leaders who are dedicated to diversity and equity issues in MAPE. The council discussed the format, time commitment, and other specifics of a diversity committee. **Adam** will create an application for MAPE members to apply to be on the diversity committee using this information.
  6. A new organizing council member, Bobbie Miller-Thomas, will officially start on the council in June. The council determined it best to hold a special meeting prior to the June meeting in order to help relay current projects to Bobbie. **Sarah** is scheduling this meeting.
  7. An initiative to call each MAPE represented employee during this pandemic to do a wellness check and engage them about MAPE issues is currently stalled. The organizing council voted unanimously to bring a proposal to the May board of directors meeting that the organizing council, not the board, should have operational ownership over this initiative in order to keep it going. **Sarah** will bring this proposal to the board.
  8. **Kirsten** developed a beginning draft of a training to provide to MAPE leaders on how to facilitate trainings and meetings online. Sarah shared that there may be other MAPE efforts around this and so **Mike** will weigh in on how to not duplicate efforts.

**Adjourn** at 1:45 so the council can dedicate three hours to calling MAPE represented employees in key senate districts to ask them to contact that senator about passing our contract.