

## **AFT6157-R (AFT6157 Retiree Chapter)**

Minutes of Membership Meeting of December 3, 2020, 1-3pm)

### **Members attending: (via Zoom)**

(Each attendee was asked to introduce herself/himself)

Walter Soellner – President and Vice President, meeting chair

Ron Levesque – Secretary/Treasurer

David Yancey

Zee Gibson

Patrick Butler

Paul Fong

Steve Matusow

Jim Potterton

Karen Pullen

Alice Gosak

Janice Toyoshima

### GUESTS

Jessica Breheny – President of the AFT6157

Phil Hu – AFT6157 Executive Director

Susan Yuen - meeting facilitator

Minutes reported from Zoom recording by Dan McElroy

## **Agenda Items**

### **Treasurer's Report** by Ron Levesque

[The treasurer's report is on the website.] Since the spring meeting was cancelled due to the pandemic, the report covered October-December of 2019 and all of 2020 till today. Main point of information: all income derives from member dues and minor bank interest. Major expenses include:

Yuen Design – production of website and newsletter; payment to IRS for restoration of tax exempt status. The report includes the checking account balance of around \$10,000 and investment fund with Fidelity, which started with around \$25,000 in 2018, is now near \$33,500. Total assets are around \$44,000. Additional dues of around \$300 arriving by check and PayPal have not yet been recorded.

In March, the IRS suddenly ended the tax exempt status of the chapter as of November 2019, claiming that the chapter had not filed a fiscal report for three years. This was not correct. Still, the chapter had to reapply for reinstatement retroactive to November 2019. The chapter was successful as of September 2020. The source of the confusion with the IRS goes back to 2014 when AFT6157-R (retiree chapter) became independent of the AFT6157 and received its own EIN (employer ID number). But AFT national office was never notified that AFT6157-R had established its own tax exempt status. NOTE: member contributions are no longer deductible for tax purposes.

## **Membership Report** by Ron Levesque

About 160 retired members have given permission to use their e-mail addresses by AFT6157-R. An additional 5 people communicate with AFT6157-R by postal mail. There were 66 dues-paying members in 2018. There were 70 in 2019 but so far only 50 in 2020. Dues generate about \$3000 to \$3500 per year.

It is time to appeal to the new and future retirees to clarify what it means to support this group.

Because of the issue with the IRS, it was noted that the bylaws had not been updated since 2007 which totally linked the retiree chapter to AFT6157, the main union. The updated bylaws were approved by the AFT6157-R executive board in May 2020, but they need to now be approved by the membership. The main changes are to financially separate AFT6157-R from AFT6157. The name has been changed from the FA (faculty association) to AFT. We are now listed as an 'affiliated' entity with the AFT6157. Fundraising now says 'in accord with the bylaws of the main union' instead of 'approved by the main union. Three officers can now sign checks. A new section has been added that states AFT6157-R will fund its own operations but can consult with AFT6157. The president of AFT6157 'may serve ex-officio' as opposed to being required. AFT6157-R still has a non-voting seat on the executive committee of AFT6157. Meeting quorum has been changed from 10% to 8% of active members. Those are the essence of the changes being made. David Yancey recommended that the bylaws be changed from "Robert's Rules of Order shall govern this body", to "Robert's Rules of order shall be generally followed." Patrick Butler suggested "The association in the conduct of its meetings shall follow the general rules and procedures outlined in the various versions of Robert's Rules of Order."

Updates to the bylaws were approved by acclamation.

## **Election of Officers**

President – Paul Fong

Secretary – Dan McElroy

No additional names were submitted

Paul Fong discussed his qualifications

David Yancey moved to approve the nomination of both Paul and Dan.

Ron Levesque seconded.

New officers were approved by unanimous vote.

## **Any Additional Comments**

Zee Gibson stated that Percy Carr's name should be on the new Jaguar Center. Ron Levesque moved that Paul Fong present the matter to the AFT 6157 Board and help provide support to groups within SJCC for the naming the SJCC Jaguar Center to the "Percy Carr Sports Center". Motion was accepted by acclamation.

Dave Yancey asked if future meetings would be by Zoom. It was explained that this is the intent of the Executive Committee. Also, with the election of Secretary Dan McElroy of Redding, the chapter must facilitate his participation from a distance.

Patrick Butler asked if there was an update on writing of "The History of San José City College". Ron Levesque explained that Phil Crawford had previously pledged to raise the matter with the Academic Senate. The Chapter seeks to have the Academic Senate sign off on the final draft to ensure that the union role in the college history be fully represented. AFT6157 should follow up on this.

Concerns were expressed about the pool of money set aside in a trust for pre-1982/1983 retired classified and certificated medical insurance. Paul Fong stated that the fund is in good shape with about \$83 million. Questions were raised about what happens to the fund when all of the covered members have passed away.

### **Meeting Adjourned at about 2:15pm**

Minutes submitted by Dan McElroy