

Minutes of AFT 6157 Retiree Chapter Membership Meeting of November 5, 2019

Bill Jacobs called the meeting to order and introductions were made.

Phil Hu, the new Executive Director of the Union, introduced himself.

(Note: You can read his bio located on the new retiree chapter's newsletter.)

Election of Board Members

Bill Jacobs, Walt Soellner and George Forrester started the AFT retiree chapter, but the consensus is that we need some younger faculty on this board. Phil Crawford said that we have two groups; the pre-82, with lifetime medical benefits, and post- 82 faculty, without those benefits. Ron Levesque noted that the post-1982 retirees may not be that interested in the retiree chapter if they do not have retiree medical benefits. Phil Crawford noted that the South Bay Labor Council does have a retiree group and it would be helpful for us to join them and have a voice.

No election of officers was held and it was suggested by Ron that we make a request for nominations on the newsletter/website.

State of the District

Paul Fong, AFT 6157 President shared that Mary Ruth Gross filled in as the Interim Executive Director for 3 1/2 months, but only on a half time basis. While she handled the job, she implemented AFT recommendations.

Phil Hu said that he had only been on the job for 2 1/2 weeks and was busy getting settled in. He was working with the bargaining teams and with point of contacts. He has some ideas on how to work with the grievance officers and how to manage faculty grievances.

Phil Crawford shared his plan to hold an event sometime in the Spring to honor those who have served the colleges for 50 years, and all those who have served as Academic Presidents and Union leaders. He would like to include the leadership in the district at the event.

Ron states that Chuck Hunter was appointed to write a history of SJCC as the 100 year anniversary of the college is coming up. Patrick Butler, via Ron, asked the chapter to discuss this matter. The chapter decided to ask the Academic Senate at SJCC to review and approve the draft of the history Chuck Hunter will produce. Phil Crawford agreed to bring this matter to the senate president and to the chancellor. Phil said it was important to include the many faculty who left SJCC to teach at EVC in the history. They should not be left out.

(Note: Please read the article by Chuck located in our newsletter for more information on how you can help.)

Treasurer Report

Ron passed out a financial report and indicated that the report is posted on the website.

Medical Benefits

Paul reported that the medical fund has no losses and is in very good shape. The group that manages the fund is very good.

Walt Soellner made a motion to have Phil Crawford explore the possibility of creating a bridge out of excess money in the medical plan and to keep the retiree chapter informed as to what is possible. The motioned was approved.

Scholarships Fund

This topic was tabled and Phil agreed to talk to Bobbie Kawazoe as she was on the committee to explore this topic. Bobbie was unable to attend the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie De La Rosa