



United Teachers of Seaford

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2021

Present:

Absent:

Matt Adler
Ed Kent
Maura Coghlan-
Jennifer Wemssen-
Curtis Tripoli-
Keri Degnan-
Jen Walsh-

Jean Marie Aplustille
Lisa Doris
Ann-Marie Motisi

Suzanne Mooney
Kerry Hansen
Maureen Sabella

Danielle Alveari
Brian Horner
Michael Milano

Joanna McCloskey
James Scourtos
Mary Simons

Christine Lindquist

1. MEME OF THE MONTH



2. RECORDING SECT'Y-Keri Degnan

a) Danielle A made a motion to approve the amended minutes of September 13, 2021. Maura seconded the motion. All in favor.

3. TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP CHAIR-Jen Wemssen

a) The budget summary from last year left us with a \$15,000 surplus. We had extra money since last year we did not have a luncheon and we did not have a retirement party.

b) So far this year members had the first dues deduction from their paycheck. Money was spent on snacks for homecoming and sympathy plants.

c) Maura made a motion to approve her budget. Suzanne M seconded it. All in favor.

d) Jen Wemssen also asked for a vote for the yearly donations the UTS does

for the Breast Cancer Walk, Wellness Council, Gerbino Night, advertisements for drama clubs in both middle and high schools, the Patriot Award dinner, Seaford Fire Dept. Suzanne made a motion for approval of the yearly donations. Danielle seconded it. All in favor.

4. PRESIDENT-Matthew Adler

a) **Homecoming** -A suggestion for next year is not to have it during a long weekend.

b) **Covid**- Number 67 cases so far, 19 were employees (aides and teachers) Continue to be safe, keep in mind the protocol. If you see something that is not safe, bring it to administration.

c) **Vaccines/Testing**- Testing is coming from the state. The district moved the testing from Thursday to Wednesday. If you are vaccinated and would still like to get a covid test to visit family members, just sign up. We do understand the issues for the unvaccinated. We have asked to extend the hours to make it easier for the Harbor teachers or rotate the location, we are fighting for you. If it is an issue getting tested within the district, you can go to an outside agency.

d) **Live streaming for quarantine students** – The UTS is not happy about it. It is just for quarantining students. It is only for COVID cases. If you are told to do it for “extenuating circumstances” it is not true.

e) **Parent-Teacher Conferences** – It looks like it may be in-person parent-teacher conferences. All visitors need to have a screening, how they are going to do it, we don't know. One administrator said to a teacher to “build in masks breaks” for yourself. When you do sign up genius, make sure you put in a mask break. How are the tables going to be done in elementary schools? In High School, it is going to be revamped. Can not do what we have done in the past.

f) **Teacher in charge position** – Please continue to let the exec board if the administration is not present at events.

g) **PAC public relations event planning committee nominations** –Activities of the positions are:

- Internal PAC- attend Board of Education meetings- Joanna McCloskey
- External PAC- attend the Committee of 100 meeting Scott Gilbert
- Social Event Committee – plan the back to school luncheon and the retirement dinner -Sarah Frank and Julie Speilman

- Keri made a motion to accept the nominations, Maura Seconded it. All in favor
- h) **SRP Recognition Day 11/16** Head Building Reps, please start planning for that. Recognize those hard workers who get everything done to keep our rules running. Aids, Security, Bus Drivers (elementary usually takes care of that.) Also include Crossing Guards. The UTS made labels in the past for gifts, they will that be distributed to the buildings.

5. OFFICER REPORTS

- a) **Maura-** Not much to report, Thank you so much for the hard work. Everyone is feeling the same frustration.
- b) **Ed** –A lot of issues everywhere else, but not here. Keep working hard.
- c) **Curtis-**
 - i. We need to decide to keep using our union shop (AD Apparel) or perhaps to go rogue and get a local union member to create the clothes. \$11.75 /tee-shirt from Ad Apparel or \$5.50 from Scott the Security guard (who is a union member)
 - ii. Is it an issue to send out our logo? We would rather be in control of our logo, and not have it be sent out to everyone. Teachers want a particular style or cut or a shirt, they want to make their shirt on their cricket machine. If the purpose is to show unity, we may not want to send out our logo.
 - iii. We should support unions and show solidarity with other unions. If it is coming from the UTS, we should support other unions.
 - iv. We don't have a contract at this point. Fridays are UNION GREEN. Please wear your UTS shirts, if you are not comfortable because you are untenured, just wear a green shirt. We need to purchase new union shirts for the new teachers, the UTS needs to order because we are out. The question is if we want to get people to wear Union stuff, we need to change something. They are not ordering. Jen W makes a motion to start the process to get Tee-shirts outside of Ad Apparel. Curtis will investigate other options and other locals to see where they are ordering from.
- d) **Jen Walsh-**nothing to report

6. Building News – Please start with positive news!

- a) **Manor Head Building Rep-Jean Aplustille-**
 - i. Good news! Jen Walsh worked very hard for CPI training. Coverage was provided for teachers and the aides are getting paid to do the training from home. Thank you for fighting the fight and getting things done across the buildings. Teachers have questions about sanitizing protocols. Teachers would like a list of cleaning supplies and would like in writing what the protocols are.
 - ii. CYO Basketball coming into the buildings, any outside agency had to submit their protocols for COVID and had to be approved by the Board of Education. Their fees were increased to cover the cost of the cleaning before and after the building use.
- b) **Harbor Head Building Rep-Suzanne Mooney**
 - i. Good news! We hired another permanent substitute and a teacher is getting married! The daily cleaning protocols are the same as last year. Bus duty is not running smoothly.
 - ii. Furniture from last year is slowly being returned after the abatement, but no big furniture has come back (due to the spacing issues with students.) There are no kidney tables, we don't have room for that. Only small furniture to maintain the 3 feet apart directive.
- c) **Middle school-Head Building Rep-Danielle Alveari**
 - i. Good News! Our Math Teacher Alex Mante is expecting a baby, and a special ed teacher is also expecting. There was one situation, a student was going remote due to “extenuating circumstances, we told Dan that the remote option is only for COVID. The student was instead put on home instruction, which is good, teachers will get paid for that.
 - ii. There were new certifications that special education teachers had to apply for. The district did not send in the paperwork until July. Teachers need to check online, to see if they were approved or denied. If you were denied please look to see if the district sent in your paperwork late.
- d) **High school Head Building Rep-Christine Lindquist** Christine was absent. There was no update.

7. COMMITTEE UPDATES

- a. **PAC – Scott Gilbert** - no updates
- b. **Internal PAC Joanna McCloskey** – no updates

8. **GRIEVANCES** – The UTS is moving forward with the Teacher in Charge grievance.

9. **NEGOTIATIONS**-There was a small group session with our lawyer and their lawyer. Another session is this week. Progress has been made, but please continue to tell members to wear GREEN on Friday and Pink on Wed. After Wednesday we will make new decisions about further actions.

10. **ARTS** – Had a fall meeting, next meeting is in May.

11. MEMBER CONCERNS

- a. There is an issue regarding the special ed department chair of the CSC meetings. The chair is going back and re-editing the meeting minutes and changing accommodations. It will be discussed at Central TAC.
- b. A new business teacher is starting on Friday in the High School, will they be a member of the union. Yes.
- c. Barbara Sherwin expressed the difficulty with concerts, the students have to be 4 feet apart. They are practicing in the cafeteria as the custodians are cleaning up?
- d. A question of sports and the wearing of masks was brought up. Spectators are required to wear masks. During practice, there is less oversight. During competitions the rules are very strict, a team can forfeit the match if they do not wear masks.
- e. Matt thanked everyone for their hard work, you are doing a great job. The UTS exec board appreciates you all more than the cost of a little flashlight.

Maura made a motion to end the meeting. Mary Simons seconded it. All in favor.

Keep up wearing green on Friday! The Sea of Green was great!