

Southern Council Minutes

December 10, 2020

Members Present: Lorri Hayes, Amy Hansen, James Slobig, Cindie Poirier, Michelle Martel, Karin Pillion, Darlene Gymziak, Carolyn Leite, Suzanne Schedin, Cheryl Erody, Bea Martin, Jennifer Simon, Susan Harden

Amy Hansen is filling in for the chair, Lisa Stone who could not be here this evening.

Lorri presented the minutes from November. A few adjustments were made to last names. Motion to accept was made by Michelle, Second by Jim, motion passed with one abstention.

Karin presented the Treasurer's Report. Three cents of interest was added in November. No other changes were made. She did pay the nonprofit status charge from her own pocket which she will reimburse herself for. Motion to accept the report was made by Karin, second made by Darlene, motion passed.

There was no Executive Board report as the board had not met and was scheduled to meet the next evening.

Lorri presented the Uni-Serve Director's report. In the negotiation report, Bedford settled, Hampstead Custodians settled, Merrimack Support Staff is still open, Windham and Salem settled, Hollis/Brookline is open, but Hollis/Brookline Support Staff settled.

There is nothing else to report at this time. A question was asked about how long most of the agreements are for. Bedford and Salem are only one year agreements, most others are three year agreements. Amherst is pushing a school building project in the same year as the contract. There is worry that it might make the contract not pass the election.

The deadline for the D.A. is coming up to name delegates. There is some concern that it is on a Saturday.

Question was asked about how people are feeling about the Covid vaccine. Darlene reported that she has heard it is about 50/50 for and against it. Salem wants members to think about it. NEA-NH advises it should not be mandated and members should receive time off to get the vaccine during work hours when it is available.

How are schools handling teachers work assignments right now - requiring teachers to be in school or able to work from home? Amherst has made space available in the high school. A lot of districts have special education students in for in-person services.

The meeting was wrapped up early at 5:30 in order to listen to our guest speaker, Eric Owen Russell.

The next council meeting will be held on Thursday January 14th after the president's meeting at 5:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Harden

Southern Council Secretary