

Approved Minutes of Executive Board Meeting August 17, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 2:06 p.m.

Approval of Agenda (Waddell) with addition of a motion from the floor

- a. **M/S/P (Monteiro):** to add under Old Business “Motion to endorse Dr. Joshua Wentz (Faculty at L.A. Mission College) for Santa Clarita Community College District Board of Trustees in 2022.”

Member Education

Community Agreement (Chen): Mindy reviewed the community agreement.

VOTE NO on the recall (Romero): Hugo Romero from the LA County Federation of Labor showed a video with labor talking points—the CA Governor’s election recall is an anti-union effort; a Republican governor at helm can have dire consequences for education budget and COVID responses during the Delta variant surge; and the best line of defense for Newsom is labor movement mobilization. Hugo pointed out that while 80% of likely voters expressed that they would vote no on a recall, the problem is that many don’t necessarily know about the election. Hugo shared that the message to pass on is “Vote no on question 1 and go (and not worry about the second question).” Hugo asked all to sign up for volunteer shifts with LAFed, and Seo Yun pointed out that August 24 and 26 5:30pm time slots are CFT member-to-member calls to union educators.

Old Business

M/S/P (Monteiro): to endorse Dr. Joshua Wentz (Faculty at L.A. Mission College) for Santa Clarita Community College District Board of Trustees in 2022.

Natalina spoke with CTA and AFT locals representing FT (CTA) and PT (AFT) faculty at Santa Clarita Community College District and shared that both unions have interviewed Josh and are ready to endorse him.

Action Items

1.M/S/P (Chen): approve proposed minutes from July 20, 2021.

Sandra commented that we change the designation of “WEC/Bond” to “WEC Chair” for the agenda.

2.M/S/P (Monteiro): to transfer \$600,000.00 dollars from Guild general fund to the ~~Guild COPE account~~ Kaufman fund for 2022 trustee election. Motion passed 70% yes, 7% no, 9% abstain.

Sandra asked how much we are contributing to candidates, to which Natalina replied that we have not yet endorsed anyone for the 2022 BOT election. John explained that we are moving money from the General Fund ahead of time because of anticipated higher voter turnouts; even though we have not endorsed anyone yet, we would likely have to spend a large amount on this upcoming important election.

M/S/P (McDowell): amend and change “Guild COPE account” to Kaufman fund.

John noted that this is a recommendation from Guild accountant John Pooley. Sharon clarified that this reflects the auditor’s recommendation to be specific on where the money is coming from and where it’s going. Marty asked if this means if Kaufman runs the campaign, to which John, Sharon, and Natalina all clarified no.

3. M/S/P (Monteiro): Accept the COPE report. 82% yes.

Zack asked for clarification on abstentions. Marty explained that abstentions remove themselves from the voting. Gabe asked how we would know who is a legitimate voter, and Joanne explained that the alternative is using a roll-call vote, which is time consuming and should be used for close calls.

Officer Reports

Treasurer (Hendricks): No report.

Secretary (Chen): No report.

Executive VP/JLMBC (Elarton-Selig): See pp.11-13.

Wesley asked for update on 12-month pay. Bill explained that it’s in the last stages of testing in SAP and LACCD claims it would be ready to go for the September payroll.

President (Waddell): No written report due to Joanne’s computer failure. Joanne will report on the month’s work in next months’ Eboard report. In the meantime, the presidential message is “vote NO on the recall / ‘No and Go’.”

Committee and Professional Staff Reports

A. Retirement (Hendricks): See report on pp.14-15. Sharon commented that CalSTRS CalSTRS Investment Portfolio earned 27.2% over the 12-month period, which is well above the 7% assumed rate of return.

B. Social Justice Committee (McKeever): See p.16 for report. James highlighted the SJC’s discussion on campus safety, return to campus resolution, and informing members about their lack of disability insurance.

C. Student Interns (Monteiro): See report that has been emailed. Natalina asked for help in recruiting students to become interns for the new semester.

D. WEC (Lee): Joanne explained that for many years, bond issues were reported during the WEC report. Now it makes sense for WEC report agenda item to report on return-to-campus and Article 9 issues. Sandra reported that WEC chairs from all 9 campuses met and discussed standardization of policies across LACCD. Each of the WEC chairs have walked through the campuses and found inconsistencies on class sizes, ventilation standards, presence of sanitizers and masking signage, etc. Sandra discussed that a work group has put together a waiver that would enable faculty to continue working remotely, but the timeline has not yet been determined.

Sandra made a point that communications about work environment issues should originate from the WEC as that is what WEC chairs have expertise on and are paid for. Xiao commented that she would like to see that the waiver being developed covers non-classroom faculty. Grace commented that we should be cognizant that much of the burdens of return-to-campus fall on adjunct faculty. Charles noted that WEC chairs have been working diligently and asked that faculty members also make the effort to stay informed. Jeff suggested that we hold another district-wide meeting to address faculty questions and concerns about return-to-work. Bill noted that there are a lot of factors and legal concerns in play, and so we are still trying to settle what we can get the district to agree to with regards to waivers, return-to-work conditions, etc.

Sandra and Michele commented that MOU are meant to protect faculty. Brian asked us to not lose sight and noted that face-to-face enrollment has been decreasing and that many faculty who agreed to take a risk and teach in person are losing classes and are being punished. Gabe asked about challenges of faculty teaching dual enrollment with regards to expectations.

E. AFIC (Saint-Paul): Chris noted that Jessica is working on collecting donations for Haiti so he is reporting on behalf of AFIC.

F. Black Caucus (Lee): See p.18 for report. Sandra asked chapter presidents to recommend Black and African American faculty to become representatives in the caucus so she can outreach to them.

G. Budget (McDowell): See p.19 for report.

H. Communications (Kaye): See p.20 for report. Deborah highlighted some key points and asked all to send her interesting faculty profiles, stories, etc. for upcoming issues of Real News.

J. Community Support and Engagement (Labertew): See pp.21-23 for report. Denice noted that CSE has been asked to make a general contribution to Koreatown Immigrant Workers Alliance (KIWA).

K. COPE (Monteiro): See earlier COPE report.

L. DHLI (Chen & Galvez): No report.

M. EDD (Amey): see p.24 for report.

N. Foundation (Knorr): No report. If folks would like to make a donation to the scholarship fund, it is a payroll deduction and form can be found on the AFT website.

O. Gov't Relations (McDowell): See p.25 for report.

P. Grievance (Eckersley): See pp.26-27 for report. Darrell elaborated on several points from his report.

Q. JLMBC (Elarton): See report earlier.

R. Negotiations (Elarton-Selig): No report.

A. Organizing (Golding & Sun): See pp.28-29 for report. Chase and Seo Yun noted goals for 85% faculty membership (+241 members to reach goal) and 7% activism/participation in CAT (+115 members to reach goal). Chase noted that membership increase efforts should be focused on the 600 regular adjuncts who are likely to be teaching classes.

Chase shared a draft of return-to-campus flyer to help engage members and emphasized that organizers and member activists don't have a role on the technical side of drafting flyers, rather, they aim to assist with the optics of building power and engaging membership.

Brian thanked Chase for the organizers and intern mobilization to save the Pierce college nurse position. Jeff noted that this draft flyer is a great example of regular communication to members and informing them about what to do. Jeff elaborated that it's important that messages come from the Guild to all members.

Michele asked about how the numbers goals were set, to which Chase addressed that activism and participation goals are to help realize member ownership. Michele asked for written description for CAT leads and CATs. Sandra mentioned that she is not sure what the organizers' duties and responsibilities are; she voiced that chapter presidents should have control over communicating with members on details of MOU, in which the chapter presidents were involved in negotiating but not CAT members nor organizers. Sandra would like CATs to report to chapter presidents and coordinate with them before making plans.

Jonathon noted that Chase is not the leader of CATs, but a staff who aids the CATs and CAT Leads who are rank-and-file Guild members who have their own autonomy, right to information, and choices to accomplish organizing in the Guild.

Ruby asked for membership numbers to which Chase responded. Seo Yun noted for all that they can request job descriptions for organizers from Joanne. They are also happy to provide descriptions of CAT duties and CAT rosters by campus.

Sandra recommended to remove Q&A link and link to join membership from the flyer; she recommended all query to go directly to chapter presidents.

Chris asked for clarification for membership numbers, to which Bill addressed with detailed information about problems with District-provided employee numbers.

VII. Announcements

08.26.21 Opening Day on your campus

09.06.2021 Labor Day--Food Distribution in Banning Park 8 am

09.06.2021 Labor Day—UCLA Downtown Labor Center Naming Ceremony: “Reverend James Lawson Labor Center”

VIII. Adjourn

Next E Board meeting: Tuesday September 21, 2021-- 2 pm

The meeting was adjourned by 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mindy Chen, Recording Secretary