

September 19, 2024, PSC Delegate Assembly – minutes

Present:

Guest:

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|------|-------------------|-----|------------------|------|-------------|--------|---------------|---|
| Bosket | EC | Hope | CLT | Llamas | HEO | Cheng | NYCT | Jeu | H |
| Davis | EC | Irigoyen | CLT | Minor | HEO | Cuordileone | NYCT | | |
| Dempster | EC | Bardsley | CSI | Morrison | HEO | Decoux | NYCT | Staff: | |
| Gaboury | EC | Bishop | CSI | Patestas | HEO | Harris | NYCT | Amer | |
| Galloway-Perry | EC | Block | CSI | Perez | HEO | Hunter | NYCT | Cabrera | |
| Gerwin | EC | Cope | CSI | Silverman | HEO | Loguercio | NYCT | Cadambi | |
| Kang | EC | Lawrence | CSI | Sue | HEO | MacDonald | NYCT | Cordero | |
| Lilly | EC | Powers Silverberg | CSI | Teran | HEO | Shepard | NYCT | Devyatkin | |
| Offenholley | EC | Baines | GCC | Wayler | HEO | Doran | Q | Diaz | |
| Persinger | EC | Aptekar | GS | Winter | HEO | Guskin | Q | Doan | |
| Romer | EC | Goldberg | GS | Yeboah | HEO | Hazas | Q | Douros | |
| Seo | EC | Grassman | GS | Hovey | JJ | Lee | Q | Farkas | |
| Stemberg | EC | Hu | GS | Majumdar | JJ | Schnur | Q | Farley | |
| Turner | EC | Kagan | GS | Markowitz | JJ | Bordoni | QCC | Graf | |
| Vasquez | EC | Kane | GS | Mooney | JJ | Pecorino | QCC | Guzman | |
| Wharton | EC | Rothman | GS | Mullin-Rouabah | JJ | Persaud | QCC | Herrick | |
| Wood | EC | Sellie | GS | Cally | KCC | Stark | QCC | Hunt | |
| Albarillo | B | Bidell | H | Rosson | KCC | Chaung | RFCO | Kaplowitz | |
| Entin | B | Bloom | H | Spear | KCC | James | RFNYCT | Moore | |
| Fox | B | Chinn | H | Alexander-Street | L | DiSalvo | RT | Pinckney | |
| Hashmi | B | Cusick | H | Auslander | L | Friedman | RT | Poché-Jetter | |
| Ludovici | B | John | H | Chen- Hayes | L | Kissack | RT | Rasiotis | |
| Snyder | B | Kenigsberg | H | Lizardi | L | McCall | RT | Varrone | |
| Davis | BAR | Stone | H | Wangerin | L | Moran | RT | | |
| Plochocki | BAR | Bencivenni | HCC | Beaty | LGCC | Newfield | RT | | |
| Touval | BAR | Bernardini | HCC | Cleary | LGCC | Garley | Y | | |
| Lang | BCC | Casey | HCC | Connors | LGCC | Jackson | Y | | |
| Kolozzi | BCC | Pimentel | HCC | Alapo | MCC | Pritchard | Y | | |
| Dunson | BEOC | Adams | HEO | Creaco | MCC | | | | |
| Cappetti | C | Ballerini | HEO | Gronowicz | MCC | | | | |
| Diraimo | C | Bonilla | HEO | Johnstone | MCC | | | | |
| Forsythe | C | Brown | HEO | Navaratne | MCC | | | | |
| Huang | C | Coleman | HEO | Smallwood | MCC | | | | |
| Mano | C | Doney | HEO | Smart | MCC | | | | |
| Sinanovic | C | Hegner | HEO | Walker | MCC | | | | |
| Abdali | CLT | Hotko | HEO | Jimoh | MEC | | | | |
| Batiz | CLT | Keier | HEO | Lashley | MEC | | | | |
| Giannopoulos | CLT | La Mar | HEO | Stephens | MEC | | | | |
| Gruber | CLT | Lee | HEO | Behrent | NYCT | | | | |

I. Approvals

A. Agenda

MOTION: To approve the agenda (Motion: P. Lewis; seconded). **APPROVED.**

B. Minutes for June 20, 2024 DA meeting

MOTION: To approve the May 23, 2024 DA Minutes (Motion: R. Galloway-Perry; seconded). **APPROVED.**

II. President's report and discussion - J. Davis

Robert's Rules for delegates training (carried out at meeting)

Bargaining Update and Contract campaign

In November, we will not have seen a step raise in two years. We need to put pressure and send a message to CUNY that we want to settle a contract this Fall, but we will not accept the paltry CUNY offer. Next week is union week and lots of activity happening across campuses. We need to be out in the streets next Tuesday, the day of bargaining. We need to get through the veneer of normalcy that management wants. No one action is going to do it, but they are susceptible to public pressure. If we do not see a better economic offer among other things, we need to escalate.

Membership report - A.Vásquez

We signed up around 340 members over the summer, mostly HEOs. There was significant member participation that supported organizing. This campaign is by no means over. Turnover of personnel is challenging. We've signed up 685 new members so far this year. The GC signed up 186 new members this year alone.

Proposed CUNY Bylaw changes - J. Davis

CUNY proposed unilateral changes to the bylaws that would have changed department chairs' authority among other changes. In May and June we let CUNY know that they needed to meet with us. They resisted at first but have now removed the most offensive language and overreach in the initial proposals and agreed that they had to come to the table with the union. We met with them yesterday and they were amenable to many of the issues we raised. They still have some bad ideas. The resistance from the Faculty Senate and the PSC made them back off most. We filed a labor board charge against them and we sent a letter to the board of trustees. The question of authority around scheduling is still problematic. There has always been a dialogue between chairs, faculty, and provost, and dean. Their changes put too much authority into management hands. Formally, they had a new role for the Provost in the promotion and tenure process, where the President had to consult with the Provost. They removed that after we objected due to the conflict with the CBA.

Motion: To limit time at microphone to two minutes (Motion: S. Davis; seconded).

APPROVED.

III. Legislative Report – J. Gaboury

A. Preparations for NYS budget

I encourage all to join us at the legislative committee and get active in our work. We participate with AFT in federal elections and NYSUT in state elections. We select candidates from the NYSUT endorsement list and the PSC decides which ones we want to do work for. Most Tuesdays from 6-8pm we will be doing phone-banking.

National elections and GOTV

We are mobilizing people in Long Island with the AFT to see if we can win the house seat. The AFT is going to have a deployment program where they pay people to go to swing state mobilizing areas. We will also be doing postcard writing before the next DA. The AFT effort is teacher-to-teacher mobilizing. Two important seats in the House are at play in NY.

IV. Administrative reports

A. **Financial Reports and PSC budget - F. Wharton** **May Financials**

May 2024 Summary for one (1) month:

Total Operating Income: \$ 1,598,000

Total Operating Expenses: \$ 1,621,000

Surplus (Deficit): (\$ 23,000)

Commentary: Year-to-date (9 months):

As of May 31st 2024, the financial statements show a nine-month operating surplus of \$338,000. For the nine months ending May 31st year-to-date income is \$14,843,000 and year-to-date expenditures are \$14,505,000.

MOTION: To accept the May 2024 Treasurer's Report (Motion: Eileen; seconded).
APPROVED.

June Financials

June 2024 Summary for one (1) month:

Total Operating Income: \$ 1,512,000

Total Operating Expenses: \$ 1,529,000

Surplus (Deficit): (\$ 17,000)

Commentary: Year-to-date (10 months): As of June 30th 2024, the financial statements show a ten-month operating surplus of \$321,000. For the ten months ending June 30th year-to-date income is \$16,354,000 and year-to-date expenditures are \$16,033,000.

MOTION: To accept the June 2024 Treasurer's Report (Motion: F. Pritchard; seconded).
APPROVED.

Proposed Budget Introduced for vote at next DA

B. **Executive Directors Report - M. Cadambi-Daniel**

I. Staff:

a. Hiring:

Our new Executive Assistant to the Principal Officers and Executive Staff, **Ambar Cordero** started on July 8.

Nicholas Devyatkin, is our new Director of Legal Affairs, and started in June.

Our new Executive Director, **Malini Cadambi-Daniel** started on August 28.

Grievance Counselor: This vacancy announcement has been posted and we intend to conduct interviews in October.

Membership Data Systems Coordinator: We have a robust pool of strong candidates and are currently conducting the second round of interviews.

b. **PSC/PSU bargaining:** We reached a tentative agreement on a successor agreement in late August. The agreement has been ratified and is in the process of implementation. We have a productive and positive bargaining relationship and the outcome is mutually beneficial.

II. Elections:

The Elections committee met on September 16 and took the following actions:

a. **Vacancies and new delegates recognized by the Elections Committee on 9/16:**

i. **Baruch** – Elizabeth Wollman replaced Mark Rice as delegate, creating an alternate delegate vacancy.

ii. **BMCC** – Melissa Butler-Haughton replaced Shawn Grant as a delegate.

iii. **City Tech** – Jinwon Kim resigned as alternate delegate.

iv. **Grad Center-** Zoe Hu resigned as chapter chair. Marc Kagan replaced Giacomo Bianchino as delegate, creating an alternate delegate vacancy. Nicholas Devlin resigned as delegate and is replaced by Evan Rothman, creating an alternate delegate vacancy. Ella Merriwether resigned as delegate and is replaced by Alexander Orejuela, creating an alternate delegate vacancy.

v. **Lehman-** Robert Farrell resigned as delegate due to retiring and is replaced by Humberto Lizardi creating an alternate delegate vacancy. Diane Auslander is the new chapter chair, so her delegate position will be filled by Sheila Hankin creating a new alternate delegate vacancy. Luis R. Vega resigned as alternate delegate. Ruth Wangerin resigned as secretary.

vi. **Queens-** Karen Weingarten resigned as Chapter Chair. Chris Williams resigned as Chapter Vice Chair. Lorna Thaxter resigned as Welfare Fund Rep. Miles Grier resigned as alternate delegate. Oded Nir resigned as delegate and is replaced by Ted Kessler, creating an alternate delegate vacancy.

vii. **Hunter** - Thomas DeGloma resigned as delegate and is replaced by Stuart Kaufer, creating an alternate delegate vacancy.

b. **Election Results Certified by the Elections Committee on 9/16:**

i. **HEO Chapter** – The following six alternate delegates were elected:

Holly Block, Joel Bloom, Felyesha George, Tom Lee, Sean Persaud, Patience Yeboah

ii. **Queens College-** The following were elected:

Chapter Chair: Karen Sullivan

Chapter Vice Chair: Erica Doran

Alternative Delegate: Maggie Dickenson

Welfare Fund Representative: Greg Klimaytis

MOTION: To accept the Elections Committee's report (Motion: R. Galloway-Perry; seconded). **APPROVED.**

MOTION: To extend time by 16 minutes to 9:30pm (Motion: J. Kenigsberg; seconded). **APPROVED.**

V. Resolution

For Introduction: Resolution On the Elections – For A Class-Struggle Workers Party
Submitted by Sándor John

MOTION: To consider the Resolution on the Elections tonight (Motion: S. John; seconded). **FAILED.**

VI. New and Ongoing Business

Announcements

- A. EC passed a resolution on E. Palestine, OH that originated from workers and families in the area. **Resolution to Make All Victims of East Palestine, Ohio Derailment Eligible for Federal Government Funded Healthcare** resolved “that the Professional Staff Congress/CUNY calls on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and President Biden to immediately declare East Palestine, Ohio a mass incident casualty under the Stafford Act to make residents and workers eligible for mental and physical healthcare from the federal government.”
- B. Sept 25th: new member meet up at the union hall

VII. Adjourn

MOTION: To adjourn (Motion: R. Smart; seconded). **APPROVED.**