

October AoS / Member Meeting minutes  
Tuesday October 18, 4:30pm at Judson  
Facilitating: Abhinav  
Notetaking: Tim

**Executive summary:** Looking to ramp up our health care campaign, regular meetings will be held in 411 Bobst on first Thursday of each month.

**Announcements:**

Steward training on Oct. 21.

Abhinav: Meeting with Columbia went well. Answered questions about benefits of union. Emailed Gail, NYU HR, waiting for response on scheduling next health care meeting.

Late hires has not been heard as a grievance yet because we have been having meetings with NYU on this whole complex of health issues. They haven't moved yet on late hires. We have signaled we want to move ahead with a Step 3 grievance.

Anne: Why no Step 3 already?

Pat: This is not same information we had last year. No estimate on when that grievance is happening. Might have Step 3 grievance hearing at future meeting.

Nathan: Why not do it as soon as possible? It's in their economic interest to fight a grievance. It seems we should definitely be filing as soon as possible.

Pat: We have filed it but it has been in abeyance since summer. We have basically seen they are unwilling to move on mid-semester hire issue, and to some extent on summer hire issue. We are going to take that grievance out of abeyance and hear it. Arbitration will be a matter of months. They have dug in heels on that issue. I think it will get all the way there. We talked to them about a lot of issues related to health care. The health care implementation encountered a very wide variety of problems at every step: timeliness or reimbursements. Way they were being computed. So we have this series of meetings to discuss the whole health care in a holistic fashion.

Anne: The feedback from people we hear on email and in departments, we want this heard soon.

**Comms Committee:**

Anne: We expect to have GWRF in next couple weeks.

**Organizing Committee:**

Nathan: We still have a lot of departments when we haven't had a meeting. Have had meetings to get health care campaign under way.

Claudia: Question for Comms – has there been any moving on how to reach out to BUE workers after we get list?

Anne: That's for reps.

Abhinav: Seana and I are working on that.

### **Bylaws Committee:**

Chris: At this point we are going to push back bylaw vote until spring. Voter fatigue. Feedback session starting in February and March.

### **PoliSoli:**

Nathan: Nantina has been organizing a group called Labor for Black Lives

### **Working Groups/Health Care**

Abhinav: People are emailing me for working groups.

Anne: Steinhardt group is meeting. Parental leave group is dormant. Health insurance hike group has had nothing to do, because we are waiting for UAW social security analysts to respond to our FOIA documents..

Maida: We asked them for information, and they said they would consider it, but nothing to report. They suggested we ask NYU for specific information, and we did. We have a right to information, but it's not clear that we have a grievance for the hike itself. NYU hasn't gotten back to us.

### **Local 2110 Update**

In terms of card signing, it is looking better. The numbers of dues receipts is higher. Something like 700 out of 2000 for fall. We haven't entered list yet into our database. We have 538 workers, so for people who haven't been entered yet they are automatically deducting dues. We have to keep monitoring, but it is good.

For Presidential election, our region of UAW includes NY to Albany, Conn., New England, Puerto Rico. Each region focuses on political activities. IN president election we focus on battleground states. In our region it's New Hampshire. We are recruiting people to go to NH for the end point of the election: Nov. 4-9. UAW will pay hotel rooms. The Local will arrange transportation. We are recruiting people to go up at the end. You would be canvassing every day. There is a possibility Democrats could take over Senate, so this is very important. If anybody is interested, let me know. Also will be doing endpoint phone banking in swing states. Iowa, or NC, or Penn. There will be a bus trip to Penn. on Oct 30.

## **Resolution**

Anne: We have a [resolution on Dakota Access Pipeline](#) in the context of the AFL-CIO's support for this project and lack of concern for climate change and indigenous rights. I propose we take a stand denouncing the Dakota Access Pipeline. (Anne reads it.)

*Passes: Unanimously*

Maida: Objection re: final words imply that we haven't been active, but we have been active on climate change, and on environmental issues.

Anne: I think scale of climate change is such that we should be more active.

*Anne rereads, emphasizing "just transition" language.*

Colette: It's specific language, and doesn't need to be amended.

## **Cross-campus organizing Update**

Colette: There is a very powerful event happening this 8 p.m. Friday on Jay Street where people from different campuses are getting together to talk about supporting each other.

## **Discussion re: Healthcare Campaign**

Nathan and Colette reported back on the meetings to date re: healthcare and our post-contract campaign. They emphasized that it will require active participation from the whole union, and that our time in member and steward meetings could be spent to this end. We discussed organizing challenges and agreed to meet on the first Thursday of every month at 5 pm (Bobst 411).

## **Presentation by CIW:**

Lupe: Thank you for opening up this space. We've been here in NYC since Friday to spread the word about the national boycott of Wendy's. We are going to have an action tomorrow at 5:30. We want Wendy's to pay a penny more per pound to support workers. The program that encapsulates those demands is the Fair Food Campaign. 14 corporations have committed to human rights for farm workers through this program. What we are doing with this program is making the lives of workers better, and to be able to report abuses that happen in the field without fear: that women can work free of sexual harassment, that there are higher wages, and that there is no modern day slavery. And this Fair Food program started in 2010. We are expanding into other crops: strawberries and bell peppers. And we are expanding into other states. And the reason we organize with consumers too is that corporations keep consumers in the dark. That's why we raise consciousness. One of the things that Wendy's is saying as an excuse is that they are no longer buying from Florida. They have shifted to Mexico where worker's rights are less respected. So they are profiting from that. Something else they've done

is that they've come out with a supplier code of conduct but it does not compare to the Fair Food Program. It has no monitoring or worker's voice in it. It is just something Wendy's can use to check off a list. So they can have all the codes they want, but until they actually see the people picking their fields they are not going to have a code of conduct that actually works. What we want is for them to respect all the work that we've done.