

**Union of Taxation Employees Local 00013
Central Council Minutes**

Meeting of November 6, 2006

In Attendance:

Presiding

Linda Collins

Dave Taylor

Dario Gritti

Anna Caruso

Cheryl Grieve

John Woodburne

Vice-President – TSO

Vice-President – TCC

Chief Steward

Director – TSO

Director – TSO

Director – TSO

Recording

Ryan Ward

Eric Range

Bev Bryant

Frank DeBlasio

Sheila Reuben

Secretary

Treasurer

Director – TCC

Director – TSO

Director – TCC

Absent:

Jean dePeiza

Rob Hamilton

President

Director – TSO (on leave)

Sandra Cribar

Director – TCC

COMMENCEMENT

Meeting called to order at 5:26 pm by Linda Collins, VP-TSO in the absence of the President, Jean dePeiza, who was ill.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Motion to approve agenda items.

Moved by Eric Range / Second by Frank DeBlasio / Carried.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

No special business.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion to adopt minutes for August meeting.

Moved by Eric Range / Second by John Woodburne / Carried.

REPORTS

President's Report

A written report from Jean dePeiza was tabled by the Chair, Linda Collins, who summarised the key points.

Vice-Presidents' Reports

Linda Collins, VP-TSO, reported that Bargaining will commence in June in accordance with the new *Public Service Labour Relations Act* [PSLRA]. Significant changes include the limited 'lifespan' of a 'strike vote'. If we had a strike vote today, the results would be valid for up to 90 days only instead of indefinitely.

Betty Bannon estimates a quick round of negotiations and with a successful resolution by the expiry of this Collective Bargaining Agreement. The current Commissioner's, Michel Dorais, approach to negotiations is completely different than the past; Betty is very appreciative of the way he is conducting business with the Union.

Dave Taylor, VP-TCC, reported that the enlistment of Rands at the Call Centre as proper members of this Local has been a success. An agreement has been reached between the Local and the Assistant Director to have all new hires sign the cards upon their hiring.

A section of the Call Centre was very recently flooded. As a consequence, all the piping to kitchen areas are being inspected and repaired as required. Spots where water remains trapped under the carpeting is also being dealt with to avoid mould. A "quiet room" is being set up within the Call Centre which will be fitted with a panic button in case anyone is in need of assistance.

By-Laws and Regulations Committee Report

Dario Gritti, Chair of the Committee, reported that four transactional resolutions need to be adopted to initiate the upcoming Triennial General Election and the business of the 2007 Annual General Meeting. Council agreed to dispose of these resolutions at the Report stage rather than the Business stage.

RESOLUTION #1:

That Lynda Kirk be confirmed as the Chief Elections Officer for the Local (Nominations Committee Chair) and Cathi Davidson and Bill Wehrens be confirmed as Deputy Elections Officers (Committee members) pursuant to Section 2 of Regulation 14.

Moved by Dario Gritti / Second by Linda Collins / Carried.

RESOLUTION #2:

That the Chief Elections Officer be authorized to post notices of the Triennial General Elections on Monday, January 8, 2007 together with the Elections Rules, as may be amended, and the dates for voting pursuant to Section 5 of Regulation 14.

Moved by Dario Gritti / Second by John Woodburne / Carried.

RESOLUTION #3:

That Nominations be open from January 29, 2007 and closed February 23, 2007 in accordance with Section 4 of Regulation 14.

Moved by Dario Gritti / Second by Eric Range / Carried.

RESOLUTION #4:

That the Call for Amendments to By-Laws and Regulations be posted Monday, February 5, 2007 (68 days prior) and close Friday, March 23, 2007 in accordance with Section 1 of By-Law 10.

Moved by Dario Gritti / Second by John Woodburne / Carried.

Dario confirmed that the 2007 Annual General Meeting is scheduled for April 24, 2007 at 5:30 pm and will be held at the Fraternal Order of Eagles Club on 17 Elm Street. The Eagles Clubs has been confirmed to be smoke-free.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Item 1 – Triennial General Elections – Confirmation of Dates

Dario Gritti reported that notices for the Triennial General Elections will be posted on Monday, January 8, 2007, together with the Election Rules issued by the Chief Election Officer. Nominations will be open from January 29, 2007 and closed February 23, 2007. His understanding is that the Chief Election Officer, Lynda Kirk and her team is ready.

Item 2 – Children's Christmas Party (2006)

Anna Caruso reported that the Annual Children's Christmas Party will take place on Saturday, November 25 at 25 Cecil St. Dario Gritti will send an email to all the stewards to request their help. There are currently 100 children signed up to attend.

Item 3 – Union Education – Courses/Training – TUB Course

Dario Gritti reported that Jean dePeiza arranged for a TUB course hosted by this Local for all GTR Local executive members who have not had the course. John Woodburne, Ryan Ward and Cheryl Grieve report that they have never had the TUB course.

Please note that a TUB course open to the general membership is expected to be held in late January or early February 2007.

Item 4 – Political Action – MP Lobbying

Dario Gritti reported that the last meeting – a meeting with Dr. Carolyn Bennett – took place recently. Dr Bennett was very receptive and offered constructive criticism. More face-to-face meetings are being scheduled.

It should be noted that this process is far more time consuming than a letter campaign some Locals opted for but is felt that face-to-face interaction help to personalise the issues and would facilitate future lobbying efforts.

Item 5 – Local Communications Program - Website

Linda Collins, chair of the Local Communications Committee, reported that Declan Calton is back and is available to continue with the web site design. Our Local needs writers and photographers to provide useful material to the membership. Sections of the Local website will include information on (a) Accommodation, (b) Health and Safety issues, (c) Personal Security for Field Workers, (d) Workplace Stress issues, (e) Grievance information (e.g. Job Descriptions versus Classification Grievances), (f) Harassment or Workplace Harmony, (g) Observe and Attest and related staffing issues, along with information about the Diane Gee Memorial Trust and the annual awards to Grade Eight students of the First Nations School of Toronto.

Volunteers identified to date include:

- Frank DeBlasio - Health and Safety / Building Security
- Dario Gritti - Grievances / Duty to Accommodate
- Linda Collins - Harassment and Workplace Harmony
- Dario Gritti / John Woodburne - Duty to Accommodate
- John Woodburne / Ryan Ward - Staffing Processes
- Cheryl Grieve - Observe and Attest
- Candy Carnovale - Diana Gee Memorial Trust & its awards

Item 6 – Local Christmas “Thank You” Dinner

Linda Collins reported that last year’s ‘Thank you Dinner’ was at the Eglinton/Yonge Mandarin in concert with Local 00048’s Steward Thank You Dinner. The dinner was a major success.

The consensus is that the Mandarin provided the best value and should be the current choice for this year’s Steward Thank You Dinner. The most convenient date is Monday, December 4, before the prices increase for the holidays.

Local 00048 will be contacted to see if they would like to join us again this year

ROUNDTABLE

Jean dePeiza is requested to enquire whether a staffing course is planned in the near future, in Toronto or in Ottawa, and including the possible hosting of a course.

The application for Charitable Status for the Diana Gee Memorial Trust was submitted but that we have been advised by the CRA that the review of the application will not commence until the Spring. In the meantime, any donations received will be held until the new year when a 2007 tax receipt would be issued (assuming the status is granted).

We will approach Kevin Sinclair about preparing an appropriate biography of Diana Gee for posting on the Diana Gee Memorial Trust webpage.

Anyone having trouble with their e-mail address should contact Declan Calton either directly or through the Communications Committee.

John Woodburne recommended that the Local website translated into French.

Frank DeBlasio acknowledged John Woodburne successful efforts to have the remaining five candidates from the expiring PM-02 pool to be appointed when he argued that the appointment process used violated the *Canada Human Rights Act*.

ADJOURNMENT

THAT Council adjourn forthwith.

The next meeting shall take place at the Mandarin on Monday, December 4.