

# **DC-37 LOCAL 1359 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 10, 2007**

PRESENT: See sign-in sheet.

A quorum was present.

President Carbone called to order the General Membership Meeting of April 10, 2007 at 6pm in the 5<sup>th</sup> floor cafeteria at Gertz Plaza.

A motion to accept the General Membership minutes of March 13, 2007 was made by Alrita Phillips and seconded by Cheryl Fraser. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report of April, 2007 was made by Charmaine Hardaway and seconded by Mushtaq Ali. The motion was unanimously approved.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Carbone advised the General Membership that Marvin Kelley has resigned his position as Inspector Rep. and pursuant to the local's Constitution an election by the Executive Board occurred at its April 3, 2007 meeting to replace him. Inspector Eddy Daquin was elected and is now the Inspector Rep. for the balance of the term of office.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING: Governor Spitzer has named Gary Johnson, an attorney from NYSHUT, as Director of the Office of Employee Relations (GOER). The local's negotiating committee will commence bargaining with the State of New York on April 26, 2007 for a new contract.

2007 SALARY INCREASES: in paychecks dated May 2, 2007 every member's salary will increase by \$800.00. In addition, members at grade 18 who are at or above the job rate will qualify for a merit step advance which will increase their salary by \$1,418. The increase is payable to members who are in Grade 18; have been at the job rate for a period of at least 1 year; have 5 years of total service; have received satisfactory performance evaluations for the past 3 years; have not received a notice of discipline in the last 3 years (unless it was dismissed); and, have participated in agency sponsored job related training in the last 3 years. Members entitled to longevity and step advances who are on the April cycle will also receive their salary increases in May 2, 2007 paycheck.

NYSHIP PREMIUM RATE DECREASES: as a result of the local's lawsuit against the State for their failed attempt to pass a portion of the cost of Medicare part B on its employees, rates for the Empire Plan (family & individual) and HIP (individual) have been reduced. Those reductions were first received in paychecks dated April 4, 2007. Lump sum refunds for eligible employees to reimburse for past overpayments shall occur later this year.

DC-37 LOBBY INSTITUTE: will take place on Saturday, April 21, 2007 at 8:30am in Room 1 at DC37. The purpose of the lobby institute is to brief members on issues that will be part of DC-37's Lobby Day. This year DC-37 Lobby Day will be on May 8, 2007. Anyone who wishes to apply for the Lobby Institute can do so through April 13, 2007. Coupons can be found in PEP or obtained from the President.

Members who want to attend DC37 Lobby Day in Albany should be aware that buses will depart DC-37 at 7am and return to DC-37 at 7pm on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

President Carbone advised the General Membership that Leslie Torres is the new Deputy Commissioner of ORA. She was the Executive Director and General Counsel for the Loft Board. She was also a director of the Enforcement Unit of the NYC Buildings Department. The local is hopeful that the appointment of an experienced employee will benefit ORA and its members.

The DC-37 Caribbean Heritage celebration will take place on Friday April 27, 2007 at 6pm in room 1 at 125 Barclay Street, NY, NY.

On Monday, April 30, 2007 at 5:30pm in room 1 at DC-37 there will be a free screening of the film "An Inconvenient Truth," a documentary on global warming. A free DVD will be provided to the first 150 DC-37 members to attend.

The AFSCME Leadership Academy now has web offerings where members will be able to go online and take internet courses. It is open to all AFSCME members. Members can register for course offerings by going to the AFSCME web site and clicking on the Leadership Academy icon.

There will be a tenant's rally on May 23, 2007 at Stuyvesant Town located at 1<sup>st</sup> Ave and 14<sup>th</sup> St. between 5pm and 7pm. Various tenant, not-for-profit and church groups will be present.

A motion to adjourn was made by Charmaine Hardaway and seconded by Mushtaq Ali. The motion was unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25pm.

/s/ Charmaine Hardaway  
CHARMAINE HARDAWAY  
Secretary, Local 1359

Approved: May 8, 2007