

DC-37 LOCAL 1359 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 14, 2009

PRESENT: See sign-in Sheet.

A quorum was present.

President Ifill called to order the General Membership Meeting of April 14, 2009 at 6pm in the 6th floor cafeteria at Gertz Plaza.

A motion to accept the General Membership minutes of March 10, 2009 was made by Yuklin Guervera and seconded by Mushtaq Ali. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion to accept the March, 2009 Treasurer's Report and the 2008 Holiday Party Report was made by Charmaine Hardaway and seconded by John Lafferty. The motion was unanimously approved.

ELECTRONIC BULLITEN BOARD: is now available. You can assess the local's bulletin board by clicking on Union Bulletin Board and then click on DC-37 and then local 1359. There will be no more bulletin boards in the hall ways.

DRUG CO-PAY REIMBURSEMENT: only 28 members have received reimbursement. Members have until April 30, 2009 to submit their forms.

The state has complied with the American Disability Act Standards by adding a rail to both sides of the ramps and the steps are in the acceptable 7 ½ to 8 ½ inches.

LOBBY DAY: Lobby day was a success. DC-37 had 22 buses however; local 1359 had 6 members out of fewer than 400 members.

BUDGET CUTS: the Governor sent letters to members urging members to pressure the unions to give back a contractible 3% increase. However, President Ifill notified the General Membership that the increase was processed for the April 29, 2009 pay check. President Ifill advised the General Membership that at not time did the Governor contact that unions about givebacks. All information came through the media.

There is a figure going around that the Governor is asking for a 50 body head count from DHCR. After speaking with the Deputy Commissioner Leslie Torres, President Ifill advised that there is not set number assigned to ROA. President Ifill assured the membership that through attrition 10 employees will be leaving by July, 2009.

President Ifill opened the floor for members to express there concern. Some members expressed their wish to vote on whether to give back the 3% to avoid layoffs.

President Ifill advised the General Membership that there will be a rally on April 30, 2009 at 11:30am at the Governor's Manhattan office to protest the layoffs.

DC-37 LOBBY DAY: will take place on May 5, 2009. Buses will be leaving from DC-37 at 7am and returning 7pm. Members are encouraged to attend.

President Ifill advised the General membership that DC-37, CSEA and PEF have filed improper practice charges against Governor Paterson for the 2009-2010 budget crises.

Due to the budget DHCR was asked to close three of its DRO offices. Effective May 29, 2009 all of the employees in the Nassau office will be reporting to the Gertz Plaza office. The employee in Staten Island has not decided which DRO to go to. There are is no staff in the Rockland office.

Ms. Phyllis Streeter, DC-37 Professional Rep. spoke to the membership concerning the procedure for voting. She also reminded the members that they are the union and must be involved.

Members received a letter from Civil Service notifying them that if they have dependents on their health insurance that legally should not be there should remove them or be subject to reimbursement.

EXAM FEES: effective May, 2009 there will be a charge for promotional exams. CSEA has filed improper charge against the agency. President Ifill has asked the DC-37's legal department to also file an improper charge against the agency.

DC-37 is celebrating their 65th anniversary. Please read the handout concerning the events.

CHASE CORPORATE CHALLENGE: Jeffrey Borden requested of the local

A motion to adjourn was made by Stacey Payton and seconded by John Lafferty. The motion was unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned 7:10pm.

CHARMAINE HARDAWAY