

DC-37 LOCAL 1359 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

May 11, 2010

PRESENT: See sign-in sheet.

A quorum was present.

President, Dennis Ifill called to order Local 1359 General Membership Meeting on May 11, 2010 at 6:00pm at Gertz Plaza, 6th floor cafeteria.

A motion was made to accept May 11, 2010 General Membership Minutes by Cheryl Fraser and seconded by Rosalinda. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report for expenses during the month of April reported in May 2010 by Stacey Payton and seconded by John Lafferty. Alexander Thomas stated the treasurer's report should be dated day/month/year to day/month/year. The motion was unanimously approved for expenses for the month of April 2010.

All matters relating to the AFSCME 2010 International Convention will be discuss at May 26, 2010 Special General Membership Meeting.

Early retirement incentive program:

Governor Patterson has proposed an early retirement incentive plan with age 55 with 25 years of service without being penalized; age 55 with 30 years of service will receive an extra month's credit for each year worked.

Furlough:

On April 4, 2010, the Governor has indicated to Legislature that he can not pay the 4% increase until he receive the budget.

On May 4, 2010, The Governor announced to Legislature, if there is no budget, state employees; DC 37, CSEA, UFT & PEF will be furloughed one (1) day per week (without pay).

On May 10, 2010, the Legislature approved the furlough package. The furlough package does not include MCs, political appointees, essential services employees and programs that are federally funded. The furlough will be one (1) day per week for eight (8) weeks to save an estimated \$250 million.

There are better ways to save \$250 million. Last year the state spent over \$2.9 billion on consultants and paid those providing professional services an average annual salary of \$160,719. Even including benefits this is 62% more than what it would cost for state employees to do the same work. The state should reduce the use of priced consultants before any state employee is furloughed or loses their job or pay. Replacing half the consultants with state employees will save the state over \$656 million over the next three years.

DC 37, CSEA and PEF have filed law suits against Governor Patterson furlough plan, and a number of state employees have volunteered and signed affidavits demonstrating how the furlough plan will affect them.

Picnic report by Vice President Adams:

A meeting was held on May 3, 2010. The picnic will be held on Thursday, August 5, 2010 at Jacob Riis Park in Far Rockaway. Volunteers are needed to serve the food; no buses will be provided; public transportation is available.

Various hand-outs were distributed. All members are encouraged to read the hand-outs for further information.

Jeffery Borden report on the Chase Corporate Challenge race:

17 members from DC 37 Local 1359 have been approved for the race on Thursday, June 17, 2010. A motion was made by Jeffery Borden to approved an additional \$237.00 to cover the cost of tee-shirts and seconded by Stacey Payton. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by John Lafferty for \$150.00 to purchase food for the runners and volunteers seconded by Darryl Adams. The motion was unanimously approved.

Volunteers are: Cheryl King and Rosalinda Nitard. All receipts with vouchers must be submitted to the Local 1359 Treasurer.

A demonstration will be held on Thursday, May 13, 2010 at the Governor's Office. All members are encouraged to attend.

A motion to adjourn was made by Cheryl Fraser and seconded by Brenda McKenzie. The motion was unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Michelle Chapman
Secretary, DC 37 Local 1359