

UUP General Membership Meeting
Thursday, April 14, 2005
SAC Auditorium
12 Noon

Officers in attendance: John P. Schmidt (presiding), Michael Zweig, Artie Shertzer, Marlene Brennan, Ed O'Connell, Bill Godfrey, Warren Randall, and Willa Smith (recorder)

Absent Officers: none

95 members from the Chapter were present.

Meeting commenced at 12:22 pm

Handouts: Agenda
Minutes from 10/26/04 General Membership Meeting
Chapter Budget Proposal – Sept. 2005-06
Flyer on Social Security Forum, to be held Friday, April 22, 2005

Motion (Feliciano/Randall) to approve minutes from General Membership Meeting on 10/26/04 carried.

Schmidt introduced Chapter Officers and Statewide Officers Feliciano and J. Wishnia.

Schmidt encouraged all to send in their election ballots, which are due in Albany by the end of April.

Schmidt announced that the budget for SUNY passed and included some positive additions to funding.

Schmidt noted that UUP has lifted the ban on eating at the Jasmine restaurant in the Wang Center. They are close to obtaining a collective bargaining agreement with the staff there, and he thanked all for their compliance with the boycott, which assisted towards unionizing this establishment.

Schmidt noted that there is a flyer on the upcoming Social Security Forum on Friday, April 22, and encouraged all to attend this informative meeting.

Schmidt congratulated the co-editors of our Chapter newsletter, Svoboda and Lutterbie, on the recent award from NYSUT. The article that was specifically acknowledged was one written by Artie Shertzer.

Schmidt introduced Feliciano, to speak to the importance of Vote/Cope contributions. Feliciano noted that Vote/Cope was instrumental in supporting advocate efforts, which assisted in securing an attractive budget this year for SUNY. He also extended an invitation

to all members to attend legislative advocacy meetings in Albany and asked those interested to contact him personally.

Schmidt presented, via power point, the proposed Chapter Budget for the next fiscal year, which begins in September 2005 and runs through the end of August 2006.

The presentation outlined the various expenditures by category, denoting how much of the budget they consumed as a percentage. It continued by illustrating the amount of income predicted to be received by the Chapter within the next year, followed by a proposal for next year's expenditures by category.

A motion (Zweig/Feliciano) to approve the proposed Chapter Budget for Fiscal Year beginning September 2005 through August 2006 carried, with 1 Nay and 0 Abstentions.

Schmidt discussed the statewide committee on the Future of SUNY, indicating his role as Committee Chair and his desire to open a dialogue with all members on this topic.

Schmidt noted that he had previously sent discussion points via campus mail to enhance today's discussion. Schmidt also presented, via power point, material relating to this topic.

Included in this presentation was a list of committee members, a statement outlining the current mission of SUNY, items which further this mission, and questions for consideration by the membership as we move this topic forward.

Schmidt noted that the most important questions are "What's missing from SUNY's mission statement?" and "What should be SUNY's top three priorities for the future?"

This presentation is also available via the Chapter website.

Members inquired as to where the topic of ethics in SUNY is addressed in the mission statement, the need for adequate staffing at SUNY as it moves forward, a need for a change in the SUNY Board of Trustees to ensure that those who represent the interests of SUNY are truly advocates for the betterment of the SUNY system.

Old Business – none presented

New Business – none presented.

Comments...

A member inquired as to whether the Statewide Benefits Director had been replaced. Schmidt responded that the new Director of Member Benefits is Doreen Bango.

A member inquired as to whether the Dental Benefits program has been/or will be enhanced. Schmidt will look into this issue.

A member asked about the Express Scripts program, citing that the service is terrible, payments have been lost, and no follow up to registrations. Schmidt will follow up on this issue.

Meeting adjourned at 1:04 pm.