COPE Santa Clara and San Benito Committee
December 3, 2013
SEIU 521 San Jose Office

Rosemary Romo called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. Sixteen members attended in person. The phone service did not work. **Minutes of October 9, 2013** COPE meeting were approved. The agenda was approved.

Motion by Sigala, Subega for $10,000 donation to Cupertino campaign for 2014 parcel tax election was approved. Cupertino School District Tax Election was described by member Roxanne Barnett. Brian O'Neill and Bob Sigala described their outreach with SEIU chapter regarding COPE membership and pension protection**.**

Early endorsements were discussed by Brian O'Neill. Dave Cortese and Paul Fong have been endorsed by SBLC previous to any SEIU input. January 8, 2014 at 6 pm SEIU endorsement meeting will replace January COPE meeting.

Bob Sigala discussed Retirees Holiday Party December 13. Barrels for toy donations will be in the SEIU lobby. The Toys for Tots event will be December 21. Cover California will have tables and needs volunteers.

SBLC provided informative handouts comparing charter vs regular schools for the Morgan Hill Rocketship application confrontation. December 11 the County Board of Education will hear arguments, including from Cindy Chavez.

Motion by Coston, Martinez-Rogers to authorize $5,000 if needed for the home care worker negotiations was approved. Home Care is heavily involved in COPE. A worker spoke in appreciation for the assistance.

Brian O'Neill provided a pension update. Next Pension Committee meeting will be December 11. Rosemary Romo voiced concern for the December 3 "Reform Pensions 2014" letter by Chuck Reed since it raised points that the public will support. Signatures have not yet been gathered for this effort.

Carol Garvey requested a letter from SEIU 521 to SEIU California urging reinstating their support for CARA, the organization supporting union efforts to maintain pensions.

April 5, 2014 will be COPE fundraiser at the Convention Center.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Next meeting will be an SEIU Endorsement Meeting on January 8, 2014.

Karen Lemes, Secretary