

SEIU LOCAL 521
SEJ COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 13, 2017

CALL TO ORDER: the meeting was call to order at 6:01 P.M. by Chair Alysia Bonner.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: welcome was extended to those present in person, via video conference and telephone. Attendance can be verified by sign-in sheets available at the Local Wide offices.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: the presentation by Alysia Bonner and Gwen Harshaw to honor current retiree Mariam Alvarez her dedication and hard work with the caucus. A glass plaque was presented to Mariam. Each Caucus chair spoke briefly about Mariam and her contributions with several also providing Mariam with a gift. Others attending also spoke of their memories of Mariam. Cake was then served. Several of Mariam's family members were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: motion made by Gwen Harshaw to approve the prior minutes as presented. Seconded by Roseann Dominquez. No discussion. Vote taken. Motion passed as presented.

OPEN FORUM: Karen Nakatani stated the Pam Rodgers had moved the Caucus items. Karen stated that Raquel Welch and herself will find out where the items have been moved and then do an inventory. Chair Bonner also discussed that when the weather gets warmer the Caucuses in Fresno will need to coordinate and also do an inventory.

Alysia Bonner Reported that via e-mail an amendment was made to the increase the amount of the cost spent on the plaque from \$100 to \$200.

There was discussions on Caucus's purchasing/replacing laptops. There is a policy regarding this item but it will be clarified at Budget and Finance. If unable to purchase out of specific caucus budget with approved motion it would then need to be budgeted for the next year.

Ethel Jackson stated that she would like to start a benevolence committee as part of SEJ. Tabled for further discussion.

Acting Community Political Director: Mai Thao reported that Brian O'Neill is currently in this position. until a new Community Political Director is hired.

Safe Haven – Fresno Unified School District: Sergio Garcia stated that FASTA and other groups are trying to get the Fresno Unified School District to declare F.U.S. D. as a safe haven so I.C.E. can't just arrive and remove children or obtain information regarding undocumented family members. President Gwen Harshaw and Rachel Subega stated that they think there is a local-wide resolution regarding this issue.

AFRAM – Patricia Stratham-Clay reported that AFRAM is in the process of scheduling several fund raising events in the next few month: Allensworth Historical Park/Town May 6, 2017 \$30; San Francisco June 16, 2017 and Gilroy Outlet Center \$45.

APALA – Nancy Her reported that that on May 13, 2017 the APALA Caucus is having its Heritage Month Celebration on May 13, 2017 at the Local Wide office in Fresno. Everyone is welcome to attend. Nancy also reported that they are in the process of planning a fundraising bus trip to Laughlin, Nevada September 8, 2017 through September 10, 2017. The cost of the trip will be \$130.

TREASURER'S REPORT: not available at this time.

Budgeted Items: none at this time

NEW BUSINESS:

Donation Request(s): none at this time

Caucus Reports

AFRAM

Fresno: main focus is on the Juneteenth Celebration

San Jose: they will be attending the National AFRAM Convention the end of March.

Also celebrating Black History Month.

APALA

Fresno: will be doing a fundraising bus trip for their scholarship. Also, May 13, 2017 will be their Asian Heritage Month event May 13, 2017

San Jose: May 20, 2017 will be the Caucus's Asian Heritage celebration. The theme will be "How does Immigration Affect Your Community". Several high school clubs and organizations will be invited to attend.

LATINO

Fresno: members will be attending the Aztec New Year in San Jose on March 11, 2017. The Caucus is also aligning with The Tower Challenge in Fresno. Members will also be participating in the N.A.M.I. walk this year on May 20, 2017.

San Jose: members attended a rally in Bakersfield at the office of McCarthy to let him know that people want to keep Medicare/medicaid. The office lights were off and the doors were closed. The Caucus also had 17 people attend the last meeting and 2 new members. They will also be participating in the Aztec New Year March 11, 2017 and March 12, 2017.

WOMEN'S: have completed updates in by-laws and were approved by members. Will also be attending the N.A.M.I. Walk.

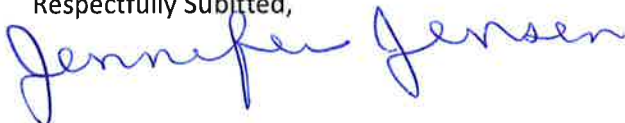
PWD – no report

NATIVE AMERICAN – no report

LAVENDER: no report

Meeting Adjourned at 7:49 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jennifer Jensen
Social Economic Justice (SEJ) Committee
Secretary