

**SEIU LOCAL 521  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
Red Lion Inn - Bakersfield Ca  
AUGUST 25, 2007**

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:46 PM.

A quorum was determined.

B. ROLL CALL

President Kristina M. Sermersheim	Present
Vice President Gwyn Harshaw	Present
Treasurer Vicki Avila	Not Present (Sick)
Arlene Ramos-Aninion (Member Involvement)	Present
Brian O'Neill (Committee on Political Education)	Present
Carmen Cruise (Education and Training Committee)	Present
Carmen Morales (Nurses)	Present
Dave Ediger	Present
Ellen Rollins (Homecare)	Present
Elsa Venegas (Member Organizing Committee)	Present
Harry Gamotan (Counties)	Present
Henry Ildefonso (Social and Economic Justice)	Present
Matt Nathanson (Health Care)	Present
Roseann Dominguez (Special Districts)	Present
Vickie Jauregui (Courts)	Present
Walt George (Cities)	Present
Alfred Issaco (At Large)	Present
Dean Carothers (At Large)	Present
John Gutierrez (At Large)	Present
Luis Aguilar (At Large)	Present
Rosemary Romo (At Large)	Not Present (Son in Hospital)
Scott Loberg (At Large)	Not Present (Sick)

4 Visitors

C. MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES – Minutes Approved

It was agreed to work agenda around visitors & the Kern Strike vote & work informally.

D. VICTORIES!

Kern County: Bargaining issues discussed. Big issues: retirement & retroactivity.

- E. Discussion on signing the Indemnity Agreement with Local 535 to take on all of the financial liabilities from 535 for units we are representing since we are getting all their assets.

Motion: Authorize Kristy Sermersheim to sign the Indemnity Agreement with Local 535. Walt George moved, Brian O'Neill 2<sup>nd</sup>. (One abstension)

#### F. POLITICAL DISCUSSION

Riko Mendez reported on Political activities.

Create Political Video @ MPAC convention to provide snippets of Presidential Candidates.

Send survey to members to get their feedback and ask questions of what they want us to do as the Presidential Candidates

Walk a day in my shoes

On September 20<sup>th</sup> possible have 521 meeting and do straw poll on who Local 521 will endorse?

Motion 1: To support the Measure T in this coming November 2007 election. SEIU 521 can support this tax initiative by donating \$5K to fund the campaign Yes on Measure T. This will come out of the Issues/Candidate Political account. Luis Aguilar moved, Brian O'Neill 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.

Motion 1.1: To divide \$.05 to issues account and \$.05 to candidates account and begin allocating funds (from budget line item 190 and 191) effective next pay period. Moved, Gwyn Harshaw 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.

Motion 2: Jefferson Jackson Dinner-Table for 10. Brian O'Neill moved to buy a table at dinner. Not to exceed \$1500 from Political Funds.

Motion 3: Matt Nathanson requested that the Executive Board purchase \$40 tickets at \$12.50 each (\$500) to the Labor Day Picnic in Santa Cruz. It is a fundraiser for the Central Labor Council. A lot of politicians come to this event to show their "pro-labor attributes" and this year we are wanting to have a lot of members there to corner the city council members and county supervisors who show up so we can pressure them about our contract negotiations. The County contract expires September 10, and the City contract expires in early October, so this is a great venue for action. Matt Nathanson moved, Walt George 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried. Political motion regarding lobbying rules in San Mateo County. Political Funds.

Motion 4: To donate \$300 from the General Fund to cover Lance Olson's expenses regarding lobbying rules in San Mateo County. Brian O'Neill moved, Gwyn Harshaw 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.

G. CONFIRMATION ON EMAIL POLLS:

Motion 5: Buy 1500 Silver Circle sponsor (table of 10) for Elaine Alquist for \$1500 from the Political Account. Motion carried.

Motion 6: Buy a table of 8 for \$350 for the Democratic Women of Kern breakfast. Arlene Ramos-Aninion moved, Gwyn Harshaw 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.

Motion 7: Request \$250.00 to be contributed from the Santa Clara County Vision fund to repay the funds used for "Take Your Child to Work Day." Gwyn Harshaw moved, Carmen Cruise 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.

IMPAC: The following people signed up to attend the IMPAC Convention in Washington DC: Gwyn Harshaw, Vicki Avila, Ellen Rollins, John Gutierrez, Henry Ildefonzo, Elsa Venegas, Luis Aguilar, Dean Carothers, Brian O'Neill, Walt George.

H. DISCUSSION ON EMAIL POLLS

Walt George and others had a concern about phone polls of Executive Board.

Dave Ediger and several others want to know what line item poll is coming from.

Elsa wants a confirmation on the poll after it is done. After much discussion, the following was recommended:

RULES FOR POLLS:

- 1) It shouldn't be done very often
- 2) Define the line item it is coming from
- 3) Committees should have Budget as to how to spend monies
- 4) Requests for money should be submitted by Board cut off, otherwise it is the next meeting date.
- 5) Develop standing motion to authorize up to a certain amount. Chapter must approve first.

**SEIU LOCAL 521  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 26, 2007**

- A. CALL TO ORDER  
Meeting called to order @ 8:12AM.
  
- B. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

**GOOD & WELFARE COMMITTEE**

John Gutierrez reported on newly formed Good & Welfare Committee. This committee was developed from July 23's Executive Board Conference Call. There are areas of good and welfare which are important to members. A good functioning committee should be set up and defined at Advisory Committee of October 5<sup>th</sup>. This committee will develop proposed structure to present to Advisory Committee. Areas to define: Hardship, Catastrophe and Emergency, Community Connections, Benefits/Goodies, Scholarships/Education.

**SEJ COMMITTEE**

Henry Idefonzo reported on SEJ Committee. Discussed update on US Social Forum held in Atlanta (Reference SEJ Report).

May is Asian-Pacific Heritage month and this could be an activity that we could get our Asian Pacific members to help organize an activity or a display of Asian Pacific labor events/leaders in each of our offices.

Motion 8: Accept revised SEJ Budget as presented to Executive Board in the amount of \$38,550 with the understanding if APALA or Lavender Caucus requests funds, the budget will get reallocated to these committees to help fund. SEJ, AFRAM and Latino Caucus may have to cancel plans/trips if the other committees are in need of funds for activities. Gwyn Harshaw moved, Elsa Venegas 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**ORGANIZING REPORT**

Elsa Venegas made a report on organizing. 1) Fresno county extra help reached majority. 2) Mariposa County Agency Shop filed and mailed ballot. Ballots will be counted on 09/13/07. 3) Kern County 30 day posting period for objections to the certification of the Extra Help has passed. Now focusing on Negotiations and finalizing recognition with County. This is the largest victory for the Public Sector since homecare organized 10 years ago!

**EXECUTIVE SESSION @ 9:30M**

Motion: Roseann Dominguez to approve minutes of July 24 with spelling corrections. Motion carried.

C. PERSONNEL ISSUES

Discussion was made on CWA and OPEIU Negotiations.

D. ORGANIZING PERSONNEL ISSUES

Arlene Ramos-Aninion discussed personnel issues with organizing department.

EXECUTIVE SESSION END @ 10:30AM.

Motion 9: Request for \$500 to purchase food and place and local park to have barbeque for Homecare workers and family on September 29, 2007. Propose to take money from 10-month general fund line items 209 or 210. On June's Income statement, see line items 146 & 147. Gwyn Harshaw moved, Elsa Venegas 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.

E. GUEST SPEAKER

Norma Barragan presented a bill about AB1164 California Childcare. This is a Bill about quality Family Childcare (see flyer SEIU Kids first). Norma Barragan is asking Local 521 to send greeting cards to send to the governor. She is asking us to take a packet of 10, then return to Norma Barragan.

Motion 10: Authorize Kristy Sermersheim to settle staff contract using SEIU International's strike funds to purchase California Membership Service (2S04640) and using their fund to reimburse Local 521 strike fund of up to \$500K by December 31, 2008. Withdrew motion.

Motion 11: Authorize Kristy Sermersheim to utilize the money from the strike/defense fund at the International Union in the name of the legacy locals to pay off cost of trusteeship at Local 700 an the first phase of the infrastructure California Membership System and Service Information Center project and to deposit up to \$500K to Local 521's strike/defense fund by December 31, 2008.

F. IFC DISCUSSION

Kristy Sermersheim discussed the Institute for Change-CA Dream Classes. Kristy Sermersheim discussed Executive Board Training for \_\_\_\_ & Local 99, September 27-29 in San Diego.

Motion 12: To use \$42,979 out of staff/executive board training (Line 120 from June's Income Statement Report) to pay for 2007 portion of IFC training.

G. FRESNO/VISALIA PROPERTIES

Motion 13: Approve a committee to review options and report back to consider making an offer on Fine Avenue or another appropriate location and determine what is the actual amount we can afford and is it to our advantage to own a property in Fresno. Or evaluate leasing another property closer to the county building or leasing the building on Fine Avenue. Report due by October 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. Motion carried.

Motion 13.1: Approve a committee to review options and report back to consider making an offer on Sunnyside Avenue or another appropriate location and determine what is the actual amount we can afford and if it is to our advantage to own a property in Visalia. Report back by October 20<sup>th</sup>.

Motion 14: The Executive Board of Fresno PACE met and authorized the following checks: \$2500 to Susan B. Anderson for Supervisor, FPPC #12199996, 1117 W. San Jose Avenue, Fresno, CA 93711. \$500 to Fresno Fire Chief's Foundation, P.O. Box 107, Fresno, CA 937017-0107, Tax ID#77-0638329. This check would have to come out of the Issues Account. Motion carried.

Motion 15: Executive Board to support Member Service Center. Walt George moved, Gwyn Harshaw 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.

Motion 16: To send two RN Representatives to each BRN meeting according to the attached meeting schedule. Fiscal impact for 2007: Per diem and airfare/mileage and lost time for two RN's for two days in September and November and one day in October to be budgeted on line item 214-Member Reimbursement/Lost Time. The RN's will be asked to issue a short report to the Executive Board and membership following their attendance. I will send each RN an agenda approximately 10 days prior to the meeting. Grace and I (Carmen Morales) will personally brief them beforehand. Carmen Morales moved.

Motion 17: The Retired Member's Committee requests SEIU sponsor three Committee Officers who will be voting delegates at the Cara Convention at a cost of \$175 each (\$100 registration/attendance and \$75 banquet) for a total of \$525.00 (\$700 with Dolores M), 2 rooms for 2 nights (Sat and Sun) at \$121.55 each night (tax included) totals \$486.20 (\$729.30 w/ Dolores), and airfare of approx. \$600 for 3, \$800 for 4. Grand total is \$1611.20 for 3, or \$2229.30 for 4-Dolores Manning from Santa Cruz. The San Jose contingent will be Carol Garvey-Chair, Cathy Rogers-Vice Chair, and Fernando Enciso-Chair Retiree' Assistance Committee. Dolores Manning is Chair of the Santa Cruz Chapter's Retiree Committee. John Gutierrez moved, Gwyn Harshaw 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.

John Gutierrez closed meeting with prayer for Luisa Blue, Rosemary Romo and son, Kelly West's father, and for Marlene Diaz and husband for healing.

MEETING ADJOURNED @ 1:00 PM.