

Spring Lake Park Teachers United Executive Council Meeting

Wednesday, November 18, 2020 4:15 pm Webex Meeting

Present:

Kathleen Stalnaker, President	Kristine Powell, WW 7-8 Rep
Mary Mohr-Scinocca, Vice President	Scott Ecker, WW 5-6 Rep
Ann Baldwin, Secretary	Samantha Waibel, WC Rep
Kari Walton, Treasurer	Mary Strohmayer, PT Rep
Andy Walsh, Membership Chair	Jake Harren, NP Rep
Brenna Bloome, HS Rep & NSSU Rep	Alexis Martinson Stewart, EC/ABE Rep
Mariah Anderson, CV Rep	

Absent: none

Guest: Beth Anderson, Education MN Field Rep

The meeting was called to order by President Kathleen Stalnaker at 4:18 pm.

Secretary's Report: Ann Baldwin asked for corrections to the minutes from the October 21, 2020, SLPTU Executive Council meeting. The minutes were approved by consent.

Treasurer's Report: Kari Walton presented the current budget status and a summary of expenditures since our last meeting. State dues went up by \$10. National dues and NSSU remained the same. We decided to keep local dues the same in September. Total annual dues increased from \$834.16 to \$844.16 for full-time teachers. This amounts to \$52.76 per paycheck. See attached summary for information about dues for part-time teachers. See attached dues breakdown for complete information.

Membership Report: Andy Walsh reported there are 439 teachers in the district. 48 are potential members, 8 are Tier 1 teachers, and 383 are SLPTU members.

NSSU Report: Brenna Bloome reported that the North Suburban Service Unit has the opportunity to offer negotiations training. The state bargaining conference is virtual on January 30th. NSSU is discussing different ways to do Pizza and Politics. Certificates from MEA for continuing ed can be sent to your building reps to be put in a drawing.

ECLF Report: Brenna Bloom reported the Early Career Leadership Fellowship team has paired new teachers with experienced teachers. They held a Zoom hangout for new teachers. It went well. The ECLF team is finding their focus is turning to how to keep morale up.

Business:

Face Masks from SLPTU: Brenna Bloom contacted Bob Lorence, Print Promotion and Mailing Supervisor at Ed MN. 450 face masks have been ordered. They are red one-size-fits. Maria Ahrndt created the design.

Election Runner Update: Kathleen is waiting to hear back from Jan Burda.

Survey Monkey: Kathleen would like to use Survey Monkey to gather data for negotiations purposes. It would also be used to gather information useful to building reps. Mary Strohmayer made a **motion** to purchase Survey Monkey for a year. Mary Mohr-Scinocca seconded. Discussion: We would like additional information about the cost and features available. Brenna Bloome proposed a friendly amendment that states we will investigate the cost of Survey Monkey with a side-by-side comparison before making a decision. Mary Strohmayer accepted the friendly amendment. Motion carried. Brenna will create the comparison document for our next meeting.

Call for Negotiators: The call for nominations for the Negotiations Team will go out by the second week of December. The Ed MN bargaining conference is virtual on January 30th.

End of the Year Audit: Three people are needed to conduct the end-of-the-year audit. We will check with Ed MN about how this should take place this year.

Pressing Issues: Expectations of teaching from home versus at school. Teachers need to speak to their building administration if they are not comfortable working directly with students. Ed MN is asking the commissioner: When is the point when no one should be in the building? The issue about what is fair versus what is equitable has come up.

Ed MN Update: Beth Anderson, Education MN field rep, shared that some of the presentations from MEA are available in LearnUpon, Ed MN's continuing ed platform. The plan to bring in to school students with special needs during 100% distance learning is permissive. It is not required. Governor Walz is speaking tonight at 6:00 about new COVID directives. Beth is available to support all members.

Let Them Learn advocates were at the last school board meeting to ask that the school buildings stay open. Dr. Ronneberg stated he would follow the recommendations of the regional support team.

The council discussed ways to share what's happening in the union with the teachers. One suggestion was a SLPTU Facebook group. A SLPTU officer could attend each building's Ten Minute Meeting. Beth offered the resources of Ed MN to host informational sessions.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 20, 2021. No meeting in December.

Meeting adjourned 5:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Baldwin, Secretary