

Spring Lake Park Teachers United Executive Council Meeting

Thursday, September 10, 2020 4:15 pm Webex Meeting

Present:

Kathleen Stalnaker, President
Mary Mohr-Scinocca, Vice President
Ann Baldwin, Secretary
Kari Walton, Treasurer
Andy Walsh, Membership Chair
Brenna Bloome, HS Rep & NSSU Rep

Kristine Powell, WW 7-8 Rep
Scott Ecker, WW 5-6 Rep
Samantha Waibel, WC Rep
Mary Strohmayer, PT Rep
Jake Harren, NP Rep
Alexis Martinson Stewart, EC/ABE Rep
-currently no CV Rep

Absent: none

Guest: Beth Anderson, Education MN Field Rep

The meeting was called to order by President Kathleen Stalnaker at 4:09 pm.

Secretary's Report: Ann Baldwin asked for corrections to the minutes from the May 20, 2020, SLPTU Executive Council meeting and the August 13, 2020, SLPTU planning meeting. The minutes were approved by consent.

Treasurer's Report: Standing in for Kari Walton, who was not able to be present for the first part of the meeting, Kathleen Stalnaker presented the current budget status and a summary of expenditures since the end of last school year. Expenses included \$1,000 for the SLPHS scholarship, \$282 for \$50 gift cards and cards for 2020 retirees, \$204 for the TOTY awards, \$87 for website fees, and \$400 for Caribou gift cards for the ECLF program. Building reps returned the \$99 overages that were mistakenly included in their stipends last spring.

Membership Report: Andy Walsh reported he sent an email to building reps listing the potential members in their buildings, both new teachers and returning teachers who are currently not SLPTU members. Check the list for accuracy and notify Andy of any corrections. There have been a number of hires in the last week-and-a-half.

NSSU Report: Brenna Bloome reported that the North Suburban Service Unit has not had their first meeting of the year yet. They are considering holding a fall training in late October or early November. If you are concerned about meeting relicensure requirements, you can look at Education MN's online platform called LearnUpon. Ed MN can help you get logged on.

ECLF Report: Brenna reported she stopped by the second day of the New Teacher Workshop and handed out Caribou gift cards and membership applications. Twelve new teachers expressed an interest in having a guide teacher (mentor). One new teacher at NP would like a guide teacher, but there is currently no one at NP interested in being a guide teacher.

Business:

Upcoming Election: Andy received stickers from Ed MN to be distributed to teachers to remind them to vote and a voter pledge card. He has enough for all members. Mary Mohr-Scinocca shared that the PAC board would love members to receive those within the next week because mail-in voting starts September 18th. The council discussed the idea of having a competition between buildings to pledge to vote. A **motion** was made by Mary Mohr-Scinocca to run a contest to see which building can turn in the largest percentage of pledges to vote. Brenna Bloome seconded. **Motion carried.**

Constitution Change: Language for the paperwork retention policy will be presented at the general membership meeting on September 17th so all members can review it prior to holding a vote to add this language to the constitution and bylaws. We discussed this policy last year. A general membership meeting was not held in the spring to vote on this language due to COVID-19, so it was moved to this fall. There must be ten days between the announcement of the proposed change to the constitution and bylaws and the general meeting. Then there needs to be ten days between the meeting and the vote. Mary Mohr-Scinocca will look into an online voting process. She will send the information to council members and we will hold the vote via email.

Records Retention Policy:

Secretary:

The Secretary will follow through on the records retention policy.

1. The policy will result in all records (minutes, financial, agenda) retained for seven (7) years.
2. At the end of seven (7) years the records will be destroyed in such manner that confidentiality will not be breached.
3. The outgoing Secretary will transfer storage of the records to the next Secretary.

Treasurer:

The Treasurer will follow through on the records retention policy.

1. The policy will result in all financial records retained for seven (7) years.
2. At the end of seven (7) years the records will be destroyed in such a manner that confidentiality will not be breached.
3. The outgoing Treasurer will transfer storage of the records to the next Treasurer.

Honoring Retirees: Gift cards for retirees have been purchased and will be sent out before the end of the month. We were not able to have a get-together during the summer because of COVID precautions, nor is a fall gathering likely.

Last Year's Teachers of the Year: Since it doesn't look like we will be able to have a gathering to honor the Teacher of the Year nominees and winners, a video will be produced that names the nominees and shows the winners getting their trophy presented to them by their building rep. The video will be sent out to the membership. Kathleen will work with Ed MN to create a video.

Building Affiliation of EFL Teachers: Question: Should EFL teachers have their own building rep or should they report to the building they are assigned to? The consensus was they should continue to connect with the union in their assigned building.

SLPTU Face Masks: SLPTU will be ordering masks with lanyards for all members. Ed MN is reimbursing locals \$5 per member for swag.

Community Building Activity: We would like to recruit the ECLF to brainstorm and implement a community building activity in October that takes into account members onsite and offsite. One suggestion is to deliver/mail SLPTU masks with a gift card.

Wednesdays at the Elementary Level: At the elementary level, no 2nd-4th graders are in their school buildings on Wednesdays. For 2nd-4th grade teachers, it is designated as planning time, team time, and small group and 1:1 sessions on Webex with students. The question has been asked: Are 2nd-4th grade teachers expected to be onsite on these days? Currently, that is the expectation.

Proposed Increase in Certain Stipends: A proposal to increase stipends for building reps and the negotiations team by 50% was presented. The workload for these positions has increased over time. That's also the case for the membership chair. More information is needed about the impact to the budget, etc. Tabled until next meeting.

10-Minute Meetings: The council agreed they would like to see 10-Minute Meetings resume. Ed MN has resources and topics for 10-Minute Meetings, if needed. A representative from Ed MN could come and facilitate a Q and A session.

2020-2021 Budget: This will be voted on at the October meeting. The council agreed to leave the local portion of dues at its current amount.

Membership forms: Andy will send membership forms to the buildings. Teachers can also complete the membership form online at Ed MN.

Education MN Update: Beth Anderson, Education MN Field Rep, shared that she is helping members and locals with back-to-school issues. Teachers can now apply for Ed MN membership online. The platform is called JoinNow. Ed MN now has an online professional development site: Learnupon@edmn.org. Ed MN has your login information. This was sent to members in July 2020.

Issues with Current Learning Formats: Kathleen was involved in the district's planning efforts for this fall. If you have concerns, Kathleen and the district will work with you on solutions. If you have OSHA questions, contact Kathleen.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 13th, 2020, at 4:15 pm via Webex.
Kathleen will share future meeting dates later this week.
Meeting adjourned 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Baldwin, Secretary