

Teamsters Local 31 Membership Meeting
Abbotsford School District

March 5, 2015

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Arlene Munoz, Business Agent

Report from Arlene Munoz, Business Agent

1. Arlene informed the membership that member Vern Eckstein, (sp) from the Custodial Department is doing much better
2. Job Descriptions- Marnie Wright, HR Director has told Arlene that HR has completed the job descriptions for clerical and bus drivers. Arlene and two other members are going Monday to review and compare to previous job descriptions.
3. Dayshift Custodian Job Content Review is on Ray Velestuk's desk waiting for his signature.
4. Trades – Carpenters Job Content Review is going to appeal. Arlene will meet with them to help them with their appeal submission
5. Bus Drivers are having trouble with their Weekly Indemnity submissions- re: guaranteed hours versus regular weekly hours. HR had been completing the paperwork at 25 hours instead of the regular weekly hours. Arlene has spoken to HR and they have backtracked on two submissions.

Report from President Hennessy

1. President Hennessy reported that the local has filed against the District in regards to bad faith bargaining. Local 31 has taken the District to issue about the strike fund monies. The District has refused. Local 31 has filed against the District saying it is depriving members of money. Legal counsel for the Local has contacted Stan re: contacting CUPE to speak on our behalf. Stan suggested contacting CUPE's legal counsel. Issue is also with BCPSEA. Stan received a call from the School District late this afternoon asking for availability for meeting for bargaining. The District has asked for dates that Stan is unavailable. Stan has offered alternate dates. Legal issue will continue until agreement is reached.
2. President Hennessy also reported that Dave Reynolds, Legal Counsel will become part of Local 31 as of April 1, 2015.
3. President Hennessey also reported that the Local is going to be hiring another Business Agent for the School District membership.
4. Pension Plan- President Hennessy supports the motion that had been brought forward at the February 2015 meeting to compare the Teamster Pension Plan and the Municipal Pension Plan. There is a meeting scheduled with the Teamster Pension Plan Trustees tomorrow, including Marnie Wright. This has been an ongoing issue and the

membership should look into it. President Hennessey stated that it has been one of the best investment years.

Member: Regarding the money for bargaining. What is the Union asking for?

President Hennessy: : Asking for the money from the 33 strike days. We were sitting, preparing to reach an agreement but management was denying members the money 30 days prior to the Provincial deadline. The District said that BCPSEA would not agree to it.

Member: Re: Willing to do a comparison of Pension Plans. Is the Local going to do a comparison themselves or is it going to be how the motion was stated?

President Hennessy: Not sure, would like to look at a possible third party. Whether the motion was in order or not. To have the membership divided is not useful. When the banter turns to disunity, it is not helpful

Member: Concern that the Local is not following the motion and that the vote on the pension would not happen before ratification.

President Hennessy: It would happen before ratification if the members have patience for the collective agreement. Recommending follow through and a vote. Has to go the trustees of the Pension. This is an issue that needs to be resolved.

Member: Suggest that a committee be formed with four members to assist with the motion

President Hennessy: That isn't necessary

Member: When will you meet with the Municipal Pension Plan trustees?

Pres: Will call them after meeting with the Teamster Pension Plan trustees tomorrow.

Member: Expressed concern about the respect shown during meetings

President Hennessy: Felt there had been respect

Member: Where are minutes from last meeting?

President Hennessy: Understood that minutes were given to secretarial staff to post on the web.

Arlene Munoz, BA: Will look into it tomorrow

Member: Opportunity to thank the Union for giving some concrete information re: motion. Will what you find out tomorrow be posted.

President Hennessy: Yes, it will be as soon as possible

Member: What is the reason for the new Business Agent?

President Hennessy: The size of the membership.

Member: Think that the problem isn't the number of BA's but the number of shop stewards.

President Hennessy: Couldn't agree more. Welcomes new stewards, if anyone in the room is volunteering. Suggested an election for shop stewards.

Member: Want to thank Arlene, she is always available. If information comes after the meeting with the trustees, then he will support Stan.

Member: Important to move forward in unity.

Member: Question about reduction in pension if retire before 67.

President Hennessy: Our intent is to make that penalty free.

Member: Why was it done on a percentage basis rather than a set dollar amount?

President Hennessy: Requirement to do it on an even balanced approach from the Government. Needs to be at 115%. History given about when the Plan came into and all members were granted 9 years credit. This did not include School District employees, as they were not part of the original plan.

Member: Comment that Teamsters is only a truckers' union.

Meeting called to adjourn at 7:45 by Arlene Munoz, Business Agent

Draw:

Janice Hawksbey- coffee cup
Norm Taylor- t-shirt
Derrick Anderson- water bottle

Submitted by:
Leslie Carter