



PAFSCME Local 443

Washington Federation of State Employees, AFL-CIO

March 17, 2009

WFSE Local 443
General Membership Meeting
Capitol Campus, GA Auditorium
6:00 – 9:00 pm

Meeting called to order at 6:11 pm. President Shellie Savage presiding.

Roll Call of Local 443 Executive Board: All present, the remaining Board Members were excused:
Tee Hall, DeFrance Clark, Cheryl Flynn, Joanne Bird, Del Jensen, Alanna Gehr

M/S/P Adoption of Agenda

Minutes for February 17, 2009 General Membership Meeting:
M/S/P

Obligation of New Members:

Rachel Burke, TESC
Kristin Nielsen, Dept. Fish & Wildlife
Jennifer Pickering, Dept. Fish & Wildlife

Special Order of Business:

Rally
Next Wave

Guest Speakers:

Sherri Goulet, Thurston County Progressive Network
Sandra Romero, Progressive Majority
Howard Okavan

Staff Reports:

Tana Dann
Joan Gallahger

Old Business:

M/S/P Untable motion for:

M/S/P Local 443 will provide \$1200 to Thurston County Progressive Network to underwrite their activities for the next 12 months.

M/S/P Untable motion for:

M/S/P Local 443 will sponsor Olympia Pride Event in June with \$500 donation from Community Outreach budget.

New Business:

M/S/P Local 443 will donate \$300 from Women's budget to the Backpack Program sponsored by the Thurston County Food Bank.

M/S/P Local 443 will donate \$200 from the Women's budget to the Reading Foundation.

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M/S/P Resolution: Relief Program

WHEREAS, the members of our union on occasion fall on hard times which are extraordinary and beyond their control and;

WHEREAS, the economic situation of today offers no help or support; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Council 28 will establish an ongoing hardship relief program to help individuals in need to further our union.

M/S/TABLED Resolution: Thurston County Commissioner's Budget

WHEREAS, budget times are tough and 443 members should have a say in how their county spends its funds;

WHEREAS, Thurston County Sheriff's office has already cut \$600,000+ from its budget;

WHEREAS, the members of Local 443 PAC discussed this issue and expressed their grave concerns over this irresponsible approach to managing the counties budget and felt the need for action is urgent to stop the \$1.9 million cuts;

WHEREAS, this letter of protest was crafted and then reviewed by 443 Executive Board via Email giving all Executive Board members a chance to offer comment;

WHEREAS, the safety of our families in our community are always at the forefront of Local 443 memberships concerns and cutting sheriff funds by \$1.9 million is not acceptable.

THEREFORE be it resolved, that the membership of Local 443 oppose the decision of Thurston County Commissioners to cut another \$1.9 million from the Thurston Counties Sheriff budget, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Local 443 membership adopts the letter of protest as a means to communicate with the county commissioners; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the Secretary of Local 443 deliver a copy of the adopted letter to each Thurston County Commissioner, President Carol Dotlich, and PAC director, Dennis Eagle asking them to help with the concerns of Local 443 membership by not cutting the Sheriff's budget.

M/S/P Resolution: Support Continued Funding for the Labor Center at The Evergreen State College

WHEREAS, The Evergreen State College Labor Center is the only publicly funded program in the state that provides direct labor education to union members; and

WHEREAS, the Labor Center has a 22 year track record of providing trainings and workshops for individual unions and of sponsoring innovative conferences and schools for union members and the broader public; and

WHEREAS, the Labor Center plays a critically important role in educating union leaders and rank and file members in Washington State; and

WHEREAS, WFSE Local 443 has been a long time supporter of the Labor Center, as exhibited by the five scholarships Local 443 provides each year for women to attend the Summer School for Union Women; and

WHEREAS, one of the three Labor Center Directors to date was for a time the president of Local 443, and the current Director has maintained his membership in the local during his nearly nine years as director; and

WHEREAS, the Labor Center along with other Public Service Centers at Evergreen, has been identified as likely program to be eliminated in the next biennium in order to help the college meet its budget reduction target; and

WHEREAS, elimination of the Center will be permanent, even if the economic crisis is temporary: Labor Center staff could not walk away from their jobs for a biennium, then walk back in and pick up where they left off; and

WHEREAS, this permanent loss would be a serious blow to labor education in Washington State; and

WHEREAS, the Labor Center was created and expanded with legislative support and funding, and that funding was not meant to function as a reserve the college could draw on in the event of an economic downturn; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Local 443 will communicate to Evergreen's President its support for the Labor Center and will encourage him to balance Evergreen's budget without abolishing the Center; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Local 443 will ask the Executive Board and Labor Council of the Washington Federation of State Employees to encourage state legislators to identify through the budget writing process funds whose specific purpose will be to keep the Labor Center operating at its present level of funding, or something close to it.

M/S/F Donate \$300 worth of gift cards for contest prizes to radio station for public recognition from Organizing budget.

M/S/TABLED Donate \$2500 to Progressive Majority

Treasurers Report from July 1, 2008 through March 13, 2009:

M/S/P adopted

Income	\$343,462.16
Expenses	\$262,916.09
Net Income	\$80,546.07

New budget discussions will be held during April General Meeting.

Committee Reports:

Political Action– Rally
Shop Steward – Phone banking

M/S/P: Policy Committee Nominations

- Steve Segal

Agency Reports

- DOC
- OIC
- ESD
- TESC
- DSHS
- DOH

Good and Welfare:

- Pass the hat
- Missing state employee
- Tee's fundraiser

- Seniority lists
- Artesian well is being kept open
- FEMLA/part timers
- Breast Cancer Walk – donations in May
- BBQ for SB5800
- Easter, Barb's Family & Friends, Saturday before Easter. Volunteers/donations needed.

Door Prize: Kristin Nielsen
Susan Kneeland

Move to Adjourn at 8:22 pm