



## LOCAL 1796 WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY

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Susanna Tardi, Ph.D., President

### AFT LOCAL 1796

at

#### William Paterson University of New Jersey Minutes of General and Executive/Local Council Meeting

Date: April 15, 2003

Lunch was served

Location: SC 203, 204, 205

Time: 12:30pm - 1:55pm (Approximate)

Present: Robert Bing, Susanna Tardi, Charles Magistro, Aria Cheo, Diana Peck, Marty Rudnick, Robert Murphy, Robert Harris, Linda Gazzillo Diaz, Burt Weltman, Iris DiMaio, Thomas Gundling, Angela Delaura, Kevin Martus, Chriss Williams, Daphne Joslin, Marion Turkish, David Stern, Shawn Ross, Ming Jian, Kem Louie, John Peterman, Al Montare, Djanna Hill, Mytheli Arenivas (for Arlene Scala), Bob Wolk, Richard Kearney, Jean Levitan, Eleanor Goldstein, Marjorie Goldstein, Louis Rivela, Linda Dye, Amy Giovanetti, Donna Cedio Fengya, Sherry Xu, Jane Hutchison

#### *Items distributed to the Council and general membership:*

- 1) Proposed 04/15/2003 meeting agenda
- 2) Minutes of 03/13/2003 meeting (second distribution)
- 3) Slate (second reading) for AFT Local 1796 Officers, Committee Chairs, Department/Unit Reps, and Delegates to State Council
- 4) Announcement flyers for Joe Hill Lecture by Irwin Nack, Monday April 27, 2003 at 7:00pm, American Labor Museum/Botto House National Landmark
- 5) Copies of Officers' Scope of Responsibilities for President, Vice President of Negotiations and Internal Relations/Chief Negotiator, Professional Staff Representative, Librarian Representative, and two new positions: President Emeritus and Web Master
- 6) Domestic Partnership Legislative Talking Points (Re: Letter from Bob Murphy to Council of New Jersey State Colleges Local)

#### *Items circulated to the Council and General membership:*

Proposed 2003-2004 budget (First Reading)

<b>Reminder!! Spring 2003 last meeting Date: Tuesday: 5/13/03, Room: SC 203, 4, 5</b>
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- NOTE:**
1. *All motions were approved unanimously unless stated otherwise.*
  2. *All follow up work to be carried out are in italics.*

1. Call to Order-

Upon reaching a quorum, the meeting was called to order by Bob Bing at about 12:38pm. The meeting proceeded according to the proposed agenda.

2. Approval of agenda –

Addition of the following items were suggested:

- a. New item 4.e: Support for Jane Hutchison's campaign (Wayne Board of Education membership)
- b. New item 4.f: Compensation to members negotiating on the Master Agreement Team
- c. Renumber 4.e as 4.g.

Motion: To approve the agenda as amended above:

Moved by Al Montare, seconded by David Stern. The motion passed.

3. Approval of Minutes of March 13, 2003

One amendment was suggested: It should include an amendment to append 2/13/03 meeting minutes on the last sentence of p.3 to read as " This will be included as part of our next Master Agreement".

Motion: To approve the minutes of 03/13/03 meeting as amended:

Marion Turkish moved, Bob Murphy seconded. The motion passed.

Note: Contact Aria Cheo after the meeting if any additional changes are needed

4. President's Report- Bob Bing:

a. A moment of Silence in Memoriam for Neil Grant:

Bob Bing asked members to offer a moment of silence in memoriam for Neil Grant, a strong Union supporter, colleague and a friend, who just passed away. Members did so by standing in silence.

b. Report on AFT Higher Education Conference:

Bob Bing, Sue Tardi and Linda Gazzillo attended the conference in Atlanta. It was informative and useful. The workshops were the best part of the Conference. Bob Bing attended two workshop sessions, Strategic Planning and Budget and Federal Higher-Ed Act Impacts. He gained many insights regarding each area. Sue Tardi added that she learned a great deal from the workshops on Distance Learning and the Politics of State Government. Linda Gazzillo attended workshops on Health Benefits and also found them to be informative. Nick Yovnello, Our State AFT Local President, chaired the session. Bob Bing commented that Nick refused to buy tickets to attend the Governor's fund raising event. He wants to see a strong governor's support for Higher Education in New Jersey to materialize in order to merit our support. AFT National President, Sandra Feldman, came to New Jersey to attend this fund raising event and offered to pay for AFT tickets. Nick rightfully refused and explained that by not purchasing tickets we are making a strong, unified statement: AFT checkbook is closed until the Governor provides the support we need and that he promised.

- c. **Our thanks to Robert Harris for his Service as the Communication Officer:**  
**Bob Bing thanked Robert for his service as Communication Officer for the past three years.**

- d. **Legislative Breakfast-4/16/03- Hobart Manor from 8:45-10:15am.**  
**Bob Bing reminded the members of this event, and urged all to attend. Senator John Girgenti and Nia Gill, a rep from Senator Byron Baer and Assemblyman Johnson responded positively to our invitation. President Speert and two Representatives from the Provost's office, Dr. Stephen Hahn and Dr. Pedro Martinez, will attend. The main issue we will share with the legislators is the budget cuts imposed on State Higher Education Institutions. We have already begun to see an increase on the faculty and staff workload without compensation.**

- e. **Local 1796's support to Jane Hutchison's campaign for Wayne Township Board of Education membership-**

**Bob Bing explained the rationale for the Executive Committee's recommendation to support Jane's election. The committee recognized the continuous contributions that Jane has made to our Local, especially regarding her efforts in providing the Strike Headquarters free of charge four years ago.**

**Motion: To support Jane Hutchison's campaign to gain a seat on the Wayne Township Board of Education by providing a financial contribution of \$100 to her campaign fund.**

**Moved by the Executive Committee, seconded by Linda Dye. The motion carried.**

- f. **Compensation to members of Master Agreement Team.**  
**Bob Bing and sue Tardi explained the background and need for this provision. A motion was entertained from the floor:**

**Motion: To compensate two non-officer members of the team, Bob Wolk and Linda Dye to receive \$100.00 per negotiation session throughout the entire negotiation period (retro-active to March 2003), and Judy Matthew for the summer negotiation while she will not receive any summer stipend from the Local.**

**The Executive Committee moved, Marjorie Goldstein seconded. The motion passed.**

- g. **Thanks to Local 1976-**

**Bob Bing thanked the members again for their support for the past 14 years while he served as VP for Grievance and then as the President. The members honored him once again by a standing ovation. Linda Dye added her deep gratitude to Bob Bing for his help to her and his dedication to the Local.**

**Motion: The minutes to reflect this body's deep gratitude and appreciation to Bob Bing for his dedication and service to AFT Local 1796 for the past 14 years.**

**Linda Dye moved, Marion Turkish seconded. The motion passed.**

5. Preparation of Budget FY2003-2004 (First reading) - Diana Peck:  
Copies for the proposed budget were circulated. Diana explained each item in detail and asked members to be ready for voting at next meeting. Diana announced that we would invite Vincent Baldassano, our investment consultant, to make a presentation on the state of our investment at the next meeting.
6. Professional Staff Officer's Report- Bob Murphy:
  - a. Bob Murphy distributed and explained the Domestic Partner document.
  - b. The Professional Staff will meet on 4/29/03: Agenda: Normal Work Week
7. Report from the Nominating Committee and Election Committee- Marion Turkish and Jean Levitan

Bob Bing explained the procedure. Marion will present the Slate (second reading). Should any position have more than one candidate then Jean Levitan will conduct an election. Sue Tardi explained that the Responsibilities of the Officers whose positions are not clearly defined by the current Constitution.

*Comments from the members:* Only one title should be used, either all with "Officer" or "Representative" for Librarian, Professional staff and Adjunct Faculty. Sue Tardi agreed to clear up the matter to reflect consistency.

Marion Turkish proceeded to present nomination from the Slate

- a. Executive Committee Officers:
  1. President- Sue Tardi. There were no other nominations. Bob Bing asked the Recording Secretary to cast a single vote to elect Sue Tardi as the President. The Secretary did so. Sue Tardi was duly elected as the President of AFT Local 1796, 2003-2004.

Sue Tardi then assumed the Chair of the meeting from this point on.

Marion Turkish continued to present the slate:

2. Vice President/Grievance Officer- Charles Magistro. There were no other nominations. Sue Tardi asked the Recording Secretary to cast a single vote to elect Charles Magistro as the Vice President/Grievance Officer. The Secretary did so. Charles Magistro was duly elected as the Vice President/Grievance Officer of the AFT Local 1796, 2003-2004.
3. Vice President/Chief Negotiator-Linda Gazzillo Diaz. There were no other nominations. Sue Tardi asked the Recording Secretary to cast a single vote to elect Linda Gazzillo Diaz as the Vice President/Chief Negotiator. The Secretary did so. Linda Gazzillo Diaz

was duly elected as the Vice President/Chief Negotiator of AFT Local 1796, 2003-2004.

4. Recording Secretary- Aria Cheo. There were no other nominations. Sue Tardi asked the Recording Secretary to cast a single vote to elect Aria Cheo as the Recording Secretary. The Secretary did so. Aria Cheo was duly elected as the Recording Secretary of AFT Local 1796, 2003-2004.
  5. Interim Treasurer/ Financial Secretary (pending Constitutional title change to Treasurer)- Marty Rudnick. There were no other nominations. Sue Tardi asked the Recording Secretary to cast a single vote to elect Marty Rudnick as the Interim Treasurer/ Financial Secretary . The Secretary did so. Marty Rudnick was duly elected as the Interim Treasurer/Financial Secretary of AFT Local 1796, 2003-2004.
  6. Communication Officer- Diana Peck. There were no other nominations. Sue Tardi asked the Recording Secretary to cast a single vote to elect Diana Peck as the Communication Officer. The Secretary did so. Diana Peck was duly elected as the Communication Officer of AFT Local 1796, 2003-2004.
  7. Professional Staff Officer- Robert Murphy. There were no other nominations. Sue Tardi asked the Recording Secretary to cast a single vote to elect Robert Murphy as the Professional Staff Officer. The Secretary did so. Robert Murphy was duly elected as the Professional Staff Officer of AFT Local 1796, 2003-2004.
  8. Adjunct Officer- Cindy Simon. There were no other nominations. Sue Tardi asked the Recording Secretary to cast a single vote to elect Cindy Simon as the Adjunct Officer. The Secretary did so. Cindy Simon was duly elected as the Adjunct Officer of AFT Local 1796, 2003-2004.
- b. Ad Hoc (non-voting) Executive Committee Members- nominations and/or elections.
1. Assistant Grievance Officer- Burt Weltman
  2. Librarian Officer- Judy Matthew
  3. Assistant Professional Staff Officer- Iris DiMaio
  4. Web Master- Marcelo Llarull (newly created position)
  5. President Emeritus- Bob Bing (newly created position)

There were no other nominations for the above positions. Sue Tardi asked the Recording Secretary to cast a single vote to elect the above members to their respective positions. The Secretary did so. They were duly elected to their respective positions in AFT Local 1796, 2003-2004.

c. Committee Chairpersons

1. Budget and Audit: Jackie Hill and Marty Rudnick. Diana Peck was nominated to serve as a co-chair.
2. Election- Jean Levitan
3. Legislative/COPE- Cindy Simon
4. Membership- Eleanor Goldstein
5. Nominations- Marion Turkish
6. Scholarship- Marjorie Goldstein and Barbara Bohny

There were no other nominations for the above positions. Sue Tardi asked the Recording Secretary to cast a single vote to elect the above members to their respective Committee Chairperson positions. The Secretary did so. They were duly elected to their respective Committee Chairperson positions of AFT Local 1796 2003-2004

d. State Council Delegates (14 + Alternates)

- 1) Regular members (14) from the slate:  
Susanna Tardi, Charles Magistro, Linda Dye, Aria Cheo, Diana Peck, Robert Murphy, Robert Bing, Cindy Simon, Judy Matthew, Linda Gazzillo Diaz, Burt Weltman, Iris DiMaio, Muroki Mwaura, Vincent Vicari
- 2) Two Alternates were nominated from the floor:  
Kevin Martus and Stacy Walker

There were no other nominations for the above delegate positions. Sue Tardi asked the Recording Secretary to cast a single vote to elect the above members as AFT Local 1796 State Council Delegates for 2003-2004. The Secretary did so. The above members were duly elected as the State Council Delegates from AFT Local 1796, 2003-2004.

8. Vice President/Grievance Officer's Report- Charles Magistro:

- a. The successful reversal of two second year non-retention recommendations by the President:  
Two faculty members came to the Union and requested help with their cases. We worked with them, helped them to prepare for their defense and accompanied them to their interviews with President Speert. The President listened attentively and made the reversals. Charles urged the Council members to encourage faculty to come to talk with the Union officers before going through the appeal process with the President. These successes are primarily due to the Union's leadership.

*Comment:* Charles Magistro urged the members to tell their departments to provide mentoring for the non-tenured faculty members. It's imperative in the counseling for and preparation of their defense.

9. Vice President/Chief Negotiator's Report (Sue Tardi): (postponed)

10. Old Business- None

11. New Business-None

12. Adjournment-

Motion: to adjourn the meeting:

Marion Turkish moved. Kevin Martus seconded. The meeting adjourned at about 1:56pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Aria Cheo (04/21/2003)