

**CUPE Local 410
General Membership Meeting
Monday March 29, 2010
Emily Carr Branch Library
6:30 P.M.**

27 Members in Attendance

1. Roll Call of Officers

Helen Hughes (President), Olivia Anderson (Vice-President), Ursula Benoit (Recording Secretary), Fatima Ferreira (Correspondence Secretary), Vicki Sundher (Secretary Treasurer), Cindy McKenna (Memberships)

2. Minutes

A couple of spelling errors were noted. A motion was made to accept the revised minutes.

M. S. C.

3. New Members and Initiations

None

4. Executive Committee Report

Olivia Anderson presented a verbal report of the last Executive Committee meeting held on Monday May 26, 2010. A motion was made to accept the report. **M. S. C.**

5. Secretary Treasurer's Report

Vicki Sundher reviewed the budget to date, as well as a revised budget proposal for 2010. Of particular note was the payment of "Union Leaves" for 2007, 2008 and 2009, for which CUPE 410 had not been billed until now. A mechanism has now been put into place whereby invoices for "Union Leaves" will be sent to us every month or two. It was also noted that we may need to increase our assessments to CUPE BC and to the BC Federation as our salaries and dues increase. We will need to monitor this as the year goes on.

A motion was made to accept the proposed budget for 2010. **M. S. C.**

A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report. **M. S. C.**

6. Communications and Bills

Fatima Ferreira reported that CUPE as designated this year (2010) as the 'Year of the Steward'. CUPE 410 would like to take a photo of all of our Stewards and have these photos placed on the CUPE bulletin board located in each of our workplaces. CUPE is planning to create an electronic Steward's newsletter that will be located on their website.

Cindy McKenna also wanted to report that the membership list is now up-to-date for all but one branch.

A motion was made to accept the report. **M. S. C.**

7. Committee Reports

VLC – Olivia Anderson reported on February's meeting. Rob Fleming, Kim Manton, Tony Spraket and others spoke about such issues as P3's, sewage, anti-racist network and privacy. Ed Seedhouse reported on the March meeting at which there was no quorum. John Horogan and Lana Popham were there. Ed has volunteered to work on VLC's website.

VIDC – Holman Louis reviewed his written report. There will be a special "Steward's Workshop/Conference" held this fall. We should watch for more information about this.

Union/Management – Ursula Benoit reviewed the draft minutes of the last meeting held in January. We may have a problem if Management continues to insist that Carolina Munoz (Human Resources Assistant) be present at each U/M meeting to take minutes. The Collective Agreement specifies that the each side is permitted 3 representatives. One solution may be to insist that the Union also have a 4th representative on the committee. Our Membership strongly suggested that we stick to the language of the Collective Agreement.

Grievances – One grievance concerning a hiring decision has been successfully argued by the Union and the person with the grievance was given the remedy that was asked for (full-time hours and a higher pay grade).

The arbitration meeting regarding to determine whether or not the new Human Resources Assistant would remain outside of the bargaining unit was held on March 17th and 18th. Good arguments were made by both Tammy Simonds and by GVPL's lawyer. The decision will take anywhere from 2 weeks to 2 months.

Scholarship Fund – There is nothing to report from the committee. Vicki Sundher reported that she has paid our portion of the fund.

OHS – Helen reported that there will be a meeting of this committee this coming Thursday. The committee structure is much improved as there are now representatives from all branches and good work is being done. She is suggesting that committee members should do Health and Safety reviews of branches other than their own.

Int'l Solidarity – Sharlene Patterson reported that a large donation for Haitian earthquake relief was made by CUPE BC and CUPE National. There was discussion of other international efforts being made to address human rights, ending poverty and supporting union work in poorer countries.

A motion was made to accept all of the committee reports. **M. S. C.**

8. Unfinished Business

Holman Louis reported that the benefits originally paid for by our employer during the lockout in 2007 have now been fully repaid by CUPE.

9. New Business

9.1 May Day Community Action Day

Olivia Anderson discussed the “Strong Communities Campaign” initiated by CUPE. They are requesting that all Locals plan some sort of activity sometime during the first two weeks of May that would raise funds for, or in some way, support the needs of local community groups and organizations. Several suggestions were made. All other ideas should be submitted to Olivia during the next week. One idea will be selected and acted upon. She will keep the membership posted.

9.2 Donations

CUPE Local 410 has made a contribution to Haitian earthquake relief. Do we want to send something to assist efforts of the Chilean earthquake relief.

A motion was made that we make a \$300.00 donation too Chilean earthquake relief through a recognized organization. **M. S. C.**

Carlos Flores of CUPE 50 has connections in Chile that may help us to choose the right organization. One of our own members, Avi Silberstein is from Chile and may also be able to provide us with some useful information. Sharlene Patterson will follow-up on this matter.

9.3 Advisory Committee for the Long-Term Disability Plan

Helen Hughes informed us that one of the CUPE representatives on the Advisory Committee has resigned and a replaced will be voted on at the CUPE Office

9.4 GVPL’s CEO and the Unplanned Departure of Barry Holmes

Helen Hughes, Holman Louis and Fatima Ferreira meet with Lynne Jordon to discuss the ongoing need to communicate with staff during this transitional period and asked that we be kept informed about any changes that may affect staff. Lynne stated that as soon as there is any concrete to say, we will be told. Lynne is looking after day-to-day operations and will carry on with the strategic direction as established by Barry Holmes. Nicola Wade has been made “temporary CEO” and is largely a figure head with no power to effect any changes. A regular Board meeting will take place tomorrow from noon to 1:00 P.M. All staff members wish to express their appreciation for Lynne’s “weekly updates”.

10. Good of the Union

There is nothing to report

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.