

Date: October 12, 2023

Meeting starts: 7:20pm

Location: MS Teams

In attendance: Raj Natarajan, Tony McFetridge, Bernard Brasen, Corie McGaughey, GG Ramji

Previous Minutes

Raj motions to accept the minutes of 2023-08-24. GG seconds. Passes unanimously.

Raj motions to adopt the agenda. Bernard seconds. Passes unanimously.

Review of Budget & Discussion of Additional Line Items

Tony discussed the idea of bringing back more social or seasonal events organized by the Local. GG agreed and suggested that the budget has room for more events to be planned.

Tony also suggested that the Local consider spending some money on personalized (to our Local) merchandise such as flags, T-shirts, caps, etc. This would be a great way to recognize and honor some of our members who have shown union pride for many years but still wear generalized PSAC or UTE merchandise. Some other locals, such as Shawinigan, have personalized UTE merchandise which instills a sense of local pride. Raj agreed and stated that this would be a great use of local funds.

Raj suggested that the Local also consider financing a training session for professional minute taking as this was not covered in as much detail as he had hoped in PSAC led Secretary training. Tony agreed and suggested that we further research educational options in this regard.

Tony recommended that the Local also purchase cell phones for some Executive members as this would be a great way to achieve a more distinct work (union)-life balance and it is not ideal to use personal devices in many situations. Raj agreed and stated that this would also help with further protecting member information.

No actual line items were added during this meeting, however GG stated he will take these discussions into consideration when preparing the next budget.

Report from AGM committee

Raj advises that he has added Laurie Carson to the AGM Committee. Laurie has been heavily involved in planning and coordinating many various events that the Edmonton TSO has enjoyed in the past. She brings with her a wealth of knowledge regarding event planning as it pertains to our Local.

A tentative date (December 2, 2023) has been set for the AGM. This date is 52 days away, and as per local bylaw 7(3) the Local is required to give 45 advance days' notice to its members. The Executive is still waiting for confirmation from UTE National President Marc Briere to approve a "hybrid" AGM.

Conversion of Member Mailing Lists Using Mailchimp

The Local sends emails to its members via the UTE 30025 Local Inbox. There are significant limitations as only 500 members can be added to a single mailing list and there have been occasions where emails were not BCC'd as intended. When this problem was posed to UTE National, they suggested that the Local consider using a 3rd party service such as Mailchimp to remove administrative burden on the Executive, and to be able to reach a wider audience among our local membership. Corie and Raj agree.

Raj motions that the Executive allow him to convert our existing mailing lists over to the Mailchimp service, and to merge the current mailing list with the PSAC mailing list. GG seconds. Passes unanimously.

Review Chief Shop/VP callout responses

The Executive reviewed the response(s) received for the Chief Shop Steward and the Vice-President positions. Greater consideration was given to applicants who demonstrated that they have been actively engaged in our local, have previous shop steward experience, and have taken union educational courses.

Raj motions to add Jennifer Johnston as Chief Shop Steward and as a member of the local Executive. Corie seconds. Passes unanimously.

A roundtable discussion was held regarding codifying Bernard Brasen (2nd VP) as 1st VP. Bernard has been serving in the 1st VP position since the departure of Keegan Gibson (prior 1st VP).

Raj motions to swear in Bernard as 1st VP. Corie seconds. Passes unanimously.

Presidents Conference Observers

To show budgetary restraint Raj did not attend the Presidents' Conference. This is to clarify previous minutes which indicated that Raj, GG, and Tony would attend the Presidents' Conference.

Review of Bylaws and Regulations

Bylaw #2 was reviewed for potential changes/amendments. No changes were suggested at this time.

BYLAW 2: Aims and Objectives

- 1) To unite all members in good standing with UTE in a single democratic organization.*
- 2) To support the PSAC in the furtherance of its purpose, objectives and constitutional responsibility.*
- 3) To represent any member or group of members in grievances, complaints or other enquiries.*
- 4) To promote solidarity, develop and maintain good communications, and build union pride amongst members in good standing of the UTE.*

The local Executive will continue to endeavor to review at least 1 bylaw at every Executive meeting moving forward.

Next Meeting

The next Executive meeting is scheduled for October 17th, 2023.

Raj motions to adjourn the meeting. Corie seconds. Passes unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40pm.