

## **West Fraser Valley Area Council**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**August 6, 2020 @ 5:30 pm**

**Held Via Zoom Teleconference**

#### Present:

1. Susie Blyth, AC President (CEIU 20974)
2. Dina Elias, AC VP (CEIU 20910)
3. Monique Bakker, AC Treasurer (UHEW 20147)
4. Stephen Torng, AC Secretary, PSAC BC Racially Visible Coordinator (GSU 20008)
5. Samina Anwar (CEIU 20910)
6. Dana Gibson (CEIU 20964)
7. Sukpreet Heer (Customs and Immigration 20045 Douglas Border Crossing, Deployment to Commercial)
8. Nielene Chand, Local President (UTE 20007)
9. Laura Zhu (UTE 20007)
10. Zita Lambert (UTE 20007)

#### Guests:

1. Robert Strang, PSAC BC REP for West Fraser Valley and the South Interior
2. Jamey Mills, PSAC BC REVP

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#### **1. Call To Order**

Susie acknowledged unceded territory and called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

#### **2. Adoption of Agenda**

Motion to accept the Agenda was Carried

#### **3. Guest Speaker: Jamey Mills, PSAC BC REVP**

Spoke about collective agreement improvements such as:

- One-time payment of \$500. \$50 for each 90 day delay.
- 10 days domestic leave
- Improvements to maternity leave
- Phoenix damages (settlement) of \$2,500 back to 2016; \$1,000, \$500 each subsequent year
  - Ruling request sent to CRA re: \$2,500 on whether it is taxable?
  - A question was asked on how long it takes to get a ruling. It takes approximately 90 days for a ruling. A month has passed since the request was sent to CRA.

#### **4. Round of Introductions since there are new people joining this meeting – where they work and what their top union related issue is now; Nielene (UTE bargaining and U-Link); Sukh (CIU) – introduce himself and talk about the issues at CBSA; CEIU folks – bargaining, etc.**

5. **\*Review\* of Minutes of AGM minutes from February 10, 2020**

M/S by Nielene/Monique to adopt AGM minutes. Carried.

6. **Adoption of Previous minutes from November 4, 2019 & April 20, 2020**

M/S by Susie/Monique to adopt previous meeting minutes from November 4, 2019. Carried.

M/S by Nielene/Monique to adopt previous meeting minutes from April 20, 2020. Carried.

7. **Financial Report**

Monique presented the Financial report and said that the current balance was \$2,057.23 plus a \$700.00 cheque that was deposited recently, but not yet showing on the most recent bank statement. The total adjusted bank balance is \$2,757.23. No money was spent since the last AGM on February 10, 2020.

Motion to accept the Financial Report was Carried.

8. **Political Action**

Robert encouraged people to visit their MP's on issues. From August 24 to late September 2020, there will be ratification of contract settlement. Monique asked whether instructions on how to do the ratification votes will be provided. Robert said yes, information will be distributed through various communication methods.

Drive-by planned on September 2, 2020 at the Pacific and Peach Arch Border Crossings. This is to thank CBSA members and let them know that we have not forgotten about them and we appreciate all the work the members are doing to keep Canada safe.

Robert said that PSAC may be able to provide funding for gas and time off work under their Political Action line. Please send an email request to Robert. Monique asked whether other Area Councils can support and participate. A couple of Area Councils were mentioned:

- Todd Smith for Vancouver Area Council
- Patty Ducharme (was suggested by Robert) for East Vancouver Area Council
- Monique for North Vancouver Area Council

Some of the expenses that were discussed for Wednesday, September 2, 2020:

- Childcare and Loss of Salary for Monique; Sukh is off work that day, but is willing to participate in the event
- Coffee and donuts estimated to be \$50-\$75. Receipts are required to be provided to the Treasurer to reimburse the cost from WFVAC funds. **Monique and Zeta M/S to approve this cost. Carried.**

Susie will send out a notice and set up the event by August 18, 2020. She will try to arrange to come by to drop off signs and swag. She asked for Sukh's email address to have a further discussion on the logistics off-line.

**9. Education Events – Social Activity / Political Action per budget; missed Surrey Pride Festival as the date was changed and held virtually on June 27, 2020; Labour Day**

Robert mentioned that some people were opposed to the White Anti-Racism Webinar. The course was full, so they may hold another event in the future.

Next event is Solidarity Saturday which is on Indigenous women and activism. It will be on held via Zoom on Saturday, September 19, 2020 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm.

There is also a Labor Day Activity being planned for September 7, 2020.

**10. New Business**

Follow-up with Patrick regarding whether the group email was set up for WFVAC executive.

**11. Roundtable**

**12. Next meeting date – October 19, 2020 @ 6:00 PM via Zoom**

**This meeting adjourned at 6:57 PM.**