

Minutes of the Ottawa Area Council (OAC) Meeting September 11, 2019

Present

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| ▪ Renelle Chalifoux | AGRU 70139 | Chair |
| ▪ Silvia Andrighetti | AGRU 70139 | Sec/Treasurer |
| ▪ Jeff Wrinn | UNDE RVP | Director |
| ▪ Robbie Henderson | UNDE 70603 | Director |
| ▪ Alex Silas | DCL 71250 | Delegate |
| ▪ Ayrin Proulx | GSU 700013 | Delegate |
| ▪ Carla Ross | UNE 70059 | Delegate |
| ▪ Dave Lanthier | UTE 70000 | Delegate |
| ▪ Linda Walters | UTE 70030 | Delegate |
| ▪ Louise Sicard | UHEW 70008 | Delegate |
| ▪ Roddie Dafoe | UNE 70044 MASC | Delegate |
| ▪ Sergey Sheshnev | UNE 70125 | Delegate |
| ▪ St. Clair Currie | USJE 70093 A/RVP | Delegate |
| ▪ Susan Bureau | UNDE 70605 | Delegate |
| ▪ Roxane Donovan | Local 70148 | Delegate |
| ▪ Sheila Atkins | Local 70081 | Delegate |

Staff

Fathiya Wais Regional Representative

Guests

Sarah Mostafa-Kamel SEIU Local 2 (Service Employees International Union)
Elisabeth Woods Regional Coordinator

Regrets

▪ Behiye Cinkilic UNE 70125 Director

1] Call to Order 5:32 pm

The meeting was called to order by Renelle Chalifoux.

2] Opening remarks and introductions

Renelle welcomed Fathiya Wais, Guest speaker Sarah Mostafa-Kamel, new delegates; Roxane Donovan and Sheila Atkins, and ~~present~~thanked delegates for their participation. Everyone present introduced themselves and identified their credentials.

Renelle mentioned that phone calls to members informing them about the Federal Election 2019 to make their vote count were being done at the present time and invited anyone to participate if they wished to do so. All members decided to attend the OAC meeting.

3] Approval of Agenda

Add to item # 6g. – Breakdown of political action fund

Silvia Andrighetti/Louise Sicard M/S Carried

4] Solidarity presentation from SEIU Justice for Janitors

Sarah Mostafa-Kamel, Union representative of Local 2, an activist for the past 10 years, spoke about the ‘Justice for Janitors’ Campaign which comprises of 16,000 janitors in Canada – 3000 in Ottawa – fighting for better wages, better layoff and leave provisions, and more. Although an Ottawa city-wide agreement has been signed in August 2019, negotiations are still in progress across the country and are scheduled to take place within the next three months.

Sarah asked members of the OAC for their participation in rallies and events to support Janitors get a fair contract. Since many janitors have several jobs, it is hard to mobilize them. SEIU wants to grow the solidarity. Jeff Wrinn mentioned that UNDE is fighting for cleaners on DND bases and suggested to mobilization these PSAC members. Another delegate suggested that SEIU create a ‘Justice for Janitor’ Facebook page.

5] Approval of Previous Minutes

a) August 14, 2019 minutes

The word August on pages 5 and 6 will be capitalized.

Item # 5 a) - It has been noted that the actual changes versus a summary of changes be listed in the minutes going forward.

Silvia Andrighetti/David Lanthier M/S Carried

6] Business arising from the minutes

a) Update from the Federal Election 2019 sub-committee

Elisabeth Woods joined the council to provide an update on the Federal Election. She said that on August 8th, calls were done by Renelle Chalifoux and Robbie Henderson and on

August 22nd, another fifty (50) ~~local~~ calls to local presidents were made. On August 29th, twenty (20) PSAC members attended the Federal Election training, resulting in a great turnout and Elisabeth is proud of PSAC members. On September 9th, Renelle and other OAC delegates made calls to shop stewards and members in the Orleans and Carleton ridings.

On September 11th, the writ was dropped and that means the rules of engagement surrounding any activity for the federal election has changed. PSAC is now considered a third-party and the PSAC must report our spending. PSAC should have a central bank account for tracking of expenses such as distribution and/or mail-outs, pamphlets, etc. The PSAC-NCR budget for the federal election is \$33,000.

Our goal in the NCR is to speak to our members in the Orleans and Carleton ridings about issues important to the PSAC. Phone banks and door-to-door canvassing dates are scheduled on September 16th, 17th and 18th and on October 3rd, 8th, 9th and 10th. The National Human Rights Committee will be in Ottawa on October 9th and will be invited to participate in the canvassing.

PSAC is finalizing the messaging on the website which will include events, names of candidates, messaging for members on the importance of voting, etc. The PSAC will not tell its members on how to vote. The rights of public servants during a federal election will also be shared at the upcoming Stewards Network meeting.

Jeff Wrinn mentioned that PSAC communications could contact Rogers TV to have PSAC speak about the Federal Election. The contact person at Rogers is Line Whitehead. Elizabeth committed to speak with Jill O'Reilly before leaving the meeting.

b) Update from the Festivals sub-committee

St. Clair Currie said that no meeting took place in July and that a meeting in October is to come. Plans are to carry-forward the funds to the following year.

c) Centertown Movie Festival

Robbie Henderson mentioned that of the volunteers who agreed to participate, only three OAC delegates showed up along with a UNDE member. All the others did not notify him of their absence. With the help of the Movie Night volunteers, the set-up was done. Going forward, all agreed that it is courtesy to notify the leads of events or sub-committees.

This event requires a minimum of 6 volunteers including at least one male volunteer as returning the equipment to the storage unit is a few blocks away (using the street sidewalks). Moreover, volunteers want to feel safe when returning to their vehicles late at night. Florescent vests should be provided by the PSAC in order for vehicles to see the

volunteers. The event raised \$262.05 which was donated back to the Centertown Movie Festival.

d) Update from the Labour Day sub-committee

Jeff Wrinn said there was a great turnout. The PSAC tent allowed for PSAC members to answer the public's questions (500+ people came to the PSAC tent) and popcorn was served throughout the day. The cost of the firetruck rental was \$750 and all praised the Marshalls for doing a great job keeping every safe during the march.

Dave Lanthier said that at one point, John Fraser, MPP for Ottawa South had joined the parade.

e) Human Rights Day

No update at this time was provided by Carla Ross. Behiye Cinkilic is the OAC director participating in the planning of this event.

f) By-laws

The by-laws are now with A/REVP Magali Picard for final review and approval.

g) Breakdown of political action fund

This item is on the agenda for the October PSAC-NCR Regional Executive Meeting.

7] Reports

Chair to Jeff Wrinn

a) Report from the Chair

Renelle spoke about the two last bullets of her report, namely the coalition to fight the Ford cuts and the launch of the "Retirement Security Now!" campaign by the Ottawa Committee for Pension Security.

Renelle Chalifoux/St. Clair Currie

M/S

Carried

Chair back to Renelle Chalifoux

b) Financial budget and report for 2019

PSAC's new budget financial system is not able to print financial documents at the moment. The OAC Operations budget is on track and was last updated on July 31, 2019. Only two taxi chits have been handed out thus far in 2019 and expenses for the Labour Day Parade have not exceeded its budget allocation.

8] Request for support and/or new business

a) Creation of a sub-committee to review promotional items for use by the OAC

The Chair nominated Jeff Wrinn as Chair of this new sub-committee. The other members include Carla Ross, Linda Walters, Dave Lanthier, Robbie Henderson and Sergey Sheshnev. It has been noted that there should be no duplication of the PSAC and the OAC promotional items.

Susan Bureau/Carla Ross

M/S

Carried

b) Recruitment of delegates

The Chair mentioned that new affiliation forms are required for 2020. Ideally, recruitment will commence in November. Affiliation forms will be brought to the NCR Council meeting of September 21st, 2019.

A delegate mentioned that a list of all locals in the NCR with their OAC entitlement should be created for better tracking. The OAC will use the NCR Council entitlement list of September 21, 2019 which counts members in good standing (MIGS) and not the full count of the local. Delegates shared their frustration that the MIGS counts have errors.

At the November OAC meeting, a motion to create a By-laws sub-committee should be made. In addition to reviewing the by-laws, this sub-committee can work on a resolution to reconcile the OAC By-laws with the PSAC Constitution.

c) Dates for upcoming OAC meetings

As many OAC delegates will be canvassing door-to-door for the Federal Election on October 9th, there will be an abridged meeting. In attendance will be Behiye Cinkilic, Jeff Wrinn and Silvia Andrighetti in order to meet quorum. Jeff Wrinn will act as Chair.

9] Announcements and roundtable

Carla Ross wanted to find out more about the upcoming Ontario Federation of Labour (OFL) Convention taking place in Toronto from November 25-29, 2019. The Chair will meet with A/REVP Magali Picard as soon as possible for an update and have this item on the next OAC's meeting agenda.

10] Adjournment

7:30pm