

Executive Agenda June 12th, 1974

Suggested Agenda

Item for Discussion - Marcel Dionne explaining Purchasing arrangements.

Grievance Meeting

Executive Meeting

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Minutes
3. Finances
 - Financial Report
 - Union Records -- Special Fund for Organizer's Salary
4. Arrangements for Executive and Grievance Committee meetings -- several people have asked to have this on agenda.
5. Agenda for meeting Thursday June 13th
6. Election of full-time organizer
 - nominations
 - short talks by candidates
 - proposals for referendum
7. Constitutional amendment
8. Report from Contract Committee
 - need for letter of agreement so that the University will provide Union with a list of "G" payroll each time they remit dues to us from the check-off
9. Newsletter & Communications.
10. Grievance Committee Report
11. Nominations for Provincial Executive
12. Working paper re credit union.
13. Any other business.

A.U.C.E. Meeting

June 12, 1974

Jean Rando

Ann Hockey

Calvin Nicholson

Ruth Allan

Sandra Bundy

Jan Foraker

Pat Gibson

Ann Hutchison

Heather MacNeill

Gillian MacQuinn

Blair Williams

June 12, 1974.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of AUCE Local 1 was held on Wednesday, June 12, 1974 in the Conference Room, Fourth Floor, I.R.C. building with Jean Rands in the Chair.

Those in attendance were:

Jean Rands	Sandra Lundy	Heather MacNeill
Ann Hockey	Ian MacKenzie	Gillian McGuinness
Colleen Nicholson	Pat Gibson	Glenis Williams
Ruth Allan	Ann Hutchison	Dale McAslan

Minutes of the meeting of June 4, 1974 had been distributed.

Business arising from the minutes

Purchasing through the University

Marcel Dionne had been asked to explain the problems involved in taking advantage of the authority of individuals in the Purchasing Department to make purchases on behalf of the Union. As a result of this clarification, the following motion was put.

Sandra Lundy)	That the Lundy/Cosar motion, tabled at the
Joan Cosar)	June 4th Executive meeting regarding purchasing
	procedures be retracted.

Carried.

Correspondence

The letter from Marcia Harris (Economics) protesting the "study period" was referred to the Communications Committee with the recommendation it be published in the Newsletter, as requested. Jean Rands agreed to phone Marcia.

L.R.B. acknowledgement of letter re Eva Dolan and Mary Turriff was read.

Petition re 49th Avenue Cross-town bus

Ann Hockey)	That the petition, over the name of AUCE,
Heather MacNeill)	be circulated.

Defeated.

Financial Report

Sandy reported an embarrassing error in the Newsletter which stated that the Financial Statement had been audited by an auditing firm.

Sandra Lundy)	That a retraction of this statement be published
Joan Cosar)	in the Newsletter.

Carried.

June 12, 1974

Financial Report (cont'd)

Sandra Lundy presented a statement of Income and Expense.

Sandra Lundy) That the Statement of Income and Expense be
Joan Cosar) approved and recommended to the membership.

Carried.

Sandra Lundy) That the Executive Committee recommend to the
Dale McAslan) membership that we set aside a fund of \$1000.00
in reserve to pay the salary of the union or-
ganizer.

Carried.

Referendum

Pat Gibson reported on the method of balloting decided by the Records Committee. It was to be a 2-envelope ballot. Ballots would go out on June 17th and were to be returned not later than June 20th, to be counted on June 21st. A work party had been organized for June 15th and up-to-date lists of members were to be available before that time.

Pat also reported that a special form had now been designed so that complete information on all members could be filed.

Announcements

Sandra Lundy announced that the pre-numbered receipts for dues are now available.

Next meeting of Executive was to be Wednesday, June 19, same place.

The meeting adjourned.

Secretary

Chairman.

1. That the executive of Local 1 should meet monthly on the first (or last?) Wednesday of each month.
2. That special executive meetings should be called as required.
3. That the minutes of executive meetings and the agenda for each meeting should be circulated to the members of the executive.

When the By-laws of Local 1 were written our primary concern was to ensure membership control of the union. We deliberately avoided centralizing power and responsibility in the hands of the executive. The By-laws provide that three of the most important functions of the union should be carried out by committees, rather than the executive (negotiating contracts, processing grievances, communication within the union).

Now that these committees are functioning, or ~~begin~~ beginning to function, we need to consider the role of the executive in relation to them.

The executive, according to our By-laws, is not intended to be a decision-making body. The major responsibilities as I see them (the By-laws don't say much on the subject) are:

1. To prepare material for membership meetings so that all important decisions can be made democratically by the membership.
This would require one meeting per month, on a day that would give us time to circulate proposals and an agenda to the membership before the membership meeting.
2. To assure that the union's money is spent according to the wishes of the membership and properly accounted for.
3. To represent the union and ensure that public statements and relations with other ~~unions~~ unions and organizations are according to the wishes of the membership.
4. To co-ordinate where necessary, e.g. to help with organizational difficulties within a Division (not grievances); to hold joint meetings with the Contract Committee or Communications Committee.

Points 3 and 4 require special meetings to deal with urgent situations - special meetings which can't happen when we have so many regular meetings.

The present weekly executive meetings which last from 3 to 4 hours take too much of our time and energy. We have a limited amount of time to spend on union business. If we spend most of it in meetings we

we won't be able to do the work of researching grievances, collecting dues, studying contract proposals (and soon our contract!) and the Labor Code, etc.

Much of our time at executive meetings has been spent talking about questions that are too important to be decided by the executive (in which case the debate should happen at Division meetings and membership meetings) or so unimportant that they don't need to be discussed by anybody (i.e. booking rooms).

Partly this is inevitable because our organization is still so young. We don't yet have any established routines. We are all concerned and ~~am~~ careful about each detail, concerned that what we do now may affect our union for years to come. But it is impossible for everyone to participate in every decision. The most difficult responsibility of the executive is to figure out how important things are - whether to leave them to a sub-committee of the executive, to decide them at an executive meeting, or to take them to a membership meeting.

The Grievance Committee has already decided that grievances should be discussed on the Division level and written up and circulated before they are discussed at a Grievance Committee meeting. This should mean that more good discussion of grievances will take place at the Division level, involving many more members; and at the same time, Grievance Committee meetings will not be taken up with discussion of detail and searching out information.

The executive must do the same kind of thing. Proposals, where possible, should be included in the agenda to be circulated before the meeting so we have a chance to think about them ahead of time. When we have serious disagreements, we shouldn't feel compelled to stay till 8:00 to argue them out - we should recognize the disagreement and debate it in the Divisions and the membership meetings. The executive meetings can play an important role in revealing disagreements, and letting one Division know what people in another Division are thinking, but we can't resolve important disagreements on the executive.

The criticisms I have made of how we have been functioning are largely self-criticism, I guess, since the chair should ensure that debate is relevant and appropriate, and the chair should also be responsible for circulating agendas in advance. But if we have less meetings, and shorter ones, all of us will be able to do our homework, to prepare for the meetings, and we'll accomplish more in less time.

- Jean Rands
(Local 3131)