

2013 Annual Convention- 4/27/2013

Convention Call to Order (President Greg Georg)

Welcome/Housekeeping – Greg Georg & Diane Mandell

Lunch needs to start right at noon. It is in Room 109. Diane Mandell gave login instructions for UWnet.

Credentials Report for Convention Quorum – Diane Mandell 18 registered regular members

Adoption of Convention Rules – Al Nettleton

Motion: Kevin Steffens (2nd Mark Keuchler) Adopt Rules PASSED

Amendment : Barb Smith 2nd Mark Keuchler FAILED

President's Report – Greg Georg

The organization has changed. We need to look at ourselves (all of Labor, in fact) and figure out what is the best way to represent labor. We need to work together with other unions. Public sector labor needs to outreach on issues of interest to all working people. Educate the public about the need to raise everybody up rather than squabbling between and among us. WPEC has a group meeting looking at where we go from here, how we go forward. Need to be building the union for 5 years from now, not the union we had 5 years ago. All are invited to participate in the "Future of the Union" discussions.

Question: Could somebody please distribute more information about the current state of the WEAC merger talks?

Greg Georg: Yes, he has been tasked with doing that for the newsletter.

Other Questions and discussion: UW issues, WEAC merger, recertification.

Membership Report – John Fries

BREAK 4:51 PM Return by 10:20. Called back to order

Treasurer's Report – Ward Kroencke

Budget Report – Ward Kroencke / Ed Berry

Discussion of a number of budget items.

Sue Alseth volunteered to be the volunteer coordinator for WPEC. Maybe also the Communications committee. (*applause*)

Constitutional Amendments (9)

2013-01 **Motion to approve** Mark Kuechler, 2nd Jane Steffes. **APPROVED**

2013-02 **Motion to approve** Mark Kuechler, 2nd Jane Steffes. **APPROVED**

2013-03 **Motion to approve** Ruth Ginzberg, 2nd Mark Kuechler. **APPROVED**

2013-04 **Motion to approve** Ruth Ginzberg, 2nd Mark Kuechler. **APPROVED**

2013-05 **Motion to approve** Jane Steffes 2nd Mike Genthe . **APPROVED**

Amendment Mark Kuechler, 2nd John Fries In section 7 change “immediately” to “duly called”.
APPROVED

LUNCH BREAK UNTIL 1:00. BUFFET LUNCH AND HONOREE RECOGNITION

Add to agenda: Elect AFT-W Delegates **Motion** Bill Franks 2nd Jane Steffes **PASSED**

Motion to elect the 20 people on the sign-up sheet as AFT-W Convention delegates. Bill Franks. 2nd Mark Kuechler. **PASSED**

2013-06 **Motion to approve** Jane Steffes 2nd Mark Kuechler . **APPROVED**

2013-07 **Motion to approve** Mark Kuechler 2nd Bill Franks . **Motion to table** indefinitely. Duane Konkel 2nd Mark Kuechler. **APPROVED**

2013-08 **Motion to approve** Mark Kuechler 2nd Jane Steffes . **APPROVED**

Suzanne Murphy **moved** to amend title to say “associate members” rather than “retirees and associate membership” **PASSED**

2013-09 **Motion to approve** Jane Steffes 2nd Mike Genthe . **FAILED**

BREAK

Resolutions (9) and Other Convention Business

- 1) Support of University of Wisconsin Workers **Motion** Mark Kuechler 2nd Barb Smith **APPROVED**
- 2) Opposing Privatization of Public Services **Motion** Barb Smith 2nd Mark Kuechler **APPROVED**
 - a. Jane Steffes **MOTION** to amend, Mark Kuechler second.,
 - i. Amendment approved

New text:

Support University of Wisconsin Workers

Whereas, the 2011-2013 Biennial Budget, or Act 32, mandated that the University of Wisconsin create an entirely new Human Resources system; and

Whereas, UW's HR Design infringes upon the rights of workers at UW; ends collective bargaining rights and civil service protections; exacerbates workplace inequality; uses subjective criteria for pay, vacation time, and transfer decisions; and undermines seniority rights; and

Whereas, WPEC bargaining unit members at UW appear to be entering a new legal status on July 1, 2013 with lesser union rights than their counterparts at state agencies, therefore be it

Resolved, that WPEC opposes the HR Design because it infringes on sacred rights of our members and other UW workers, and this monstrous attack on tens of thousands of workers will never be accepted by us, and further be it

Resolved, that WPEC will support efforts to organize UW workers into unions in the future, either our union or other unions.

- 3) **Protect Social Security and Medicare, Support Healthcare for All** Motion Mark Kuechler 2nd Barb Smith **APPROVED**
- 4) **Support Paid Sick Leave** Motion Mark Kuechler 2nd Bill Franks . **APPROVED.**
- 5) **Improving Communication on labor Issues** Leave Motion Mark Kuechler 2nd Bill Franks . **FAILED**
- 6) **Demand a Fair Wage Increase and oppose Merit and Performance Pay** Motion Mark Kuechler 2nd Barb **PASSED**
- 7) **Resolution in Support of Madison May Day Rally 2013** Motion Mark Kuechler 2nd John Fries **APPROVED**
- 8) **Move to mail ballots for Elections** Motion Mark Kuechler 2nd Barb Smith **PASSED**
 - a. Diane Mandell: Motion: Jane Steffes 2nd Strike 3rd, 4th and 5th paragraphs from motion: **APPROVED**
 - b. Amendment: *Be it resolved that the WPEC will task the Constitution Committee to study and recommend the method for union officers and executive council members to be elected via mail or electronic ballots.* Motion Mark Kuechler 2nd John Fries **APPROVED**
- 9) **State of Wisconsin Designing and Enacting a Pension system for Private Employees** Motion John Fries 2nd Mark Kuechler **APPROVED**
- 10) **Solidarity SingAlong** Motion Mark Kuechler 2nd Barb Smith Ed Berry has amended text.
 - a. Amendment Ruth Ginzberg 2nd Jane Steffes **PASSED**
 - b. 2nd Amendment John Fries 2nd Ruth Ginzberg **PASSED**

New text:

Support for Solidarity Sing-Along

Whereas, the Solidarity Sing Along at the Wisconsin Capitol in Madison has become one of the longest continuing labor demonstrations in recent history, having made more than 600 performances, and

*Whereas, the Solidarity Sing-Along has continued the Capitol occupation that followed Gov. Walker's assault on public employees and the labor movement in general,
Whereas, efforts are now underway by the Administration to suppress the Solidarity Sing Along and the free speech that it represents, and therefore be it
Resolved, WPEC endorses the Solidarity Sing Along and other efforts that represent free speech in the name of the labor movement.
Resolved, that WPEC will encourage its members to work with other Unions and groups to testify against the Administration's new emergency rule at public hearings.*

Adjournment