MARCH 9TH, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

Meeting was called to order by President Michael Chipman at 7:15 pm.

Present were: President Mike Chipman, V. President Jerry Brittain, Secretary Carla Jorgens, Treasurer Candace Hanes and State Trustee David Leigh.

Previous meeting minutes were read by Carla Jorgens.

Candace Hanes read the Treasurers report

OLD BUSINESS:

LRC Trustee Jason Swedlund submitted his resignation. Board voted 5-0 to accept it.

No new correspondence to report on.

COMMITTEE REPORTS FROM V.P. JERRY BRITTAIN:

1) MEMBERSHIP: Josh Osienger created a pamphlet to be handed out during inservice FOP presentation. Lots of good information is on it. We will collaborate to get it fine-tuned and ready for preservice presentations in the future.

2) BARGAINING: The new bargaining committee will be formed after the election of new officers.

3) LEGISLATIVE: Mike, Jerry, and David are working with our lobbyist regarding DHHS bills as well as Corrections bills and will keep us informed of any amendments to any bill in the last three weeks of this session in case we need to respond as proponents or opponents. It was explained by Mike that some things get attached to other bills at the last minute that can be detrimental for NDCS and DHHS employees and our Lobbyist and Legislative team, as it stands, will keep us informed if we need to take action as far as testifying for or against any new amendments.

4) BYLAWS: The newly proposed Bylaws will be voted on during the election/ratification process next month.

5) FUNDRAISING: Jerry and David Leigh discussed hosting BBQ’S, egg hunts, Golf and Volleyball Tournaments etc.. in the future. Also we would like to engage more with DHHS on these ventures to help raise money to help coworkers after staff assaults.

6) SAFETY: Trustees and Stewards need to notify Jerry of all details regarding staff assaults and safety concerns.

LABOR MANAGEMENT MEETINGS:

NSP 2-24-2020 Meeting was attended by Warden Capps, DW Hemminger, Major Stegeman, Gary Young, David Leigh and Josh Osienger regarding the assault on CW Akot. The NSP Administration was not receptive to the suggestion that they replace the staff that was removed from those areas to provide additional security to the staff in those bays. They denied ever having Corporals in those bays along with the Case Workers. This is false. During the staffing crisis those positions were eliminated to reduce the number of required employees to run the institution safely. The meeting was not received well and our request was denied by the Administration at NSP. We then sent a letter to Director Frakes and we have are awaiting a response from him at this time.

TSCI 2-24-2020 Meeting was attended by Jerry Brittain, Mike Chipman, Tom Fox and T.J Rutheford regarding the staff member posted in the mezzanine. A 90 day extension was granted on not removing that position.

NDCS 2-26-2020 Meeting with Governor Ricketts, Jason Jackson, Frakes, Tyler Gage Mike, Jerry, and Gary Young regarding the building of a new prison. Governor said FOP will have 1-2 members involved in the process of building a new prison.

DDHS HASTINGS 2-27-20 Meeting with Director Milo, Jerry, Michael regarding OT, Pay, Staffing and Staff safety. Pulling staff from HRC to staff YRTC Kearney was discussed. A new building is in the process of being built that will afford a safer work environment for staff and patients.

BSDC 3-4-2020 BSDC had a strangulation and biting in the “Crisis Unit”. Staff there are under trained in CICR and self-defense. Looking into CICR and other training to assist them in better protecting their staff and patients.

OLD BUSINESS:

Body Cams were discussed and how they are currently being used to discipline staff. They can currently go back as far as 180 days for disciplinary purposes. The initial reason for the cams were to protect staff and now they are being used against them. Who and when they should be worn was discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

The April meeting will be a required meeting for all trustees to attend.

A discussion was had regarding providing a donation of $500 for any staff that had been hospitalized for three days or longer, due to an assault. It was decided that we would issue this amount to CW Akot from the general fund with future donations coming out of the fundraising account. Mike proposed this, 2nd by Jerry Brittain . Vote was 5-0 to give Akot $500 out of the general fund for immediate assistance.

Paper ballots for those that had no personal email address was discussed. It was reported by Candace Hanes that there were only approximately 8 people that do not have personal emails. This topic was tabled 5-0 so we could confirm how many will actually be affected.

Digital meeting formats were discussed. Sysco Webex app is currently free with video, audio and text meetings. Jerry proposed we use Webex for the present time, 2nd by Carla Jorgens . Vote was 5-0 in favor of using WEBEX as an app for future meetings with committees to reduce the time and cost spent meeting for the various committees that will be meeting more frequently in the future.

Jerry proposed adding our separate emails to the FOP Website. It would cost approximately $2.00 per month per email address added. 2nd by Candace. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

Jerry stated that the web designer is also working on getting a place for the newsletter and meeting minutes added to the website, and the membership application has been fixed and we can now use that application to submit to the State for dues check off.

Carla Jorgens proposed that members consider adding a Historian for FOP 88 to catalog, preserve memorabilia, and digitally store documents regarding the history of FOP 88, from the very first informal meeting to the present, as the Union for the Protective Services Bargaining Unit with the assistance of and material provided by herself and Candace Hanes. 2nd by Candace Hanes. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

Michael Chipman moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:42. 2nd by Carla Jorgens. Meeting was adjourned.