**Minutes for the January 28, 2017 NYSLC Representative Assembly Meeting, Gideon Putnam, Saratoga Springs, New York**

Present:

Executive Board Officers: Bruce Meirowitz, Ryan Clark, Matthew Hout, Tim Mondello, John Weber

Allegany Region:

Central New York Region:

DEC: Barbara Palmateer

Finger Lakes Region: Caitlin Rejman

Genesee Region: Nicholas Hout

Long Island Region: Richard Malen, James Rooney

New York City Region:

Niagara Frontier Region: Bryan Collins

O.P.W.D.D.:

Palisades Interstate Region:

Saratoga/Capital Region:

Taconic Region:

Thousand Islands Region: Kris Shirley, Connor Dillon

Jones Beach Lifeguard Corps President: Derrick Agermeyer

Call to Order:

* The meeting was called to order at 11:50 by President B. Meirowitz
* Thanks were extended to all who attended and introductions were made for the 14 members in attendance

Opening Remarks

* B. Meirowitz acknowledged all people who are in public service, Lifeguards, Police, Fire Fighters and Military personnel
* Took a moment of silence for all that were lost including fellow lifeguards
* The minutes from 7/20/16 Representative Assembly meeting were reviewed by T. Mondello
* *Motion by R. Clark to accept the minutes, second by N. Hout (Passed unanimously)*

Representative Assembly manual is a public document and can be used and shared with members

President B. Meirowitz

* Reimbursement for short checks. New York State doesn’t change their take out per check NYS takes out the full amount each pay period.
* 1-3 lifeguards reached out for reimbursement for short checks
* UUP and AFT will not reimburse
* Lifeguards should talk with local payroll to see if they can put short check on another pay check
* Membership is almost 700 members-need to maintain fee and drive membership
* Agency fee is our existence
* Unions are not feeling confident in civil service

Budget

Treasurers Report

* Fiscal Year from 9/1/15-8/31/16 see budget on pages 10-12 of the Representative Assembly Manual
* As of 1/27/17 there is $43,350 in the account
* See page 9 of Representative Manual for the 9/1/15-8/31/16 Financial Statement
* See page 10 of Representative Manual for the projected budget 9/1/16-8/30/17
* NYSLC pays UUP/AFT $120,000 for affiliation dues
* UUP increased dues from 8%-12%
* B. Meirowitz and R. Clark are going to go to Albany to discuss this increase with UUP/AFT

What dose NYSLC get from the UUP/AFT dues?

* NYSLC gets representation from UUP/NYSUT
* We pay dues when we are not working
* NYSLC is going to check with UUP to see if they would do a flat rate for the NYSLC

Representative Meetings are over budget, what should NYSLC do for meetings?

* Have one meeting a year
* Web meetings
* Take one day of lifeguard pay away
* Have smaller Regional meetings
* Have a fixed payback for representatives per meeting
* *Motion by R. Clark to decrease the return chapters from $25 to $20 per member* *second by M. Hout (Passed unanimously)*
* See page 23 of Representative Manual Article 9 Section 8, reduce return to chapters from $25 to $20 per member
* See page 14 of Representative Manual for JBLC President D. Angermaier budget submission
* See pages 16-17 of Representative Manual for NYSLC Vice President Western Region M. Hout budget submission for the Western District

Presidents Report

B. Meirowitz

Elections

* See page 27 of Representative Assembly Manual for the call of nominations
* Bullet point number four talks about electioneering and looking at how to electioneer
* See page 30-34 of Representative Assembly Manual for the summary of votes
* See page 30c of Representative Assembly Manual for the ballot that J. Clerici posted with his business card attached to the ballot for the position of NYSUT/AFT Delegate
* See page 31 of Representative Assembly Manual, the business card is paid for by NYSUT and ballot was used to select a person
* Posting of the ballot should not have been done
* *Motions by R. Clark: second by C. Rejam (passed unanimously)* 
  1. *Pending UUP approval and in consultation with UUP we will invalidate the election results for the NYSUT/AFT Delegate positon and leave it vacant for this election year cycle*
  2. *Also in consultation with UUP we will look to eliminate the position of NYSUT/AFT Delegate*
  3. *Develop new election protocols*
* B. Meirowitz is going to reach out to J. Rooney, J. Hammil, B. Hepworh, J. Clerici, and R. Malen about this situation
* J. Rooney is going to reach out to Eileen Landy about this situation

Communications

* Pages 38-44 of Representative Assembly Manual
* See page 40 of Representative Assembly Manual for Staten Island grievance, they are subbing out lifeguarding work to an outside agency-in the contract it states OPWDD can bring in outside agency for lifeguard work
* See page 43 of Representative Assembly Manual list of officials for leadership access for website
* See page 44 of Representative Assembly Manual for lifeguards teaching swim lessons/instruction
* D. Angermaier is looking into NYS to pay for WSI certification for Learn to Swim Program on Long Island
* R. Alden has paid for WSI courses all over the state and will provide the course and pay for the course as well as 32 hours to take the course. Contact R. Alden Water Safety Coordinator if interested
* Thousand Islands will offer swim lessons this summer

Contracts

* Contract negotiations are moving forward in a positive way
* CSEA settled for 2%, 2%, 2%
* NTA settled for 2.5%, 2.5%
* UUP possible 2%, 2%, 2% package maybe before summer
* 2016 would be retroactive only if you are currently active
* Tuition waivers-3 credit tuition wavier for SUNY Schools for members - still moving with this may be able to do this but while in pay status, which would mean the summer

Grievance

* DEC Lifeguard 1 supposed to be a lifeguard 2 as well as pay for a lifeguard 2. Lifeguard will get a whole summer worth of back pay
* B. Palmateer won formal grievance with the new higher wage and there are nine others only 3 still work for NYS

Regional Reports

* DEC B. Palmateer
  + Budget issues for DEC
  + Lifeguard candidates have decreased from 100 to 36 this past summer. B. Palmateer is putting more effort into recruitment
  + 45 lifeguards qualified for DEC but lost 9 lifeguards due to Regional offices not interviewing the candidates in a timely manner
  + B. Palmateer collects all of the lifeguard canidat information and certifications and hands into Regional offices
* Niagara-B. Collins
  + Got union forms out each year so that lifeguards are all full members
  + Niagara parks borrowed lifeguards form other parks in Region specifically Beaver Island
  + Stayed open later into September this past summer

Page 73 of Representative Assembly Manual can be put into rehire paperwork. NYS can’t collect or send it in to union, the lifeguard member must so this

* Finger Lakes- C. Rejman
  + Used Return to Chapter money on lifeguard duffle bags in the region and 80 lifeguards received the bags
  + Posted information about the union in the lifeguard shacks
  + There was a lot of lifeguard swapping through the summer between parks
  + Spread union information to lifeguards in the region
  + Some lifeguards in the region went to the Central region for the competition
  + Had a few triathlons at some parks that went well again this summer
* Genesee-N. Hout
  + Two parks in the region are getting upgrades to their bathhouses
  + Purchased Nalgene water bottles for Western Region Lifeguards
  + Will use NYSLC database with members on it to get new members and use water bottles for members to sign up for union membership
* Thousand Islands K. Shirly, C. Dillon
  + 66 total lifeguards
  + Stayed open two extra weekends in September
  + K. Shirly is going to go to all the parks in his region this summer to introduce himself as well as give information about the union and to get lifeguards to become members
* Jones Beach Lifeguard Corps D. Agermeyer
  + 475 lifeguards with 3,063 rescues in 2016
  + 2 new members
  + Employee handbook with lifeguards in in it
  + Pushing membership drive
  + Sent six lifeguards to Nationals in California with 100% reimbursement
  + JBLC has monthly meetings with pizza provided
  + This is an election year for them
  + Purchased t-shirts with inter-beach races
  + Have a holiday gathering every year
  + D. Agermeyer will run for President of the JBLC
* R. Malen-the state asked to redesign the lifeguard chairs and wing stands with a awning possibly
* J. Roony- Doesn’t understand the two separate boards of the NYSLC and JBLC

Each NYSLC Region can use their NYSUT Regional offices for meetings and photo coping

Summer meeting, either July 12th or July 19th depending on the Jones Beach Lifeguard tournament

President Bruce Meirowitz thanks everyone for coming

*Meeting was adjourned at 3:06, N. Hout made a Motion to adjourn, seconded C. Rejman (Unanimous)*