

AFSCME Subchapter 161 Executive Board Meeting for Election of President

The meeting on June 25, 2020 was called to order at 3:50 p.m. Mary was presiding. Ron, Walter, Tony, Jesse, John, Mary, MacArthur, Diane, Nancy, and Dave were in attendance.

Mary said, "We can schedule a time for the executive board to pick a president or have a general election."

Ron replied, "This meeting is to elect a president. The executive board votes, though we invited the trustees to the meeting. According to the constitution, this is what we need to do."

Walter said that holding a general meeting to elect a president "is necessary to cross the Ts and dot the Is."

Norma answered, "Walter, I spoke to Maria, your representative. This is what we need to do to fill a vacancy."

Ron said, "The first thing we need to do is find someone to chair the election, someone outside the executive board, someone who's not running for a position."

Norma said, "Mary, you need to pick somebody to run the election right now. If you want, I can facilitate."

Norma continued, "To be eligible, a member must be in good standing for a year immediately before the election until the general election in April 2021. The president will be a member of all committees except the election committee, and will countersign all checks written for the subchapter. I suggest now we open for nominations."

John said, "I wish to nominate Diane Stokes for president."

Ron said, "I second it,"

Norma said, "John has nominated Diane Stokes and Ron has seconded it. Are there any other nominations?"

Mary said, "I would like to nominate myself."

Jesse said, "I second it."

Norma said, "Mary has nominated herself and Jesse has seconded it. Are there any other nominations?"

There were no other nominations.

Norma said, “Each nominee has five minutes to speak. Mary, would like to go first?”

Mary said, “The most important thing is to put all our energy into passing the Fair tax, I want to work more closely with political committees to achieve our objectives, and to work more closely with John Cameron on the political arm.”

Diane said, “I was vice-president and president of my local for about twenty years. Particularly under Governor Rauner, unions were under attack. I’ve learned that unions need to be internally organized. We need to evaluate what our resources are. I agree that the FAIR tax will be our main focus. We shouldn’t meet in person; we’re retirees, we’re at risk for the virus.”

Norma said, “We have heard from both candidates. I’m going to give it to Tony, so that we can hear votes from the executive board only.”

Tony said, “You’re talking about Ron, me, John, Jesse, MacArthur, and Mary,”

Ron, Tony, John, Jesse, and MacArthur voted for Diane; Mary voted for herself.

Tony said, “The election was five to one for Diane.”

Norma said, “The election has been conducted and recorded. The president will come forward; it will be Diane.”

Norma swore Diane in and said, “Let me be the first to congratulate you.”

Diane said, “I look forward to working with everyone. We’re emerging from a very hard period with coronavirus, adapting to ZOOM, learning new skills, and the death of Charlie.”

Norma said, “Diane, as your first act, you should name a chapter executive board representative. This person attends state executive board meetings, usually in Springfield, and reports back to the membership. Maria said it should be someone from outside of the subchapter’s executive board.”

Diane asked, “Do we have any discussion?”

John said, “I think we should wait a day or two and see if other members would be interested in the position. I’ll send out an email to everybody on our list.”

Diane asked, “Could we meet again?”

Ron asked, "Do we want to meet Tuesday?"

John said, "How about we arrange for a ZOOM meeting on email?"

This was agreed to.

Diane asked if there was any other business.

Tony asked, "Were we also supposed to name someone to the PEOPLE committee?"

Norma said, "That would be for your president. Anyone can attend, but only the president has a vote."

Diane said, "Walter mentioned a membership meeting; I don't see an in-person meeting in July. Do you want to meet for the next Executive Board meeting in four weeks?"

Norma said to give people a few dates.

MacArthur asked, "Could we keep it on the third Wednesday at 11:00 or 1:00?"

Dave said "People are already starting their day, and may be out by 1:00 p.m."

MacArthur then suggested the meeting be held between 11:00 and 11:30.

Dave said everyone should please check their email.

Ron said, "Jess, Walt, Mary, I want to do a practice session one on one with you on ZOOM. Nancy, I'll do a practice session with you on the phone."

Diane asked, "Are there any other items?"

Norma said, "No, we went over it."

John made a motion to adjourn. Ron seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 4:46 p.m.