

AFSCME Subchapter 161 August 19, 2020 Members' Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 a.m. Ronald Smolin, Mary Bennett, Anthony Zappia, Jesse Wilson, John Metz, Diane Stokes, Edward Schneidman, David Rolston, Patrick Houlihan, Marilyn Adler and Norma Smolin were present.

Tony read the minutes.

Diane made a correction and said that Maria clarified that the retiree subchapters have only two delegates to the entire state, so that Diane and Mary can't go, and asked that that be added to the minutes.

John said, "The minutes record what happened at the last meeting. This should be discussed in old business."

The minutes were accepted.

Jesse read the treasurer's report for July. The ending balance on June 30 and the beginning balance on July 1 was 32,604.19. No checks were written. A rebate of \$686.40 was received from the mother chapter, making the ending balance for July 31 and the beginning balance for August 1 \$33,390.59.

The treasurer's report was accepted.

Jesse said, "Chaya donated \$25 in honor of Charlie. Can we accept the donation?"

Pat said, "Contact Maria."

Contacting members about the FAIR tax was discussed.

John said, "Leave the call back number of the voice mail."

Dave said, "No, let the phoners work it out."

Diane said, "I'm working with activists in the area, with information on voter registration and the FAIR tax at food pantries. My friend from the Alliance wants to know if we want to do a webinar on the FAIR tax."

Ed asked, "Does the script say the FAIR tax can be raised at any time?"

Dave answered, "It says it's just a removal of the flat tax; pensioners won't be taxed."

John added, "The FAIR tax gives no new powers to the legislature. Taxes would be raised only for the one percent; it's less likely for everyone else in the state.'

Mary said, "Companies that work in Illinois tax benefits."

Diane said, "In the webinar, we could allay their fears."

John said, "In addition to phone calls, we should send one more postcard, a simple card, "Vote for FAIR tax", address for more information. It would cost about \$600. I move we send post cards for about \$800 around October."

Ed asked, "Would October 1 be too late? Many people will vote early."

Dave said, "When in doubt, go as early as possible."

John said, "You can't vote before the first of October; it won't be accepted by the election board."

Norma said, "Early voting is from Thursday, September 24 to Monday, November 2 in person. If you mail it in, include a stamp. They'll send out mail-in ballots in late September, early October."

The motion to send the postcards for \$800 carried.

Ron said, "Only the board has an email of the constitution. I'll read the change. Article 4, Section 3: The annual amount of subchapter membership dues is directed by Council 31. A non-pension payroll deduction will be paid in advance to Chapter 31."

Norma said, "The International or Chapter 31 may change it back to make it legal. Article 6, Section 2 calls for all regular elections to be held in April. Section 8 concerns removal from office of any officer absent from three consecutive executive board meetings without an excuse acceptable to the majority of the board."

Diane instructed, "Send an email, Norma, with a note: Changes to the constitution will be discussed at the members' meeting September 16, 2020."

Diane also brought up the PEOPLE meeting, August 29. Ron, Dave, Jesse, Walt, Diane and Mary can attend.

Dave asked, "Can we make resolutions?"

Diane said, "No."

The meeting was adjourned at 1:26 p.m.