

Rep. Council Meeting Minutes

Jan. 20th, 2021 from 3:30 to 4:52 via Zoom

Members present – Corey Penrose, Todd Blanset, Alyson Brauning, Brenda Hensley, Julie Rodrigues, Shannon Cole, Amy Nowaski, Annaliese Vasquez, Annmarie Danielson, Anthony Seres, Ariel Ray, Brittany Wensky, Chanie Richard, Chris Cooper, Daniel Rodriguez, Daniel Fraizer, Dawn Kelly, Denise Nelson, Eric Estes, Jouli Jara, Jessica Schilder, Jordan Kieschnick, Julie McGee, Kara Green, Kathryn Beno, Keri Tafuro, Lisa Cusi, Mark France, Michael Pribyl, Miranda Merino, Ireno Calip, Chris Fickes, Behnaaz Fero, Jaxie Murray, Mikayla Waugh, Norma Guerrero-Rubio, Ryan Williams, Shanti McClure, Sofia Calderobn, Suzi Morgan, Tari Carolle, Tessa Craig, Yvonne DiMichele, Amy Nowaski, Sophoe Imbuleten

1 - Approval of the minutes – the minutes from the previous meeting were approved, without objection.

2 - Approval of the agenda – the agenda for this meeting was approved, with flexibility and without objection.

3 - The Standard presentation – Sophie Inbuleten reported that the Standard campaign to sign up members for disability and life insurance in the fall was unsuccessful due to fires and COVID-19 shutdowns. As a result of this, the campaign to sign up new members was restarting in Feb and will run until March. In order for the campaign to be successful, and for new members to be admitted to the plan with no health questions, 5% of members will need to sign up. An informational flyer about the campaign will be posted to our website and social media platforms. Sophie finished her report by sharing that Standard is invited to speak at a staff meeting, the site reps will receive an amazon gift card. If site reps would like to book her for a presentation, please contact her at 707-322-8477

4 - President's Report- Todd reported that there have been some misconceptions in the community about the logistics of a phased transfer from distance learning to in-person learning, which have since been corrected. His report finished by discussing some of the logistics of the usage of the COVID testing machines recently purchased by the district. He reported that there will be a board meeting regarding the open board seat on January 25th. His report finished with some general conversation about the status of our unit members receiving COVID-19 vaccines, protocols to follow in regards to PPE, general member safety and member experiences regarding vaccinations/COVID testing.

5 - Treasurer's report – after answering a few questions about our finances, the treasurers report was approved, without objection. The report finished with a reminder to be sure to spent site engagement funds before the end of the school year.

6 – Bargaining – Brenda updated the council on regular contractual issues and COVID-related issues focusing on the safe reopening of our schools. She then went onto discuss the financial outlook for 2020-2021 and 2021-2022. She then went onto discuss some proposed one-time monies from the governor’s office if we open by specific deadlines. She then went onto discuss that the governor is hoping the legislature will act on his proposals and discussed the likelihood of those proposals being adapted by the district. Her report finished by answering some general questions about policies we will follow as we continue to balance the importance of reopening schools to in-person instruction and ensuring member safety during an ongoing stay-at-home order.

7 – Grievance – Lisa reported that there have been some ongoing issues, but nothing to share with the council at this time.

8 - Committee/Chair Reports:

Equity Team: Alyson reported that the district has been moving slowly on Equity issues and urged members to call her, if there are any issues or if there is any feedback.

Member Engagement: Alyson reported that will be a retirement workshop on February 11th. [For more information, please click here](#). Her report finished with an update about virtual events to engage our members and shared [the CTA conference link](#) with council. The report finished with a general conversation about what should be done if units are denied for approval and a reminder that salary advancement units, for this year, are now free. Reps were urged to remind our members to sign up for free salary advancement!

Action: Corey shared use statistics for our website and social media platforms. If any members have content they’d like posted to either platform, please contact their site director.

Labor Council: Corey discussed how membership in the labor council helped to facilitate a relationship between VTA and the union representing the classified employees for the Vacaville Unified School District, SEIU 1021. As a result of that relationship, VTA-PAC was able to...

PAC: After discussing the recently completed joint interviews between VTA and SEIU 1021 for the open seat on the Vacaville School Board, VTA-PAC made the following motion:

Motion – endorse Santiago Serrato the open seat on the Vacaville School Board – the motion carries 33-1 with one abstention.

The report finished with a reminder for members of council to keep this endorsement in the room until the PAC Chair is able to contact all of the amazing community members who met with VTA and SEIU to seek the coveted endorsement of our unions.

Special Ed: none

Leave Bank: none

Membership: none

9 - New and continuing business - none

10 - Conference reports – Lisa reported on some great sessions held at the recent Issues conference and answered a few questions.

11 – Other - none

12 – Adjournment – the meeting was adjourned at 4:52.

Respectfully submitted, Corey Penrose