

Fy 20

October 10, 2019 – Nome Chapter Meeting

Meeting was called to order by Matt at 5:02pm

Present: Matt Culley, president, Mo Koezuna, secretary; Trustee Betsy Brennan, members: Vickie Erickson, Jake Kenick, Jurina Ison, Lily Fawn White...quorum established. (William Walters, business agent, was on the phone).

Items on the agenda were as follows:

1. Minutes from the April 23, 2019 meeting were accepted in to the record.
2. Matt talked about stewards and the importance of their roles...asked anyone interested in becoming a steward to contact him...he has the forms. Training is at the end of the month. He and Mo said the caseload for stewards was not high in Nome; it was mostly to answer questions about the union. Mo said she will not be signing up to be a steward again as she is retiring at the end of November (woo hoo!!). Matt said he was not making anyone feel like they had to sign up because he knows how busy everyone is but we do need people.
3. Matt next brought up elections...said we were past the election date and could appoint officers if everyone said ok. He volunteered to be president again...there was no objection. After discussion, the following officers were appointed: Secretary – Betsy Brennan; Treasurer – Vickie Erickson; Trustees: Jurina Ison and Jake Kenick.
4. Matt explained the financials; totals were
 - Checking: \$ 718.03
 - Savings: \$ 17,547.16
5. Matt talked about Janus and being an ASEA member vs a union member. He talked about the possibility that you will need to be an ASEA member to continue in the ASEA Health Trust or Legal Trust. Union members may have to use Alaska Care as their health coverage. He further discussed the pending lawsuits resulting from Janus – State of Alaska vs ASEA and ASEA vs State of Alaska. He said it was very interesting the one day after the State signed off on our contracts they turned around and sued ASEA over membership and how dues are collected even though our contract specifically says the State will collect the dues.
6. The next topic was biweekly pay ... the State sent out an email today saying we will be switching over to biweekly pay periods beginning December 16, 2019. Matt said there are concerns and an article in our contract says we need a Letter of Agreement before this can happen. There are also several things (like pay amounts and leave accrual) that needs tweaking before this can happen.
7. A holiday party was talked about. Matt said it brings people together but we need help organizing it. Likewise, with our fundraiser, the Firemen's Carnival – it won't happen unless we get more involvement because it isn't fair for a few to do all the work. He asked if people wanted a holiday party and the answer was yes. A motion was made that Matt spend up to \$400 reserving a venue

(preferably the VFW) to have a holiday party and it passed unanimously. It was decided that the other state unions (SU, PSEA, and Local 71) will be invited to participate but only if they help pay for it. Matt said it will be up to those members to contact their unions for funds. A Taco theme was decided on...another meeting will be held (no date announced) to plan the party.

8. Matt further brought up the topic of the possibility of the ASEA State Eboard meeting in Nome. He said he thought it would cost too much money to bring everyone to Nome. Discussion among those present was held, and the consensus was that it would cost too much and the Nome chapter was not supportive of the idea.
9. Members were then asked for comments...

Betsy – can we invite people for a social hour to just learn about the union? Discussion followed with the answer yes!! It was suggested it could be at Nugget Inn and the chapter can buy food but not alcohol. Hopefully William would be able to attend such a meeting.

Fawn – asked who exactly is in our chapter? Matt said would get list. She said she would reach out to them about ASEA membership and also would try to get personal emails since the state mail system may not be available in the future.

All - Having meetings at times other than 5pm was brought up...Lunchtime meetings were suggested (with the chapter buying pizza or lunch) and there was a positive reaction to that idea. That will be tried in the future.

Jake – mentioned that there was an airflow issue happening with DPA that he promised to mention...William said he should send him an email to explain it and hopefully get the problem solved.

There being no other discussion, the meeting was called at 6:00pm with no date set for the next meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mo Koezuna, Secretary