Official Minutes

BESPA Eboard

General Meeting

DATE: May 20, 2015

TIME: 4:30 PM – 6:10 PM

PLACE: Olean BOCES Center Conference rooms 1,2 & 3

**OFFICERS PRESENT**: Sherry Weeks, Co-President

Deanna Steffenhagen, Co-President

Ronda Turner, Secretary

Anne Raymond, Treasurer

Joan Jackson, Teacher Aide Rep

Jackie Paddock, General Rep

Christine Russell, Membership Rep

**OFFICERS ABSENT**: NONE

**OTHERS PRESENT**: Paul Csont – NYSUT

33 members

2 scholarship winners and 1 guest each.

At registration time a sign in sheet was signed by the members, $10 gift certificates were handed out, and signed for, and membership was verified.

Sandwiches, fresh fruit and vegetables with dip, cookies(all made by Ellicottville Culinary class) pizza, soda and water were provided.

Co-Presidents Deanna Steffenhagen called the meeting to order at 4:35.

The meeting opened with saying the pledge to the flag.

Sherry Weeks read the union mission statement.

Deanna gave a few guidelines that would be used for discussions during this meeting which included respect for others, allow others to speak, set time limits for topics with topics being tabled until the end of the meeting once that limit had been met.

**New Business**

Ronda Turner introduced the scholarship winners to the members. Each winner told about their future plans. There were 7 applications received so this year 2 $750 scholarships were awarded. The winners were Zachrey Colburn from Allegany Limestone – Grandson of Ellen Wachowicz, and Austin Morgan from Pioneer – son of Dalinda Morgan.

**Secretary Report**

R. Turner presented the minutes from the October 15, 2014 General meeting – meet and greet. Copies were provided to all members attending. Ronda asked if there were any question from the floor regarding those minutes. Ronda announced that all minutes from any eboard meeting are available to members. They may request them by emailing her.

Motion to approve October minutes made by C.Russell, 2nd by D.Chambers. 40 Ayes, 0 no votes. Motion carried.

**Membership Report**

C. Russell had provided a report showing this year’s statistics and the upcoming union dues. She took time explaining where our dues go. At that time she presented on increasing our dues by $1 per person per year with that money staying with our local unit.

Motion to approve increase made by C. Russell, 2nd by S. Weeks. 40 Ayes, 0 no votes. Motion carried.

Current membership as of May 2015 – 222 active members, 24 fee payers for a total of 246 members.

Motion to approve report made by J. Jackson, 2nd by R. Turner. 40 Ayes, 0 no votes. Motion carried.

**Treasurer Report**

A. Raymond handed out and reported on the financial status of the union as of May 20.

Checking - $20,562.29 Savings - $50,074.84

Investments total - $20,062.06

The report included the adopted budget for the current year, what had actually been spent, and the proposed budget for next year. A question from the floor about the proposed budget and the increase was asked. A suitable explanation was given, and the question was answered.

Motion to approve the proposed budget made by E. Wachowicz, 2nd by E. Lawrence. 40 Ayes, 0 no votes. Motion carried.

Motion to approve minutes made by M.A. Buffington, 2nd by M. Cowles. 40 Ayes, 0 no votes. Motion carried

**Sick Bank**

Deanna updated the union on a change to the sick bank. It will no longer exclude maternity leave. It was announced that open enrollment to join the sick ban will be June 1 – 30 and what the requirements are for joining the sick bank.

Sherry announced that the raise for our members beginning July 1 will be 2.67%.

Ann talked about the upcoming changes taking place with the Special Ed classes at Portville. All but 2 classes will be moving to the old IJN building.

Ann also talked about Vote Cope and how important it is to make our voices heard. She mentioned 3 ways to support- by going to rallies, using the MAC app to send faxes or messages to legislators, or giving financially.

Sherry shared what happened at the RA Rally.

Deanna read the list of retirees from our union this year.

**Old Business**

C. Russell gave an update on the web site. The web address is [WWW.BESPACA.ORG](http://WWW.BESPACA.ORG). She showed changes that had been made and the many features that are available.

A time for any questions from the floor was given at this time.

**Elections**

Introduction of the elections committee took place. This year the committee was Holly Baker and Aaron Cornell.

The committee announced what positions were up for election and who is running for those positions. All positions are for 2 year terms.

Co-President A – no petitions

Membership – 1 petition – Valerie Berger

Secretary – no petitions

1 Teacher Aide Rep – 1 petition – Melissa Carr

1 General Rep – no petitions.

S. Weeks made a motion that we accept nominations from the floor for positions with no petitions, R. Turner 2nd. Eboard convened to executive session to discuss at 5:35. Executive session ended 5.40. Deanna called the meeting back to order at 5:42.

The elections committee asked for nominations from the floor for the Co-President A position. Nomination made for Anne Raymond. Anne accepted the nomination.

The elections committee asked for nominations for Secretary. No nominations made

The elections committee asked for nominations for General Rep. – Nomination made for Ellen Wachowicz. Ellen accepted the nomination.

The elections commited asked for nominations for the Treasurer position vacated by Anne Raymond to become Co-President – no nominations made.

Elections committee suggested that because all offices are running unopposed, that we vote to have 1 vote casted by the secretary. M. Carr motioned to accept the suggestion, 2nd by M. Cowles. 40 Ayes, 0 no votes. Motion carried.

Official ballot placed by R. Turner – Secretary

Next year’s officers will be:

Deanna Steffenhagen – Co President B

\*Anne Raymond – Co-President A

Secretary – vacant

\*Membership Officer – Valerie Berger

Treasurer – Vacant

General Rep – Jackie Paddock

\*General Rep – Ellen Wachowicz

Teacher Aide Rep – Joan Jackson

\*Teacher Aide Rep – Melissa Carr

\*-newly elected at this meeting

Sherry addressed the union about accomplishments that were made this year by the eboard.

A motion to adjourn made by H. Baker, 2nd by D. Mcguire. 40 ayes, 0 no.

Meeting adjourned 6:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Ronda Turner.