**BRANCH 1477 N.A.L.C.**

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP ZOOM MEETING**

**March 14, 2024**

**Meeting called to order** at 7:00 p.m. by President Joe Henschen.

**Invocation** by Greg Welsh.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** led by President Joe Henschen.

**Minutes of previous meeting:** Motion to accept the February minutes by Terry Johnson, seconded by Donny DeMilta. Motion passes.

**Branch by the Numbers:** As of the recent Dues Roster there are 815 Active Members paying dues, 4 are on Military Leave. 7 are on OWCP, Separated/Resigned, Retirees 560, 89 Gold Cards with 29 members eligible for Life Membership. 1395 total members.

Recognize from Absolute Quality Interpreting Services, Kelli Benz.

T**reasurer:** President Henschen read ending balances for February as Chuck Cavicchio is Excused. Motion to accept Treasurer’s Report by Greg Welsh, seconded by Jim Bumbul. Motion passes.

**Director of Retiree** **Affairs:** O.D. Elliott - When you get ready to retire, I will assist you with your paperwork if needed.

**Director of Insurance:** Tom Phillips - Brochures about MBA policy’s put on the table here.

**Political District 13 Liaison:** TomPhillips - Attended the CLC meeting last week heard APWU getting active with Legislative issues.

**Vice President Report:** Greg Welsh – Talked about the Joint Statement on Violence and read some of the language. You need to document things that are happening.

**Executive Vice President:** Chris Hubble - Office Grievance Summary: 18 Grievances initiated at Informal A. 4 resolved at Informal A, 11 resolved at Formal A, 3 appealed to Step B. Discipline seems to be on the rise.

I attended at Region 9 and helped teach at the Formal A and Beyond. We had a Steward attend and did well with the training

**Welfare Reports:**

**Sad:**

* Matt Dietzler, Carrier Englewood - Passed away as result of motorcycle accident.
* Bill Napoli, Retiree St. Petersburg - Passed away.
* Melisa Grant, Carrier Midtown - Grandson had bone marrow transplant.
* Martha Fry, Englewood - Longtime boyfriend passed away.
* Mike Hancock, St. Petersburg - Mother passed away.
* Gene Carroll, retiree St. Petersburg - Had surgery.
* Nadir Alwani, Carrier Open Air - Mother involved in automobile accident.

**Glad:**

**PTF Promotions:**

8 Promotions in St. Petersburg from PTF to UAR

6 CCA’s in St. Petersburg were promoted to UAR

**Presidents Report:**

We received our credentials from NALC, so we can book the rooms for the upcoming National Convention this August in Boston, Massachusetts. There are a few delegates who still haven’t certified that they haven’t served in management in the last 2 years.

Yesterday, March 13, the **Protect our Letter Carriers Act H.R.7629** was introduced in the House with bipartisan legislation would provide $7 billion in funding for the Postal Service to secure it infrastructure, including the installation of high security collection boxes and replacement of items carried by letter carriers with more secure electronic versions. Also, the legislation would increase prosecution rates for these crimes by adding U.S. attorneys in each judicial district and prioritize any case involving an assault or crime against a letter carrier.

Region 9 NBA Office has sent a list of reassign lists and this makes it possible for us to communicate to you where there are openings and who has put in for any area.

Local Steward Training took place at the hall. It was a 3-day training event and have had positive reviews on it.

In May, we have **Fl Legislation/Contract Training** in Orlando, In the past each District Chair would schedule a 4-6-hour meeting in each of the 6 FSALC Districts. The Business Agent Eddie Davidson has combined the training all together in a 2-day format. The Executive Board hasn’t recommended as to who will be suggested for attendance.

**September Stewards College coming up.**

**September 14-20 National Advanced Formal A and Beyond**. We will see how we do at the regional level on this before we see about committing to the National level. It is a lot more intense training.

National Memo agreement M-01694 Re: Assignment of City Delivery. In offices with both city and rural delivery, new deliveries will be assigned in accordance with boundaries that have been established between Postal Service and Letter Carrier and Rural Letter Carrier Unions. Absent such agreement, the city letter carrier craft will be assigned all new growth instead of the rural craft. This pertains to our South Cities area.

**National Contract Update**: The parties are still negotiating on the contract even as they have picked arbitrators. A lot of proposals are being talked about and hoping we will have more information by May.

President Henschen then discussed the details about the death of Matt Dietzler on Saturday 3/2/24 as he was involved in a motorcycle accident where he was struck by a woman driving the wrong way with the head lights off. He was struck and killed.

**Bylaw Proposal**: Last month a proposed bylaw change was discussed, and it was improperly tabled, so tonight we are going to correct the problem. The maker of the Bylaw was offered time to speak, and he has officially withdrawn the bylaw proposal.

Food Drive coming up on May 11.

**Door Prize Drawing:**

**Lotto – Scratch Off Ticket**

O.D. Elliott

Submitted by Ken Grasso

Secretary Branch 1477 NALC