



# COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA LOCAL 1014

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## MEETING MINUTES

### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2017

**ROLL CALL:** The following officers and trustee were absent: Sachina Evans, Ross Laboy, Dominic Martino, Sandi Norcross, Nidia Sinclair, Mike Tacconelli.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Recording Secretary, Valerie Castagna

The minutes for the March General Membership meeting were not available. Those minutes will be presented for approval at the October General Membership meeting along with tonight's meeting minutes.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** Corresponding Secretary Eunice Robinson

New members enrolled since last meeting –

<u>Unit(s)</u>	<u>#</u>
Camden County	1
City of Camden	<u>10</u>
Total	11

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Corresponding Secretary Eunice Robinson

None

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Financial Secretary/Treasurer Tytanya Ray

The financial report, reflecting transactions in all Local 1014 accounts, August 1 – August 31, 2017, was presented. A motion to accept the report was made by Mike Grasso, seconded by Ken Rice. The motion was approved.

**ELECTION COMMITTEE:** Sue Warner, Chair

Chairperson Susan Warner accepted nominations from the floor for all open positions. The following nominations were accepted:

Miranda Maher nominated Karl Walko for the position of President, for a three-year term. A motion to close nominations was made by Ken Rice, seconded by Mike Grasso. The closing of nominations was approved.

Miranda Maher nominated Amber Pallante for the position of Vice President, for a three-year term. A motion to close nominations was made by Mike Grasso, seconded by Donna Barrett. The closing of nominations was approved.

Candice Jefferson nominated Tytanya Ray for the position of Financial Secretary/Treasurer, for a three-year term. A motion to close the nominations was made by Mike Grasso, seconded by Bryan Burns. The closing of nominations was approved.

Miranda Maher nominated Valerie Castagna for the position of Recording Secretary, for a three-year term. A motion to close nominations was made by Mike Grasso, seconded by Cedric Smith. The closing of nominations was approved.

Dave Ewing nominated Orlando Munoz for the position of Sergeant-At-Arms, for a three-year term. A motion to close nominations was made by Cedric Smith seconded by Amber Pallante. The closing of nominations was approved.

Miranda Maher nominated Eunice Robinson for the position of Corresponding Secretary, for a three-year term. A motion to close nominations was made by Mike Grasso, seconded by Ken Rice. The closing of nominations was approved.

Gary Still nominated Candace Jefferson for the position of President for the Camden City Supervisory Unit, for a two-year term. A motion to close nominations was made Amber Pallante, seconded by Mark Schiendelman. The closing of nominations was approved.

Candice Jefferson nominated Gary Still for the position of Trustee for the Camden City Supervisory Unit, one opening, for a two-year term. A motion to close nominations was made Candice Jefferson, seconded by Steve Miller. The closing of nominations was approved.

Orlando Munoz nominated David Ewing for the position of Trustee for the Camden City Non-Supervisory Unit, one opening, for a two-year term. A motion to close nominations was made Cedric Smith, seconded by Steve Miller. The closing of nominations was approved.

Steve Miller nominated Steve Miller for the position of Trustee for the County Blue Collar Unit, one opening, for a two-year term. A motion to close nominations was made by Cedric Smith, seconded by Bryan Burns. The closing of nominations was approved.

Katy Petsas nominated Katy Petsas for the position of Trustee for the County Prosecutor's Office Unit, one opening, for a two-year term. A motion to close nominations was made Mike Grasso, seconded by Bryan Burns. The closing of nominations was approved.

Cedric Smith nominated Mark Schiendelman and Davis Astacio, for the position of Trustee for the Winslow Township Unit, two openings, each for 2-year terms. A motion to close the nominations was made by Orlando Munoz, seconded by Bryan Burns. The closing of nominations was approved.

Danielle Rogers nominated Ken Rice, Ken Rice nominated Mike Grasso and Bryan Burns nominated Matthew Frankowski for the position of Trustee for the County Large Unit, two openings, each for a 2-year term. A motion to close the nominations was made by Mike Grasso, seconded by Bryan Burns. The closing of nominations was approved.

At this point, a motion to reopen these nominations was made by Bryan Burns, seconded by Amber Pallante to permit a change in the nominations for these positions. The motion was approved.

The nominations were reopened. Danielle Rogers nominated Ken Rice, and Bryan Burns nominated Matthew Frankowski for the position of Trustee for the County Large Unit, two openings, each for a 2-year term. A motion to close the nominations was made by Mike Grasso, seconded by Amber Pallante. The closing of nominations was approved.

Bryan Burns nominated Mike Grasso for the position of Trustee for the County Large Unit, one opening, for a one-year term. A motion to close the nominations was made by Bryan Burns, seconded by Ken Rice. The closing of nominations was approved.

All those nominated were nominated without opposition. As provided in the Local 1014 Constitution whenever there is no contest for a given position, the Recording Secretary was directed to cast a ballot in order to elect those individuals nominated.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**ACTIVITIES:** Eunice Robinson, Chair

The following activities were reviewed with fliers made available:

Woodbury Commons Discount Shopping – 11/25/2017, Cost – \$10/PP

Longwood Gardens at Christmas – 12/2/2017, Cost – \$33/PP

**AUDIT:** Sue Warner, Chair

No report.

**DENTAL:** Leah Hicks, Chair

The Committee met on 8/25 and agreed to continue the relationship with Dr. John D. Kernan Dental Office. A meeting with the Dental Office is being scheduled to discuss the terms of a successor contract. In the meantime, the parties have agreed to a month-to-month continuation of the current contract under the current terms.

**GOLF TOURNAMENT:** Valerie Castagna, Chair

This year's Golf Tournament was held on Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at the Pennsauken Country Club. Last year \$9,402.97 was raised. This year's goal was \$10,000 and \$10,004.90 was raised. Committee Chair Castagna thanked members for their participation and support, thanked the Golf Committee for its work, and gave special thanks to Caroline Taylor for putting the tournament together, Maryanne McGee for securing many of the prizes and Sue Warner for doing an awesome job selling \$3,000 in Auction tickets and \$1,000 in 50/50 tickets at the tournament. Castagna said the Committee will look for a broader involvement next year from union representatives and members to help with soliciting donations and golfers.

**ORGANIZING:** Amber Pallante, Chair

The July 2017 report was distributed. A campaign to sign up new City of Camden Crossing Guards is underway.

**LEGISLATIVE AND POLITICAL ACTION:** Amber Pallante, Chair

Reports on the upcoming Camden City Mayoral election and the Gubernatorial election were provided. Members were asked to participate in a CWA Labor Walk on 10/21 and a GOTV effort on Election Day. The upcoming N.J. Assemblyman Greenwald/Assemblywoman Lampitt Townhall (Cherry Hill Library – 9/27 at 7 pm) and U.S. Rep. Norcross – Women in the Work Place Town Hall (Haddonfield Fortnightly – 9/28 at 5:30 pm) were noted.

**VISION:** Leah Hicks, Chair

A Vision Benefit for retiring Vision Benefit participants is in the process of being set up with the provider. Those retiring April 2017 or later would be eligible. Members were reminded that Local 1014 sends quarterly emails to Vision Benefit participants encouraging them to use the benefit as frequently as allowed.

**SHOP STEWARD:** Leah Hicks, Chair

The Parking Authority Non-Supervisory Unit elected new Shop Stewards Shakera Damon and Mervyn Edwards.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

President Walko's comments along with the status of contract negotiations for various bargaining units were noted on the agenda. Of special note are the following:

County Library Support Staff Unit – Mediation was held on 9/18. A second mediation session is scheduled for 10/25.

City Parking Authority Supervisory Unit – A new contract, ratified by members, was approved by the Parking Authority Commission on 9/25.

City Parking Authority Non-Supervisory Unit – A new contract, ratified by members, was approved by the Parking Authority Commission on 9/25.

Winslow Township Unit – Negotiations were held on 8/15. The Township presented a proposal. A significant gap between the sides on pay rates exists. The committee will meet to consider a response.

Pine Hill Borough Unit – A proposal by the Borough was rejected by the Unit on 7/25. Management has submitted a new proposal. The committee reviewed the new proposal and prepared a counterproposal on 9/22. A meeting with members to update them on the status is scheduled for 9/28.

Camden County Prosecutor's Office Unit – A tentative agreement was reached on 9/14. A ratification vote is tentatively scheduled for 9/27 (pending final approval of the MOA by the Prosecutor).

Gloucester Township Administrative Staff – The last negotiations were held on 9/25.

City Supervisory and Non-Supervisory – The negotiating committee met on 8/21, 8/23 and 9/12. Meetings with activist members are scheduled for 9/28 and 10/12.

**OTHER ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE:**

The delayed kickoff of an area CWA Retirees Chapter should occur in the near future. President Walko met with CCREA members to review the significance of the Chapter for retirees. Both Local 1014 and Council #10 retirees will be eligible to join.

The CWA National Convention was held August 7 and 8 in Pittsburgh.

The annual meeting with City Crossing Guards was held on 8/16 in CWA Local 1084's hall.

Local 1014 has requested a meeting with County officials concerning the hiring of City of Camden Public Safety Telecommunicators and the terms of their hiring.

**Discussion Period:** Attorney Jim Katz discussed the recent N.J. Supreme Court ruling regarding pay step or increment increases continuing beyond a contract's expiration. Questions from members on various concerns were asked and discussed. All questions were answered by President Walko to members' satisfaction.

## **UPCOMING CALENDAR**

The upcoming calendar was on the meeting agenda.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn was made by Sue Warner and seconded by Candice Jefferson. The motion was approved.

Respectfully submitted,

*Valerie Castagna*

Valerie Castagna  
Recording Secretary

**Next General Membership Meeting will be  
Tuesday, October 24, 2017, 7:00 PM  
Emergency Training Center  
Lakeland Complex, Blackwood, NJ**