

# DETROIT FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

## Executive Board Meeting

### September 1, 2022

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#### 1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 4:30 p.m. by President Terrence Martin.

#### 2. Roll Call of Officers

#### 3. Approval of Minutes

**M1:** Jason Posey (Broughton) made a motion to accept the June 2022 Executive Board Meeting Minutes with any necessary corrections. **MOTION PASSED.**

#### 4. Treasurer's Report

There is no Treasurer's report for this week, but it will be ready for the Membership Meeting for next week. This report should be ready by Tuesday, at which time, it will be sent to the Executive Board.

#### 5. Elections Committee Report

Calendar was presented to the Executive Board for approval. First field – placed on Detroit Teacher – needs to be removed. We do not send to schools anymore. Needs to be deleted. November 10<sup>th</sup> – Membership needs to be capitalized. November 25<sup>th</sup> – has question marks. Need to insert the name of the company and must be filled in. Last row – the ballots posted and then a question mark. Candidate eligibility date needs to be at the top. Critical information should be at the top. Election Committee will convene and correct the calendar and come back to the Executive Board.

#### 6. PAC Report

Marcus Walton gave the report. We are 68 days out from the November election. We have to make sure that all members that are put into office respect the needs of our members. We have to continue to pull our members in to be more politically active. There are 4 seats on the Detroit School Board. There are 18 people fighting for 4 seats. When there are so many, it clouds the field. We need to interview these candidates so that our members will be more informed. There is no balance and no one to check Dr. Vitti. Wear Red for Ed Walk will be on Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> @10:00 at the AFT office.

## 7. Organizing Report

Youlanda King – 8 new or recommits. There are 57 locations that turned in election information. 2022-2023 should be ongoing. If there are locations that still need to hold an election, they can still have an election. First Building Reps Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 10/18/22. The purpose of the regional structure is in place so that Executive Board members can have a connection with the building reps so that we can make sure that we are all on the same accord. Highlights from the Membership Meetings will be mailed to the Executive Board, who will share it with the reps from their regions.

## 8. President's Report

- a. **Dues Increase** – This must happen. Those who were at the convention over the summer know that AFT approved 35 cent dues increase. It is imperative that we have one. There was also an increase at the AFT Michigan convention as well. We want and need to do more at the bargaining table. The goal is to increase the dues and it will begin in October. We are counting on the Executive Board to push this to the Membership, so that it will be passed unanimously. What we do in the office is predicated by dues. There was a \$3 per year increase in 2017, but no major increase in 2007, which was based on the number of members during this time. We can't function in the way that we need to unless we do.
- b. **Schoolboard Race** – This is so critical and important in the City of Detroit because nationally, we have big business that has infiltrated school board elections – like in California, and it is not good for the people. If you control that school board, you control the people and the populous. At the state level, we see the Betsy DeVos disciples where millions of dollars have been put in place to run, win, and carry out her agenda. As we look at our candidates, we need to look at it with a much more critical eye. We have to ask the questions and do the work – people that we can trust and will want to carry out what we need. The privatization of education encourages vouchers, and it destroys our city. We have to keep these people out of here. We must consistently move forward and look out in the best interests of our children and our members.

## 9. Executive Vice President's Report

- a. **Duty Assignments** – Contract language attached. When we do extra, it should be equitable.
- b. **Reading Opens the World** – Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at the Horatio Williams building. We will be putting more checks/balances in place. We need to make sure that everyone receives their fair share. Books will feature holiday themes – with diversity in good elementary, middle and high school titles.
- c. **GOTV** – Get Out to Vote activity will be held on Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 – 2:00, we will be meeting at AFT Michigan. We are not having a Labor Day Parade this year. We have lost a lot of things due to the ink pen – payroll

deducted union dues, not able to negotiate, lost our pension as we know it, mental health services. They wrote these things with their ink pens. Right to Work was wrote in to weaken the union, and new hires who can't be part of the union.

#### **10. New Business**

- Wasilewski question about blended and hazard pay.
- Green wants to touch base about what's going on with ancillary staff and punch time.
- If there are members who have been written up because they are not punching in and out, please contact President Martin, immediately.

#### **11. Good of the Order**

##### **Election Calendar Revisited**

**M2:** Marcus Walton (Broughton) made a motion to use Survey and Ballot Systems for the coming election at a cost of \$2,300. **MOTION PASSED.**

Per President Martin - calendar still needs work. Election Committee is to continue to work on calendar and when complete, e-mail to DFT Recording Secretary Lena Brantley-Phillips, who will then forward to Executive Board.

#### **12. Adjournment**

**M3:** Motion to adjourn so moved by Phillips/Posey (Jennings/Broughton). **MOTION PASSED.**

**Meeting adjourned @7:20 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Elena Brantley-Phillips, DFT Recording Secretary