

AFGE Local 2578

Minutes: The members of AFGE Local 2578 met at 12:02 PM, Tuesday, August 25, 2009. The monthly meeting was held in room 5320, at Archives II, with audio-conference connections to the NARA facilities at Archives I, Atlanta, Philadelphia, Suitland, and Kennedy Library. A quorum of members was present.

Roll Call of Officers: Officers present were Vice President Ted Hull, Secretary Sharmila Bhatia, Treasurer Nancy Fortna, and Sergeant-at-Arms Mitchell Buffone.

Meeting Minutes: Bhatia read the June monthly meeting minutes of AFGE Local 2578. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Fortna gave the treasurer's report (see attached report). In July membership was at 272 members and currently stands at 269 members. The report was approved.

REPORTS:

Health and Safety Committee: No report.

Legislative Committee: Ted Hull reported that Joe Byrnes is asking reps to contact him concerning training during the Legislative Conference in February. We will be conducting the training ourselves.

Organizing Committee: Harold Goodman (Atlanta) has proposed a picnic. Mitch Buffone noted that membership is dropping possibly through people leaving the agency or retirements but the cause is not known. We need to recruit new members. Nancy Fortna suggested having Lunch and Learn sessions.

Representational Activities: No report. Ashley Enochs has left NARA.

Communication Committee: No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Goodman is the administrator for AFGE's Case Tracker and he can register reps for access to the system.

Hull and Carlos Bell attended Lean Training which looks at stream lining work processes. Hull reported that the training was well done.

Michael Rhodes noted that Analisa Archer (NHH) reported that for FY 2008, half the NW hires for the 1420 and 1421 series were former students from the Student Career Experience Program (SCEP) and Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP). Rhodes motioned that the Local investigate how positions are filled NARA wide with emphasis on NW and NR, and to obtain the results of the last OPM audit of NARA's

hiring practices. Seconded by Goodman, the motion was approved.

Hull reported that Sharmila Bhatia has been appointed to the Human Capital Advisory Group as the Union's representative. The Group held a teleconference on August 17th which Hull attended as Sharmila was on leave. The NR survey listed Communication as the 1st priority with Health and Safety being the second.

Goodman noted that at the Hearing at the Congressional Oversight Committee, Acting Archivist Adrienne Thomas commented that the low numbers on the Human Capital Survey reflected the dissatisfaction of lower grade employees. Darryl Munsey stated that there is no point in discussing this with Thomas; however, it will be brought to the attention of the new Archivist. Munsey stated that everyone understands that Thomas's comments were derogatory.

The hearing for David Ferriero, the nominee for Archivist, is tentatively scheduled for September 16 with confirmation in October.

Comments for the Good of the Local: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:52 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of AFGE Local 2578 will be on Tuesday, September 29, 2009.

Respectfully submitted September 24, 2009:

SHARMILA BHATIA
Secretary
AFGE Local 2578