

MINUTES FROM GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M.

FEBRUARY 7, 2017



TELEPHONE TOWN HALL

The General Membership meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Jeff Traeger, President, who chaired the meeting.

1. **Roll Call of Officers Present:** Jeff Traeger, **President**, Bea Bruske, **Secretary Treasurer**, Deborah Jones, **Recorder**, **Vice-President** Tom Biebrich, **Vice-President** Carino Bosica, **Vice-President** Kathy Brnjas, **Vice-President** Eric Flett, **Vice-President**, Dianne Gibson-Pierce, **Vice-President** Alice Jeffrey, **Vice-President**, Sally Huculak, **Vice-President** Cory Kowalski, **Vice-President** Liberty Macatimpag, **Vice-President**, Frank Manaigre, **Vice-President** Jeremy Miller, **Vice-President** Nellie Minville, **Vice-President**, Ashley Morello, **Vice-President** Marisa Pasquarelli, **Vice-President** Dean Rodwell, **Vice President** John Sulyma

2. **2017 Town Hall Meetings:** President Jeff Traeger reviewed the success of the Town Hall meeting format. There will be upcoming changes for 2017:
 - There will be only 2 Telephone Town Hall meetings as 2017 is an election year and meetings will have to be held in person.
 - In order have more time to answer member questions and have guest speaker presentations during the Telephone Town Hall meetings, the minutes of the previous meeting, the President's report and the Secretary-Treasurer's report will be posted on the Local's website. Members will be asked to read the reports on-line and to vote on the reports throughout the meeting.

3. **Special Guest** – Ashley Morello: Vice-President Ashley Morello, a member from Old Dutch Foods, spoke on her experiences as a member of The Youth Internship Program as well as assisting with organizing at the Local, being part of the labour movement along with being a vice-president on the Local 832 Executive Board.

m/s/c to accept the minutes of the previous meeting of September 13, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. as read.

4. **Financial Report:** The financial report for the ten (10) months ending October 31, 2016 were reviewed by Secretary Treasurer, Bea Bruske.

m/s/c to accept the Financial Report as read.

5. **Servicing Director Report:**

Servicing Director Sandy Forcier provided an overview of 2016, which included:

 - Merger with Local 1869
 - Relief opportunities from members Ashley Morello, Jason Appasamy, John Anderson, Debbie Jones, Alice Jeffrey, Joanne Peters and Nellie Minville.

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- Our training focus this year has been on mental health in the workplace.
- Geoff Bergen has been hired as permanent Relief Rep along with assigning a small territory.

6. President's Report: The President's report was presented by UFCW Local 832 President, Jeff Traeger.

a) STORE CLOSURES:

- The Pas IGA
- Sobeys Burrows
- Extra Foods on Regent

b) STORE OPENINGS: Save On Foods has opened 3 stores in Winnipeg.

c) RETAIL STEWARD CONFERENCE: A conference was held on October 18th for all retail shop stewards to begin preparations for the next round of major bargaining in the retail sector which will start in 2018. This will include Red River Co-op, Safeway (Sobeys West Inc.) along with Loblaw which includes No Frills, Extra Foods and Superstores.

d) APPRECIATION EVENTS: Member appreciation evenings were held in Brandon on October 29th and Thompson on November 5th. Both were very well attended.

e) POLICY CONFERENCE: The UFCW Local 832 policy conference was held on November 9th at the Training centre and attended by members of the Executive and Advisory boards. The proposed budget for 2017 was presented and discussed. It was agreed to have money put into an account for advertising and campaigns. Member engagement was the theme for the conference this year and Michael Champagne was the keynote speaker who encouraged and challenged the attendees to motivate the members to be more involved and to improve our profile within the membership and within the community.

f) PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT UPDATES:

- **Minimum Wage** – after 16 years of consecutive minimum wage increases, the increases ended in October 2016.
- **Opening Public Sector Agreements**
- **Changes to Automatic Certification for Unions**
- **Changes to Domestic Violence Leave Legislation**
- **Expanding Sunday shopping**

g) LIGHT THE NIGHT – The Light the Night walk took place on October 1st and Local 832 raised over \$45,000 for Leukemia research. Plans are underway for next year.

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h) WINNIPEG LABOUR COUNCIL – President Dave Sauer will not be running again and Basia Sokol has been elected as the new WLC President.

i) LOCAL 832 UPDATES:

- Chris Noto is on a four month term to replace former Communications Director Blake Crothers who has moved into the Negotiations Department.
- Michelle McHale has been hired for a two month term position to work in the servicing department.
- Compass Morrison has lost the food services contract at the St. Boniface Hospital and will be closing the second or third week of January. Career transition services are being offered to the members.
- A dedicated relief rep will be hired for the Brandon area.
- A security conference is being planned for February 22nd and will be held at the Training Centre. If you require further information please contact Curt Martel at 204-786-5055.
- 2017 Activist Conference will be held from April 17 – 20th at the Fairmont hotel. For further details contact your union representative.

m/s/c to accept the President's Report.

7. Open Questions

Throughout the meeting there were 5 questions taken from the members on the line and all questions were answered. All questions asked and responses provided are recorded and kept on file. The meeting was adjourned with no unanswered questions in the queue.

m/s/c to adjourn meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Recorded by Deborah Jones, Recorder

/lh cope 342

A full transcription and a list of members taking part in the telephone town hall are kept on file in a binder and stored with these minutes.