

MCCC General Chapter Meeting Notes for April 24, 2017



This meeting was held from 12-12:45pm.

Giampa called to order the last meeting of the semester. She announced Lane Glenn was the winner of the Kiss the Frog contest. Both Lane and the frog will be at the General Staff meeting on Monday 5/1/17 at noon where the kissing will take place! Giampa thanked Jennifer Leveque and Jennifer Fitzgerald for all their help with the fundraiser and gifted them basil plants.

Raffle prizes were drawn:

- The Baby Basket went to Lynne Nadeau
- The Fun in the Sun Basket went to Kim Waligora
- The Nails Basket went to Habib Magoul
- The Relaxation Basket went to Deirdre Budzyna
- The Boston Sports Fan basket went to Bill Lang
- The Books and Cookies Basket went to Noreen Fantasia
- Let's Cook & Wine Basket went to Tracy Fitzgerald

Treasurer's Update

Liliana Brand provided an update on our chapter finances for this year. Her handout is attached.

Director's Update

Suzanne Van Wert provided an update on the MCCC leadership issues. At the recent special meeting held to discuss bringing charges against Vice President Jeff Seideman, there was no decision made about the charges, but they did compile a list of issues to be brought to mediation. This resulted in further divisive emails being sent out.

Approximately 1200 DCE members took the survey sent out by the MCCC Leadership. However the Board discovered that only about 600 of the responses were being used in compiling data. It turned out that the leadership only used the responses from "pure DCE faculty." In other words if they were also employed full-time at a community college in addition to their DCE work, their responses were not counted. Van Wert said there is an issue with this because many of our DCE faculty work full-time elsewhere...and those responses were counted. You were only eliminated if you happened to work full-time at the community college, which is not fair.

She stressed the importance of our Delegates and the Delegate Assembly happening this Saturday, April 29. She wants to meet before Saturday to prepare. Linda Giampa read out the names of everyone who was confirmed as a delegate attending and said anyone interested in serving as an alternate should contact her. She will also send out a Doodle poll to figure out when everyone is available to have a meeting to prepare for Saturday.

NECCPA Board Positions

Linda Giampa read aloud the current slate of officers before a vote could be taken:

Linda Giampa, President

Vice President – vacant (Ann Grandmaison retiring)

Liliana Brand, Treasurer

Kristen Arnold & Stephanie Wares, Co-Secretaries

Suzanne Van Wert, Director

We voted on the slate as is and it was passed.

Ann Grandmaison spoke about her role as Vice President and encouraged everyone to consider it. It's great working with Linda and the time commitment isn't too bad. Anyone with questions about the position is welcome to contact Ann or Linda for more information.

NECCPA Scholarship Winner

This year's 2017 NECCPA Scholarship was awarded to Daniela Chavez-Hernandez. Daniela was nominated by Kristen Arnold. Linda Giampa read part of the recommendation aloud before Gail Feigenbaum presented Daniela with the check. Daniela is graduating in May with a 3.9 GPA and plans to transfer next fall for a degree in Social Work.



Retirement issues & Grievances

Tom Greene summarized the problem many of our members are facing with retirement. He did not speak specifically about individual members, but said that as a chapter we have filed a grievance. On February 17, 2017 Steve Fabbrucci sent an email out detailing a retirement incentive for employees that applied by April 14, 2017. When some of our members inquired and applied, they were told there was no incentive for MCCC. Our grievance and unfair labor practice suit are pending.

Joe Leblanc added that other community colleges have agreed to the incentive and that NECC is an outlier with this issue.

Someone raised a question about how grievances work and who makes the decisions. Steve Fabbrucci represents the administration and the hearing officer is usually someone in Steve's office. Issues are very rarely resolved during this first step. After that, there is an appeals process to go through, and another step after that. It is a long process.

Joe Rizzo said that all DCE grievances have either been withdrawn or resolved at this point, but reiterated that we need to be vigilant in standing up for our membership.

Stay Involved!

Linda reminded everyone that this was the last Chapter meeting of the year. Though many will be off-campus for the summer, she urged everyone to please keep up with your emails and to stay involved. There are so many critical things happening right now – retirement pull-backs, program audits, retrenchment, etc. Administration has been known to use the summer months to make moves while many are off-campus. Please stay involved!

Joe Leblanc suggested that it would be likely in a few years there will be a choice for employees to join a union and pay their dues or to not join and not have to pay at all. He reiterated that we need to stay together because they are trying to weaken the union. MTA and MCCC are both really worried that our raises and protections could be a thing of the past if we don't stay engaged.

Suzanne Van Wert said to be on the lookout for something in the mail this summer about a vote to ratify the salary grid. Joe Leblanc is working on this and says there is a lot that needs to get worked out before there is a call to vote. He said if it becomes more firm and we do receive it in the mail, he tentatively urges a yes vote. At Linda Giampa's suggestion he will hold meetings to discuss the details of this when the time comes.

Next meeting: The next MCCC General Chapter meeting will be in the fall 2017.