

MINUTES OF THE WASHTECH PLANNING COUNCIL (PC)
November 11, 2008, 6:30 PM

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Les French, President. Nine other members were present. Emily Baty and Brian Globerman were absent.

Reading of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of 10/14/08 were read and approved.

President's Report (Les French)

Retreat: Les discussed the retreat we have traditionally held in January at Lake Sawyer to do strategic planning for the year, and said we need to start planning now for it. The problem this time is that AT&T contract negotiations also start in January. Rick Saling pointed out that meeting in January is out of phase since our budgets run from October to October, and therefore if we meet in January we are strategizing only part of the year. Dan Gillespie commented that if we meet in January we are in the dark about our funding because we will have not yet had feedback on the budget we submitted to CWA International. Bill Montgomery, on the other hand, suggested that if we met in early January, it may help mobilize us for the contract negotiations. All these pros and cons were discussed.

Resolution:

- It was decided to delay the strategic planning meeting until late summer. Until then we will continue with our current strategic plan and extrapolate the goals.

New Officer Training: This will occur January 20-25 in Portland, Oregon. Our budget allows us to send three persons.

Next Meeting Date: We have a schedule conflict between our next PC meeting date of 12/9/08 and our next general meeting, which is scheduled for the same night. If we delay the general meeting, we may be able to have a new budget to present to the members.

Resolution:

- It was decided to reset the next general meeting to January 7, 2008. The Communications Chair will notify the membership.

Finance Committee Report (Mitchell McMurry, Treasurer)

Mitch presented the budget for October, showing a budget underrun and a checking account balance of \$71,947.

Les said that the money for training people for the contract mobilization committee will come from the SIF fund. The goal is to train 100 people, 8 hours each.

Membership Committee Report (Dan Gillespie, Chair)

Dan reported that at-large membership continues downward: we now have 175 in 12 states. Our total membership, at-large and CBUs, is 1222.

There is a 2-month delay in reporting of membership status and address changes of the AT&T CBU workers, and as a result 150 ballots in the recent election were returned undeliverable. Mitch asked how we verify that member's dues are paid. Dan replied that AT&T sends a report to International, which then notifies us. Mitch then asked why we are not copied on that report. Dan replied that our contract doesn't authorize it.

Communications Committee Report (Rennie Sawade, Chair)

Rennie reported that the new web site is still in the works. He wrote an article for it about EFCA mobilization, which included YouTube videos. Regarding a possible ad in *The Nation*, Rennie told them we would hold off until we have the new web site going. He is trying to get a more modern look for the web site. Our Ford Foundation grant will pay for the ad.

Jim Burdick suggested we solicit e-mail addresses from the AT&T workers in Unity every month, to help us deal with the communication problem.

Legislative Committee Report (Curt Eidem, Chair)

Curt was elated about the accomplishment of our top two goals, the election of Obama and reelection of Gov. Gregoire. He was disappointed about the Labor-to-Neighbor turnout, which was only two: Curt and Les. He expects more involvement, however, when we organize for contract negotiations. We need to get more EFCA cards signed for the Million Member drive. We may be going to Olympia to advise the legislators on security of pensions, health care, and Speed Matters, among other issues.

Bill Montgomery asked who is spearheading EFCA in Congress. Curt said there are multiple sponsors, and both Barack Obama and Hilary Clinton identified it as a first priority.

AT&T CBU Vice President's Report (Bill Montgomery)

Bill is going to start writing articles himself for *Unity* to increase the amount of local input. At the last stewards meeting, he encouraged the stewards to do the same. He has had pictures of the vice presidents and stewards posted on the bulletin boards and will keep the information updated in a Word document.

Unfinished Business

The PC went over the list of strategic goals remaining and decided that they had been met, were being met, or in a few cases were obsolete.

New Business

The new business was to swear in the new officers. Everyone present, including the returning incumbents, stood and recited the oath of office. The new members are Anna Bloomquist, BJ Oriley, and Mitch Miller, who will be an AT&T CBU Vice President, the Membership Committee Chair, and the

Communication Committee Chair respectively. Emily Baty will chair the Education Committee; and Rennie Sawade, the Technology Committee.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM. The next meeting will be at 6:30 PM, December 16, 2008, at Suite 200, 2900 Eastlake Ave. E., Seattle, WA, unless otherwise notified.

Brian Roberts, Secretary