

PROPOSED MINUTES OF THE WASHTECH PLANNING COUNCIL  
January 10, 2005

In attendance: Marcus Courtney, Margaret Bartley, Todd Tollefson, Roberta Wilson, Erik Landahl (by phone), John Hitzfelder, Barbara Rader, Judy Tarasek (by phone)

Minutes taken by Judy Tarasek.

**Upcoming Meetings**

All meetings are at the WashTech offices in Seattle.

PC meetings: On the second Monday of the month

- **Organizing/Political Action/**

<b>Actions/Decisions</b>	
<b>Update on Chelan organizing</b>	23 workers are being organized – process moving forward based on hearing, 90 days to determine number of union members – 120 days out before ballot counting – could be 16 months down the road before the workers become members
<b>Cingular Wireless –</b>	doing flyering each month. Organizers from Midwest getting involved. Karen developed poster for union organizing and that CWA already represents Cingular, with tear-off to send to Washtech. A way to get 500 potential contacts in the company. They are allowing posters in their lunchroom. Tie it into Washtech local, not another local.
<b>Monthly Report**</b>	delayed do to server being down – Marcus will submit when he gets the numbers done

- **Political-Action/Research**

<b>Actions/Decisions</b>	
<b>Legislative update</b>	11 Meetings set up, canceled 7 meetings due to Erik's illness, but this is a good sign for political interest
	State employment should not be outsourced. Has this savings been quantified – the state will not provide any numbers to Washtech. We should make them prove the savings. Attach transparency legislation to the bill that they are attempting to get sponsored.
	Get numbers of how many people were unemployed, how much tax revenue was lost in 2004 to the state, get this info together to present to state legislators.
	Success over the last 4 years has been due to the work that has been done and the perseverance of Washtech.
	Sponsor of legislation – no sponsors yet, pick the correct one with the right amount of influence so that the legislation does not look like it only comes from a union.
	Contact legislators with phone calls and letters makes a great impact on the legislators
	Target specific legislators through Get-Active
	Craft letter to members, subscribers regarding legislative action

- **Retreat (Planning Council)**

<b>Actions/Decisions</b>	
<b>Retreat 2005</b>	February 4 <sup>th</sup> , at night – overview for new people; CWA structure and how Washtech fits in with the CWA
	History of Washtech, how Washtech is funded, basic organizational information
<b>Scheduled for February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2005 (Saturday)</b>	Discussing location, etc. No decision has been made.

	<p>Go over last year's agenda by Todd T.  Discussion of what we want the content of the retreat to be.  Meeting to start at 10am – 5pm</p>
<b>Proposed items for Retreat to be discussed)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Structure of organization as related to By-laws</li> <li>2) Personalities within the Planning Council – working together better</li> <li>3) How to handle new membership</li> <li>4) What kind of support do we need from the CWA, monetary, etc.</li> <li>5) Organizing Challenges within Washington State</li> <li>6) Organizing Challenges outside Washington State</li> <li>7) Planning Council Challenges – advocacy, out of state members, legislative issues, how do we organize these challenges for 2005</li> <li>8) Human Resource challenge – how many people to hire and how to pay for it. Need for personnel manual.</li> <li>9) Focused in single direction – to reach a common goal.</li> <li>10) Build a grass roots following – educate the general public more as to the threat of tech outsourcing to the economy</li> <li>11) Legislative outreach – lobbying groups, other unions, collaboration with different groups.</li> <li>12) Budget goals – benchmark our yearly goals</li> <li>13) 2 year goals ?, 5 year goals ?, long-term planning discussion</li> <li>14) Working with TechsUnite organizing committees across the country.</li> </ol>

- **Outsourcing**

<b>Actions/Decisions</b>	
<b>Offshoring/Outsourcing</b>	Attempt to meet with local legislators in NY regarding this (Congressman Anthony Weiner)
<b>H1B and L1 visa abuse</b>	Email from Shahid Sheikh detailing abuses of Indian workers – we need to publicize these abuses in stories on our website – I have details from Shahid

	who works at Blue Cross of Florida – he has taken the time to contact me – I would like to contact him further and ask him if he is willing to talk to us and let us do a story on this with his input.
<b>Curtis Ellis, reporter – wants to do interviews with outsourced tech workers</b>	212-995-0589, reporter, looking to interview tech workers who've been outsourced for an article. Please pass on his name and number. (He interviewed Marcus for a report he did for Marketplace radio.)
<b>Jeff Waggoner – NY Progressives Outsourcing documentary</b>	asked for Marcus' participation and participation from the CWA.

- **Advocacy: General Business/Follow-Up/Reminders**

<b>Actions/Decisions</b>	
<b>Jobs with Justice delegate</b>	John Hitzfelder Voted on this – so moved – John is the delegate – will go to quarterly steering committees and Todd will attend the monthly ones
<b>Survey to members and subscribers</b>	online survey – what are members interested in from Washtech (training, etc)