

PROPOSED MINUTES OF THE WASHTECH PLANNING COUNCIL

July 18, 2006

Attendees: Marcus Courtney, Barbara Rader, Margaret Bartley, Erik Landahl, Brian Globerman

By Phone: Roberta Wilson

Minutes taken by: Barbara Kempf

CWA Conference Notes (Margaret): Canada wants to be their own region. They have their own regulatory system, about 1/3 of their workforce is union. When it was postponed they walked out.

Strategic plans for future union action: Not reasonable to expect employers to pay for health care in the future. So, we need to concentrate on trying to get national health care. They see a need to get involved in trade talks, especially where the service sector is involved. Margaret got an amendment passed to support it.

(Marcus) We received an organizing award for getting over 100 new members. They passed a resolution against H1B visas. We need to watch Telco and other telecommunication groups to see where we can be active in that area.

TNG section: We seemed to be there mostly to show that all locals were represented.

Monthly report (Marcus): Membership numbers are about the same but growing, 11 new members this week. Seems to be due to our recent articles on the lies about job growth.

Shop steward program at Cingular is going well. Some are starting to file their own grievances. We now have a table program to get new members. Two main issues at Cingular: pay inequity and job title slotting (people restricted by their job titles).

Grievances have been filed on both issues.

TechsUnite: We've hired an agency to evaluate our Ramen (Flash) animation on outsourcing to optimize the return to help boost new membership. I will be working with Todd to add keywords to also help with optimization.

Bylaws changes: We are going to have the current VP changed to Executive VP and have a unit VP for every 300 members. We will be making bylaws changes subject to member approval. Approved by PC.

Establishing an elections committee: Brian Roberts was nominated and approved as chair of the committee. We'll have volunteers to help with the process.

Communications committee report (Roberta): Roberta has written an article about H1B visa requests increasing at various companies, Barclay's and others. Should be on the site next week.

Education Committee Report (Barbara R.): Nothing new. The brochure may be out soon from CWA. They'll let us know.

Legislative Committee Report (Marcus): Our political endorsement policy outlines our process. Now we can focus on how to apply it in upcoming elections.

American Dream Act: Marcus and Erik will work on trying to see how we can come up with a proposal with our position on it. Then we'll be contacting legislators individually. The bill may be a good talking point to get the discussion going.

Membership Committee Report (Marcus): Marcus will check with Dan about plans for the picnic. So far we have 50 people from Cingular and 10 at large RSVPs.

Tech Committee Report (Brian): Norton antivirus seems to be working well for the most part. There have been some network problems that Brian will deal with. No news about the online grievance database for Cingular. We're waiting to hear from Kevin. We're having some printer problems. We may need to get a new one if the problem isn't network related.

Good & Welfare (Roberta) In South Carolina 16,000 people said yes to the Labor Party to get it on the ballot.