

**SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
FEBRUARY 12, 2021, 4:00PM
VIA ZOOM**

Present: W. Buschert, B. Zamulinski, J. Zorbas, E. Arvanitis-Zorbas, J. Klassen, J. Semko, P. Bulas, W. Gulka, S. Stavrou, L. Ehrlich, G. Day, M. Ray, E. Hulse (late)

1. **Adoption of the Agenda:** W. Buschert moves to change the order of the agenda to start with the election of the negotiating committee and then deal with other issues the members would like to discuss. J. Klassen seconds; carried.
2. **Election: Members of the Negotiating Committee (up to four):** According to the Local's current collective agreement, collective bargaining is to begin six months before the expiry of the current agreement. That can begin as early as March but most likely not until June as the Employer has not shown any interest in commencing bargaining at this time. The members of the Negotiating Committee will serve with the President and Vice-President of the Local, so there are four spots open. Anyone who is on the negotiating committee will receive \$50 for each meeting attended. The responsibilities of the negotiating committee are to attend the meetings, make proposals and engage with the Employer in bargaining and to determine if what the Employer offers is acceptable. J. Klassen, J. Semko, S. Stavrou and P. Bulas volunteered to be on the committee.
3. **Election: Ad Hoc Committee to approve AP/PD/Tuition Waiver applications:** L. Ehrlich volunteered to join the committee which includes W. Buschert, B. Zamulinski and J. Semko.
4. **Motion: Acceptance of New Members:** 54 new members joined the Local this term. This is high because ASPA members have now come under our Local. W. Buschert asks everyone to review the list and everyone reviewed it. **Motion to accept the new members:** W. Buschert moves, B. Zamulinski seconds; carried.
5. **Executive Report:**
 - (a) SJUMC Report – A number of issues were raised at the meeting. The first was that the Local received complaints from members that library access ended earlier than usual. The issue was raised in the meeting and the Employer undertook to restore library privileges to two months after each sessional faculties contract expires. W. Buschert will ask if it can be extended even longer. The second was with respect to T2200 forms. They will be released by end of the month. It was recommended that sessional faculty claim everything that they are entitled to, including rent, internet access, etc. Third, the Local is requesting additional meeting space in MacLean Hall. Fourth, grants from the AP/PD fund are declared a taxable benefit from the Employer. W. Buschert told the Employer that the Local will make a grievance with respect to this. The Local is waiting to hear their decision and if it's not to our satisfaction, the Local will grieve it. Fifth, collective bargaining dates were not given by the Employer. B. Zamulinski recommended the Local should send memos to the Employer that it wants decisions on certain issues before the meetings to get things done. The Union Management Committee is not working as it should, the Local should do something to bring it back on stream. Meetings are infrequent and overloaded in the agenda, labour relations not ready and issues stretch out over time. Need to make meetings more productive.

- (b) Membership Numbers: modest increase in the number of sessional faculty.
- (c) Implications of A&S Budget “crisis”: The College of Arts and Science will receive an \$8million cut due to a deficit. What this means for sessional faculty: the funding will not increase over what it was in 2020-2021. Sessional faculty hiring was based on academic units and the funding was not only for sessional faculty but included various things ranging from paper clips to grad students and sessional faculty. More recently, academic units need to ask the dean to approve sessional faculty appointments. There is a potential upside, if the budget cut takes the form of no new faculty hires, colleges might still have the discretion to hire sessional faculty. The College of Arts and Science’s hands are tied.

Motion to accept the Executive Report: W. Buschert moves; B. Zamulinski seconds; carried.

- 6. **Secretary-Treasurer’s Report:** J. Zorbias states that the Local is doing ok. 2020 is up to date on revenue expenses. The Local finished 2020 in the black. The expenses were very low because everything was done remotely this year. There were no expenses for food at committee meetings, the Christmas AGM and the spring AGM. With respect to the Local’s contingency fund the GICs are making more money than in the past as they have been moved from a one year flex fund to a five year escalator fund. This makes more money over five years. The escalator fund is roughly 3% while the flex fund was at 1%. **Motion to accept the treasurer’s report:** J. Zorbias moves; E. Hulse seconds; carried.
- 7. **News and Communications Officer’s Report** – J. Klassen states that the Gwenna Moss Centre contacted him and the deadline for nominations for the Sylvia Wallace sessional lecturer teaching award has been extended to March 1, 2021. J. Klassen explains the current activities he has started: he distributed a brief newsletter on January 30, 2021, he has started a Twitter account and opened up a Zoom account for our Local and has began a training session with CALM. He is looking for communications committee volunteers – they meet once or twice a semester. B. Zamulinski will be on it. The committee will conduct surveys, new stories, reports from conference attendees, opinions from surveys. W. Buschert volunteered to be on the committee as well. **Motion to accept the N&C Officer’s report:** J. Klassen moves; L. Ehrlich seconds; carried.
- 8. **Roll Call of Officers**
- 9. **Reading of Equality Statement:** B. Zamulinski reads the equality statement.
- 10. **Adoption of Minutes, AGM, December 7, 2020:** W. Buschert moves; L. Ehrlich seconds; carried.
- 11. **Matters Arising from the Minutes:** None
- 12. **New Business:** W. Buschert noted that the Local declined to renew the on campus parking contract with the Employer since classes were all remote this year. When the University re-opens, the Local will want to act quickly to reinstate the parking contract with the Employer.
- 13. **Adjournment Motion to adjourn:** B. Zamulinski moves.