**Andrew Puleo January 22, 2016**

**PEF Region 2**

**S/W PAC Report**

**December 15** - I attended a Republican Community Meeting, at the Fremont Town Hall on December 15. The following elected officials presented themselves at this public event, Senator O'Mara, Assemblymen Nojay, Palmesano, and Giglio. Region 2 members in attendance at this 6PM event were Ruth Hart, Howie Nisbet, and Christopher Rauber. Also a notice was extended to John Prince and Randi DiAntonio in hope that they could speak on OPWWDD issues, unfortunately there was a scheduling conflict. The meeting Hall was packed and therefore we were only afforded the opportunity to ask if the Senator would support HR 1692, which cites:

*“To require public employees to perform the inspection of State and local surface transportation projects, and related essential public functions, to ensure public safety, the cost-effective use of transportation funding, and timely project delivery”.*

The Senator replied he was aware of the bill and would support it, but he did not know it’s current status. After the meeting we presented our argument that this legislature is facilitating Dept. of Civil Service circumvention by approving budgets that fund wasteful spending on consultants and Civil Service tests which lay untapped. We added that this panel just spoke on their priority of securing jobs for our Region and advised that one of our own in attendance, young Mr. Rauber was born and raised locally, is sitting on a current Civil Service list with a score of 100, yet persons from out of our Region, whom have never taken a NYS Civil Service test are being employed here by the NYSDOT, thereby circumventing the lawful process of NYS Civil Service hiring, and we as their constituents would like to know if these elected officials approve of this circumvention. Response was that consultants are only hired part-time. We refrained from sharing how lame and tired that Consultant talking point was, and advised that this Region’s NYSDOT has been continuously contracting out bridge inspectors for years, to which they had no response . . . I also shared that said bridge inspection is not of “Special Skills” beyond that of those already defined as PEF Unit work, and did so as a pre-emptive strike to the next consultant talking point, being that consultants bring Special Skill Sets.

**January 4 –** Requested by Rochester & Genesee Valley Area Labor Federation staffer Steve Panton if Region 2 still intended to hold luncheon for John Plumb, NY 23rd District Congressional Candidate running against incumbent Tom Reed, replied affirmative and advised that John Plumb’s staff cancelled last luncheon. We await their schedule.

J**anuary 8** – Rochester & Genesee Valley Area Labor Federation staffer Steve Panton apprised me of the January 12, 2016, campaign kick-off event for Leslie Dank-Burke in the City of Corning, for New York State Senate District 58, who is running against incumbent Senator Tom O’Mara.

**January 17 –** Conferred with PEF Retiree’s President Jim Carr via telephone so as to confirm Region 2 commitment to provide access to PEF members for candidates John Plumb and Leslie Dank-Burke. Planned access ideally will include the welcomed support of the Local Labor Councils and the Rochester & Genesee Valley Area Labor Federation.