
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 2, 2016

PEF HQ

PRESENT:

Wayne Spence, President
Kevin Hintz, Secretary Treasurer
Adreina Adams, Vice President
Peter Banks, Vice President
Nikki Brate, Vice President
Andrew Puleo, Region 2 Coordinator
John Prince, Region 3 Coordinator (via phone)
Charles McRorie, Region 4 Coordinator
David Dubofsky, Region 5 Coordinator
Jeanette St. Mary, Region 6 Coordinator (via phone)
Ed Snow, Region 7 Coordinator
Michael Blue, Region 8 Coordinator
Vivian Street, Region 9 Coordinator
Sheik Nabijohn, Region 10 Coordinator
Jemma Marie Hanson, Region 11 Coordinator
Sarah Lauser, Trustee
Maddie Shannon Roberts, Trustee

STAFF:

Rebecca Lalli, Ex. Asst to the Secretary Treasurer
Todd Kerner, Executive Director

Secretary Treasurer Hintz opened the meeting at 1:30pm.

Secretary Treasurer Hintz opened the meeting with a discussion of the budget. In light of Justice Scalia passing away, the fee payers were returned to the budget. Budget amendments reflecting this to be presented at the Executive Board meeting tomorrow, March 3, 2016. Fee income of \$786,000 was returned, per caps were increased by \$355,000 and \$100,000 was returned to the Legislative fund. The Secretary Treasurer explained that \$1,000 was added to each Committee program. EOL was added for the Veterans, Women's and IT Committee. Due to the increasing business of the Divisions and Ethics Committee and their respective hearing panels, funding was increased for program and EOL expenses. Secretary Treasurer Hintz explained that both Labor Management and Health and Safety are important services and thus, funds were added to DOH and OMH. ENCON and DOCCS would also see increases. Because Convention was over budget by \$52,000, money was added to the meeting and professional fee lines. The Region 10 Coordinator EOL was increased from 1.2 days to 1.5 days. The Secretary Treasurer noted that AFT Dues would increase by \$0.25 on September 1, 2016 totaling nearly \$200,000. In September of 2017, dues would increase again by \$0.25. Funding was also increased in Region 10 and 11 in light of the rent increases for these spaces. The Auditor salary was raised to 100% equaling approximately \$26,000. More details would be provided at the Executive Board meeting.

Region 8 Coordinator Mike Blue asked how much money was initially removed from the budget, and how much was then added back in. Secretary Treasurer Hintz responded that \$1.1 million was removed and \$786,000 was put back in.

Region 6 Coordinator Jeanette St. Mary asked about the Education Day in conjunction with Nurses' Lobby Day, specifically if the Divisions could be reimbursed for payment as no funding was provided. Vice President Peter Banks responded that Education Day is a fairly new format and that under the previous Administration extra money had been given. No formal request had been submitted for this. Secretary Treasurer Hintz will check on the training line for Nurses. Vice President Banks recommended that all Coordinators interested reflect the Education Day in their proposed budgets.

Region 5 Coordinator Dave Dubofsky asked about the \$100,000 provided to PAC, and wondered about funding for Regional PAC. Secretary Treasurer Hintz explained that regional PAC budgets were left as is and that all regions would have funds to rollover.

A discussion began regarding PEF policy to provide \$0.75 per member for PAC. A question was raised about the 1999 Policy adding \$3. Secretary Treasurer Hintz agreed to review and look into this.

Region 10 Coordinator Sheik Nabijohn asked about EOL, specifically if his agency agrees to restore his 2 days. Secretary Treasurer Hintz responded that \$21,000 could be taken from his Regional budget to cover this.

Region 10 Coordinator Sheik Nabijohn asked about funding for the Affirmative Action Committee. Secretary Treasurer Hintz responded that the Joint Affirmative Action and EEO Committees had been combined after discussions with the President.

Secretary Treasurer Hintz excused himself from the meeting to work on the budget for Executive Board.

Meeting was temporarily adjourned for conference call with Vincent F. Pitta of Pitta & Giblin LLP to discuss the Region 10 and 11 office searches. The discussion during the call addressed options in Brooklyn such as a short term lease extension and hold over rent extensions. Region 10 Coordinator Sheik Nabijohn also asked about buying versus renting options. Mr. Pitta will prepare an analysis for President Spence regarding this. The group also discussed consolidating the two offices and the importance of location, access, parking and maintaining separate identities. President Spence announced that Todd Kerner would be the new contact for site tours.

When Secretary Treasurer Hintz returned, the meeting was opened for budget questions. Region 9 Coordinator Vivian Street asked about funding for the Joint Affirmative Action Committee. Secretary Treasurer Hintz explained that jointly, the funding for both Committees was approximately \$15,110 (\$6,870 for program expenses and \$8,240 for EOL.) Region 9 Coordinator Vivian Street asked that the Secretary Treasurer consider increasing this funding to the \$35,000 - \$40,000 range so the Committee can operate. Vice President Brate suggested that GOER can provide non-chargeable EOL time for the Joint Committee.

Region 8 Coordinator Mike Blue asked about the 6th Field Representative position in the Albany Field Office, specifically the temporary status of this line item. Secretary Treasurer Hintz will look into this and report back.

Region 8 Coordinator Mike Blue asked about the possibility of adding a H&S Staff position in light of not filling the Education and Training Director position. He explained that based on discussions with the H&S department, there is an immediate need for additional staff. He also suggested looking into grants to fund this 3rd Staff position. President Spence responded that the Director position was permanently eliminated and that the need for additional staff is recognized. President Spence explained that he was not prepared to move on hiring a 3rd position at this time, but would revisit in June.

Region 8 Coordinator Mike Blue also asked about funding for the Auditor position and whether a job description was available for this position. Todd Kerner, Executive Director, explained that a job description could not be provided at this time without consulting USW.

Region 10 Coordinator Sheik Nabijohn asked about EOL and program expense funding for the Privatization Committee, specifically the \$500,000 allotted to combat Friedrichs. President Spence explained that using those funds for Friedrichs would be a mis-use as they were intended for Privatization. In order to use the funds for Friedrichs purposes, the motion presented at the Executive Board in Corning, New York would need to be amended.

Region 3 Coordinator John Prince began a discussion regarding the Organizing Committee and creative ways to use Regional Coordinator EOL time. For several weeks, he had met with the Committee at PEF HQ via conference call to save money. President Spence applauded his efforts with the Organizing Committee.

Trustee Sarah Lauser referred to the Trustee Report regarding Committees specifically the request to have Committees report in writing within the fiscal year, per PEF policy. She asked that the group help make this a reality.

A discussion began regarding a possible meeting with Kay Wilkie and Ken Ferro at Executive Board on March 3, 2016. Kim Partridge, Event Coordinator, would assist in this.

Vice President Brate voiced a concern about going on record as giving no endorsement. Vice President Banks supported the idea to keep quiet if not endorsing.

President Spence announced the Contract Teams for negotiations between PEF and USW.

PEF Team:

Todd M. Kerner - Lead Negotiator
Adreina Adams - Chair
Valerie O'Dell
Lisa King
Ed Aluck
Jackie Henderson
Jennifer Tropiano
Connie Fedden

USW Team:

Susan Radosh - Lead Negotiator

Dominick Mannino
Gary Cunningham
Nancy Holford
Tara Bentley
Shawn Bobb
Deborah Stayman
Barb Nectow
Lisa Quarles
Final Member To Be Determined

President Spence mentioned Town Hall meetings and asked that any requests for Town Halls go through the Director of Organizing, Kevin Jones. He explained that the dinner cap is \$15 and big PEF covers this cost. He also noted that an agency meeting does not constitute a Town Hall. President Spence will request that Regional Coordinators are copied on all meeting RSVPs.

President Spence asked that 2 Regional Coordinators volunteer to assist in planning the Regional Coordinator Leadership Retreat. Vivian Street and Jeanette St. Mary volunteered. This information was sent to Kim Partridge per the President's request.

Vice President Adams announced that the Joint Affirmative Action Committee had two meetings and created a survey on the PEF website regarding discrimination. She encouraged all members to complete the survey.

President Spence proposed an idea to convert a smaller conference room at PEF HQ into a "War Room" to strategize and plan. He asked that Todd Kerner, Executive Director, identify a room or space at HQ for this purpose.

Meeting closed at 4:15pm.

Respectfully submitted by,



Rebecca Lalli
Executive Assistant to the Secretary-Treasurer