

REGULAR MEETING OF THE YSU-ACE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, November 14, 2024

PRESENT:

Officers: President – Melanie Leonard

1st VP – Nancy O’Hara

2nd VP – Jill Mogg

Secretary – Cassie Nespor

Treasurer – Tatiana O’Dell (virtual)

Committee: Joe Audia (virtual), Kay Helscel, Kevin Hood, Rob Chance, Eric Barr, Lisa Devore

Guests: Brandon Marlow

CALL TO ORDER. Melanie Leonard called the meeting to order at 11:40am.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA. The agenda was sent to the executive committee electronically to review prior to the meeting. There were no additions or corrections and it was adopted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. The minutes from the October 10, 2024 regular meeting were sent to the Executive Committee electronically before the meeting and reviewed. Melanie corrected the date of the next meeting to November 14. Kay Helscel made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

TREASURER’S REPORT. A copy of the Treasurer’s report dated November 2024 was sent to the Executive Committee electronically before the meeting and reviewed. Tatianna noted that our taxes were submitted on October 25, 2024. Kevin Hood made a motion to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT. Jill reported that we have 165 members. Five recent hires have paperwork but haven’t submitted it yet. The committee had a discussion about if its possible to track open positions in our union. This topic had been brought up at the recent Chapter meeting. We don’ have a centralized list, but we might be able to use the University’s Board of Trustees minutes. A related discussion about “working out of class” followed, which is covered in Article 20.8 of our contract. Members should know their job descriptions and be compensated if they’re being asked to do more. Examples of this extra work were given in various departments from IT, Facilities, and Academic Ops.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Negotiations Committee. No report. Kay Helscel stated that she would like to see a negotiations team formed so they can begin putting together a game plan for our next contract. Elections are planned for May. Melanie Leonard suggested we discuss this at our January Exec meeting.

Grievance Committee: Grievance #774 was filed on behalf of the ACE members in Maag Library regarding mandatory lunch breaks. A Step 1 meeting was held today between Melanie Leonard (Grievance chair) and Cassie Nespor (representing Maag Library staff) with Kevin Kralj and Ana Torres (co-director of Maag Library). The union will get a formal disposition from Ana Torres by December 5. Six members signed up for the Grievance committee at the Chapter meeting. Melanie suggested allowing members to volunteer for all committees via email. The Board agreed to approve committee appointments at December meeting. Tatiana O'Dell asked if grievance training is open to everyone, not just the committee. Melanie Leonard clarified that members not on the committee will need to use their own paid leave for training. Melanie Leonard noted that all the Grievance files are still in her office. There was a discussion about possible digitization or at least weeding & cataloging.

Election Committee: Elections will be held in May.

Constitution & Bylaws Committee: We had 4 people volunteer to join the committee at the Chapter meeting. This committee meets on their time.

Communications Committee: Cassie Nespor recorded a short interview with member Jason Cottrill for Veteran's Day and posted it on our Facebook page. Another possible veteran interview is James Porter with Joe Audia.

Membership Engagement Committee: We have a Coffee and donuts event planned for November 19 from 9am to 10am in Kilcawley Center. Jill will send out invitation to other unions. Our Holiday lunch will be December 12 at the DeBartolo Stadium Club and catered by Leo's Restaurant. Eric Barr got 4 students from Bliss to provide music. A motion was made by Nancy O'Hara to pay students \$50 each to perform at the event. The motion was seconded and passed. Lisa Devore stated that she will lead the decorations and food but needs help setting up and clean up. Kay Helscel volunteered to help. Melanie reminded us to start planning the next Christmas party in September 2025.

HCAC: These meetings have been review information. The committee expects more data and number to be reported in the Spring meetings.

OLD BUSINESS

Seniority committee: No new info.

Ad Hoc Committee: Melanie Leonard clarified that under our current contract, this committee only looks at starting salaries. The recent LOU had no effect on the current locksmith. The Maintenance Repair LOU was under the old contract and they all moved up to higher classifications. Employees can be retained with an LOU only if they have a written contract from another employer.

OEA Grant: No update.

Fall Chapter meeting: 67 members attended. Not many cold weather clothes donations.

Christmas gift cards: Nancy O'Hara made a motion that \$20 cash or gift card be given to all current members during Christmas party or within one week afterward. The motion was seconded and passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

APAS: APAS invited the other campus unions to participate in Downtown Christmas parade & Light Up Night on December 6th. They have also appointed Amalia Kostantas as a liaison to ACE. In return, Eric Barr was appointed by Melanie Leonard as a liaison to APAS.

Having no other business to address, our meeting was adjourned at 1:10pm.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 12, 2024 at 11:30am in the Bresnahan 3 meeting room, Kilcawley Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Cassie Nespor

YSU-ACE Secretary