

MINUTES OF MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

1. Membership meeting called to order by President Lois Kirkup at 12:05 p.m.
2. **Adoption of Agenda**
M/ by David Reevely to approve the agenda. S/ by Julie Oliver. CARRIED.
3. **Adoption of Minutes**
M/ by David Reevely to adopt the Minutes of the March 18, 2009 General Membership meeting. S/ by Gord Holder. CARRIED.
4. **President's Report**
 - a. Executive activity since last general meeting:
 - 1) Vacation issue for Citizen newsroom members remains ongoing. Grievance was filed, but we have not yet heard of any members being forced to use vacation before the company's August 22 deadline. Local has sent a letter to company management saying matter would not be taken to standing committee unless someone was being forced to use vacation by that date.
 - 2) Byline arbitration: One day of hearings held May 1. Company and its lawyers have filed notice of intention to present eight days of evidence, but company has appeared to be dragging its feet on scheduling of hearing dates. One suggestion was resumption of hearing in January. ONG to reassess the situation in the fall.
 - 3) Canwest update: Company appears to be working on restructuring plan with possible announcement on June 15 and implementation in mid-July. Canwest newspaper division missed an interest payment, but company said that was part of the restructuring plan. Members were reminded that any changes to contracts (i.e. concessions) would have to be approved by them, but representatives of member Locals would definitely meet with the company representatives if required.
 - b. Presentation of 25-Year TNG Pin:
Steve Mazey was unable to attend the meeting, so arrangements were to be made to present the pin to him later.

5. **Financial Report**

a. Update: (Financial statements were presented in meeting package.) Treasurer Debbie Cole reported that the Local was still in a good position financially, though not necessarily in as good a position as it has been in years past. Executive finance committee will meet over the summer to discuss impact of continued reductions in dues revenue and the budget for 2009-2010. Production/billing snafu has meant Local has yet to be billed for printing of ONG history book. In the Defence Fund, arbitration expenses of more than \$51,000 are higher than they have been in many years, but the fund is being used for its intended purpose. The value of the long term investments in the ONG Defence Fund is \$1,303,986.99.

6. **Unit Reports**

- a. **CTV Ottawa** - Uncertainty over future of the station and resulting impact on employees remains high. Staff members who leave are not being replaced. Unit members have requested a meeting with company management to discuss staffing levels.
- b. **DLR International** - Company and Local have agreed to one-year extension of collective agreement, which now expires in November 2009.
- c. **Delta Reprographics** - Local executive unable to arrange meeting with unit members on June 5, but will try again.
- d. **Ottawa Citizen** - See President's Report above.

7. **New Business**

- a. Question from the floor about why meeting wasn't held at Citizen's Conference Centre. The simple answer is that the Local could not find available date in June to schedule the meeting there.
- b. Staffing levels on Copy Desk of Citizen newsroom. That area has gone unstaffed for periods of time on afternoons, particularly on weekends. No action taken.
- c. Partial production of Citizen news pages at Canwest facility in Hamilton continues. Local has no control over where Citizen pages are produced. One member said affected copy editors in newsroom were enveloped in uncertainty and suggested that Local executive meet with the affected members and then with company management. Issue to be revisited, particularly when parent company's restructuring plans become clear.

8. **Adjournment**

M/ by Debbie Cole to adjourn at 12:45 p.m. S/ by Johanne Vincent-Haffner.
CARRIED.

9. **Citizen Unit Meeting** - no separate meeting required.