

MINUTES OF MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Wednesday, March 18, 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 Blair Crawford. CARRIED.
3. **Adoption of Minutes**
M/ by Terry Garner to adopt the Minutes of the December 3, 2008 General Membership meeting. S/ by Debbie Cole. CARRIED.
4. **President's Report**
 - a. Executive activity since last general meeting: Buyouts at the Ottawa Citizen; 10 before new year and one since then. Vacation reminder to members; should use time before May 31. Question about number of people being allowed off at one time. No information yet from company/managers. Problems/questions should be brought to executive member. At least two members refused carryover past May 31, 2009.
Citizen Bylines arbitration hearing scheduled for May 1, 2009.
Delta - Dues paid up to January 2009.
DLR - Sick leave arbitration settled.
Canwest Update - Lois Kirkup went to Toronto with Amber and Lareau, met with L. Asper and other Canwest reps. Trying to establish relationship, provide information on more regular basis. Explanation of financial matters (complex), dates/deadlines for Canwest, explanation of covenants, Canwest negotiating with banks on loans, now starting talks with bondholders, got extension from banks. Next key date is April 6. We think the more extensions they get, the better the position they're in. May have better chance of selling assets, also get closer to fall revenue from television, advertising picks up again in newspapers. We are in wait and see situation. CWA/SCA Canada has hired lawyer and obtained answers to several questions. In event of bankruptcy protection/bankruptcy, CWA/SCA Canada would attempt to become a member of creditors' committee.
There was early discussion of concessions. It's expected that they will come back to us, perhaps when longer extension is obtained or final arrangements on Canwest financing are completed. It would require membership approval. Talk of salary cuts.
Question: How much are the concessions aimed at helping the Aspers' situation as opposed to helping the company as a whole.
Memo to members distributed.

b. Presentation of 25-year TNG Pin:
Charlene Ruberry, Citizen/Editorial - Charlene is away and did not attend the meeting.

5. **Financial Report**

a. Update: February 2009 update presented. Reduction in dues noticed for February of about \$200 per week from Citizen. Some expenses are also reduced. Finance committee will be meeting to take closer look at the budget. Defence Fund still in excess of \$1.3 million.

6. **Unit Reports**

- a. CTV Ottawa - Lost morning inserts into Canada AM. No staff lost according to that.
- b. DLR International - see above.
- c. Delta Reprographics - see above.
- d. Ottawa Citizen - see above.

7. **New Business**

a. Election of Delegates for 2009 TNG Sector Conference and CWA Convention;
June 2009 - Washington, D.C.
M/ by Debbie Cole to nominate Lois Kirkup as delegate for the local. S/ by Dave Dutton. CARRIED.
M/ by Johanne Vincent-Haffner to nominate Debbie Cole as alternate. S/ by Blair Crawford. CARRIED.

Other Business - complaint from night newsroom about odors.

8. **Adjournment**

M/ by Blair Crawford to adjourn at 12:42 p.m. S/ by Johanne Vincent-Haffner. CARRIED.

9. **Citizen Unit Meeting**

10. **Adjournment**