

**October 6, 2017**

**Quorum:** (32) members were present. A motion was made by Kate Tavernier, second by Vincent Prigitano and passed to accept the minutes of the September meeting as printed.

**Communications:**

- ❖ Received a letter from the NBA's office noting that the USPS in New England is projecting the excessing of 900 clerks in 271 different installations.
- ❖ Letter from the USPS to President Daniels advised they were withholding a route in the Meriden PO under Article 12. The steward in Meriden is currently filing a grievance on this issue.
- ❖ With the new national agreement comes a new program called the Joint Workplace Improvement Process (JWIP). The program is design to identify areas where management is creating a bad work environment. The national parties will select the locations that they will go into to address problem sites. The NBA's office has sent branch presidents a request to identify problem offices with specific details that he will forward to Headquarters for their review.
- ❖ Our annual Retirees' Breakfast was recently held with over 160 people in attendance. Retiree Robert Klatka, with 43 years of service was unable to attend but sent President Daniels a letter stating that he is signing up for the Letter Carrier Political fund and also thanked President Paul Daniels for all his hard work on behalf of letter carriers. He went on to say the carriers do not realize what an asset President Daniels is to this union. Klatka wished President Daniels all the best and stated that the carriers in Vernon were lucky to have been represented by President Daniels during the Jink's period of turmoil.

**New Business:**

- ❖ A motion was made by Billy Jo Romano, second by Kate Tavernier and passed to spend up to \$14 per active carrier on this year's holiday gift.
- ❖ On September 13, 2017 Branch 86 had their vote on the merger with Branch 20. The vote was 131 to 51 not to merge with Branch 20. This ends the merger process with Branch 86.
- ❖ President Daniels has appointed new stewards in New London Pietro Scelfo; in Middletown George Salmon; and in Cromwell Vincent Prigitano replaced Tom Franklin who plans on retiring from the USPS shortly.
- ❖ President Daniels recently returned from attending the 2017 NALC Hero Awards Ceremony in Washington D.C. where Waterbury Lakewood carrier Clinton Parker was recognized as Eastern Region Hero of Year. The event was attended by a number of Headquarter level USPS officials including the PMG. Also in attendance were officials from APWU, Mail handlers and President Trumpka from the AFL-CIO. All NALC National officers were also in attendance.
- ❖ Local Negotiations will begin October 16<sup>th</sup> and end November 14<sup>th</sup>. Norman St. Arnould, June Martin, John Daniels, Charles Pendola and Paul Daniels are the chief negotiators and they will work with the stewards in their designated offices to negotiate their local contracts. The main item to be put into the locals is CCAs being granted a vacation period during non-prime time.
- ❖ The branch recently was successful with two B-Team decisions. One was out of Mystic dealing with forced OT in which ten carriers received payments for this violation. In Watertown a carrier was put on Emergency Placement for an incident that happened off the clock. The B-Team ruled that the Placement was not for just cause and returned the carrier to work with full back pay. Thank you to Steward Dan Hernandez for all his efforts in returning this carrier to work.
- ❖ The branch will hold its quarterly meeting with the stewards and officers in December. A motion was made by Kate Tavernier, second by Billy Jo Romano and passed to pay lost time, miles, lunch and a steward holiday gift from the branch for all stewards and officers.

**Treasurer's Report** was handed out to all members present. A motion was made by Dennis O'Brien, second by Robert Ponzio and passed to accept the treasurer's report as printed.

**Good of the Association:** Discussion was held on a by-laws change regarding how Branch 20 stewards are selected.

**Motion to Adjourn** was made by Kate Tavernier, second by Brandon Jones and passed.