

September 4, 2019

Quorum: (29) members were present. A motion was made by Kate Tavernier, second by Norman St. Arnauld and passed to accept the June minutes as printed.

Communications:

A thank you letter was received from the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center for the donation of \$100 in memory of active carrier James Parisi from our Middletown office.

A letter was received from the USPS informing the branch that Storrs will begin to receive FSS flats on August 6, 2019.

A letter was received from James Kearns, postmaster of Norwich, informing the branch that due to the recent joint route adjustments one city route was eliminated which reverted a T-6 assignment.

A letter was received from the USPS informing the branch of route inspections for Mystic 9/28/2019; Thomaston 10/26/19 and Groton in October. Groton has now decided to do a joint adjustment.

The latest report from the NALC shows that Branch 20 has 682 union members and 6 scabs. Groton and Torrington both have one scab with Waterbury having 4. Stewards and officers were reminded that scabs are not entitled to representation should they be injured on the job, are not to be included in holiday gift distributions, not to attend office union funded picnics or holiday parties. Scabs are also not included in the retiree breakfast event and if they should wish to rejoin the union at any point there is a \$200 joining fee for them.

A letter was received from Postmaster Valerie Clark of the Mystic office advising President Daniels that she is considering changing the past practice of "No Lunch" in accordance with Article 5 of the National Agreement.

NBA Richard DiCecca sent a notice informing the branch of an upcoming Workers Compensation Training. The training will be held in each of the 3 Districts with the one in this area being held at Branch 86's Union Office in East Hartford on September 18th.

New Business:

On September 8th about 45 carriers will stand in front of local grocery stores collecting money for MDA. Tonya Johnson has volunteered to take on the project of collecting money to support MDA. It is her hope that all offices will take part in some way even if it is just collecting money from the carriers in the office.

The Retirees' Breakfast will be held on October 6th at the Four Points Sheraton. There are 35 retired members who are eligible to receive their Gold Cards with 9 of them indicating they will attend. There are 27 current retirees from the branch. Tickets will go on sale now with a deadline of September 27th.

Recently in Watertown an arbitration was held for a carrier who wanted to transfer out of his office to become a maintenance person and was denied the transfer. The case was won and the carrier will now be transferred.

Another case to be heard is from the New London office when in 2008 the inspections ended with hiring a private contractor to take the Fishers Island mail from the New London Post Office to the ferry dock 5 minutes away taking work away from the city carrier craft. This case has been pending for 11 years and has been postponed again.

Recently Dan Nacin a member and secretary/treasurer of Branch 86 who was also the vice-president of the CT Letter Carrier State Association was killed while delivering the mail. In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made the Postal Relief Fund. A motion was made by Argjent Kala, second by Charles Pendola to send \$100 to the Postal Relief Fund in memory of Dan Nacin and passed.

A discussion was held on holiday gifts for the active carriers. Members on the floor suggested several good items for this year's holiday gift. The suggestion of spending up to \$ 17 per active carrier was also discussed. The holiday gift and the \$17 will be voted on at the October meeting. In Torrington CCA Nafis Anwar has been appointed alternate steward by President Daniels.

The Committee of Presidents meeting is being held in Las Vegas in October. Tom Sagnella would like to attend this meeting. A motion was made by Steve Sanders, second by Norman St. Arnauld and passed to send Tom Sagnella to the Committee of Presidents meeting and to fund the trip.

By a show of hands the following stewards wanted to attend the OWCP Training in East Hartford. They are: Tom Sagnella, Eleones Linarez, Keith Polnik, Steve Sanders, Charles Pendola, Argjent Kala, Tanya Johnson and Nafis Anwar. A motion was made by Norman St. Arnauld, second by Kate Tavernier and passed to send the 8 stewards and officers to the OWCP training in East Hartford.

Merger talks have come up again with Branch 86. The branches will hold talks with each other to see if merger is possible.

Treasurer's Report was handed out to the members at the meeting. A motion was made by Kate Tavernier, second by Charles Pendola and passed to accept the treasurer's report as written.

Motion to adjourn was made by Norman St. Arnauld, second by Steve Sanders and passed.