

Massachusetts Community College Council

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Gail Guarino, Treasurer
DeAnna Putnam, Secretary



Don Williams, Communications
Dennis Fitzgerald, Day Grievance
Joseph Rizzo, DCE Grievance
Hilaire Jean-Gilles, Research
Tom Powers, Webmaster

Minutes of the MCCC Executive Committee Meeting
27 Mechanic St, Worcester, MA
Wednesday, August 14, 2019

Approved on September 6, 2019

Present: Vice President Rosemarie Freeland, Secretary DeAnna Putnam, Treasurer Gail Guarino, Executive Committee Members-At-Large Claudine Barnes, Ellen Pratt and Linda Grochowalski

Absent: President Margaret Wong

Guests: MTA Director of Higher Ed Suzanne Wall, MTA Organizer/Field Representative Colleen Fitzpatrick, MTA Interim Field Representative Joe LeBlanc

VP Freeland assumed the position of Chair for today's meeting and called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. XCom approved the order of business and the minutes from its June 5 meeting.

MTA Director of Higher Ed Suzanne Wall introduced MTA Organizer/Field Representative Colleen Fitzpatrick, Heather LaPenn's replacement; Fitzpatrick introduced herself and presented her background.

Wall also informed XCom that Bret Seferian had been hired to take over Maura Sweeney's position as of September 8 (*Note: this position has been covered in the meantime by interim MTA Field Representative Joe LeBlanc*).

XCom expressed concerns over the frequent turnover of MTA personnel assigned to MCCC.

Wall suggested that a meeting be set up between MCCC and XCom in a "frank and closed session" to discuss all issues and concerns.

Treasurer Guarino reported on extraordinary building expenses, including \$5,000 spent for painting, \$33,000 for MCCC's portion of a \$90,000-plus roof job that had been put off, and \$4,000 to be spent to bring fire alarms up to code.

XCom confirmed that the MCCC's Fall Conference would be rescheduled for Wednesday, October 2, at the DoubleTree Hotel in Westborough, as there was a mix-up with the original hotel booking. MTA Joe LeBlanc reported that he expected the ad hoc committee appointed to organize the Fall Conference would report on the agenda at the Board of Directors meeting. XCom agreed that notice to save the date for the conference had not yet gone out, and would need to go out ASAP.

XCom broke for lunch from 12:15-12:45 p.m.

XCom reviewed MTA's new membership materials, which do not meet MCCC's expressed needs, despite MCCC and other locals making their concerns known to MTA. VP Freeland reported that membership materials had been an issue of concern at both the MTA Summer Conference and also at the Higher Education Leadership Council (HELIC). Freeland reported that a motion had been made at HELIC to hold these membership materials and that MTA should consult locals affected by changes to membership materials.

Wall updated XCom on the Janus Response Bill passed both by the Massachusetts House of Representatives and Senate, but vetoed by Governor Charlie Baker. She reported that while it is likely the House and Senate will override the veto, they wouldn't take action on it until at least September. In the meantime, MTA has decided that setting union membership to last for a year, with cancellation effective at the end of the same, is legally enforceable. MTA still is discussing recommendations pertaining to the Janus Response Bill's allowance for unions to charge non-members a fee-for-service.

XCom agreed that Day Unit Bargaining Chair Claudine Barnes would send out an update on Day Unit salary increase funding, as the money won't appear right away in paychecks; a conversation regarding the status of work-to-rule on various campuses would need to be discussed at the Board of Directors meeting, as some campus have stipulated that funding, or lack thereof, will inform campus action. Wall recommended having MTA legal "on standby" for consultation with regard to the same.

Barnes reported that UMass unilaterally has decided that out-of-state Day Unit members are not eligible for tuition waivers, despite this not being negotiated as part of the Day contract.

XCom discussed BHE Commissioner Carlos Santiago's appearance at the Board of Directors meeting next week. XCom agreed that topics MCCC should discuss with Santiago should include: Funding; DCE (upcoming bargaining and general issues); Early College; Board of Registration in Nursing coming down hard on community college nursing programs; Declining enrollment; Deferred maintenance and disruptive maintenance/construction; Part-Time Professional Staff; and Title IX changes.

MOTION: To invite MTA Executive Director/Treasurer Lisa Gallatin at her convenience to the earliest possible XCom meeting (Pratt) **PASSED** (*Note: Later in the meeting it was confirmed that Gallatin would attend XCom's meeting on October 4*).

XCom agreed that a call for DCE Bargaining Team member applications should go out in September, with interviews to be held in October and appointments made in November; appointed team members could meet for the first time at the MTA Winter Skills event.

Wall, Barnes and Guarino reported on the Paid Family and Medical Leave Act (PFMLA), which has been impact-bargained with the colleges. (*Note: For more details, please read the PMFLA memo distributed by your chapter president and posted on the MCCC website at: <https://mccc-union.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/69/2019/08/PFML-Notice.pdf>*)

XCom entered into executive session at 4:35 p.m. to discuss PCA matters, MBCC matters, BrCC matters, bargaining, and appointed to contractual committees.

XCom exited executive session at 6:15 p.m. and immediately adjourned.

The next meeting will be held on Friday, September 6.

Submitted by DeAnna Putnam, *Secretary*