



SAN MATED COMMUNITY COLLEGE FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

Advocating for faculty since 1963

Minutes of General Membership/Executive Committee Special Meeting August 5, 2020 Virtual Meeting via Zoom

EC Members Present: Katharine Harer, Eric Brenner, Joaquin Rivera, Teeka James, Anne Stafford, Steven Lehigh, David Laderman, Salumeh Eslamieh, Monica Malamud, Michael Hoffman, Doniella Maher, Rika Fabian, Nathan Jones, Jessica Silver-Sharp, Marianne Kaletzky (Executive Secretary).

General Membership: Lee Miller, Masao Suzuki, Maggie Barrientos, Lezlee Ware, Tina Watts, Michael Sanford, Kate Browne, Patty Hall, Evan Kaiser, Denise Erickson, Diane Tedone.

1. Statement of Apology

- a. Joaquin Rivera read aloud an apology for inadvertently using negative language in describing one of the candidates for the Board at a previous members' meeting.

2. Proposed AFT Anti-Oppression Committee

- a. CAT members have begun reaching out to rank and file members who have been involved in anti-oppression work previously to help build the proposed committee.
- b. EC members should notify Rika if interested in joining.
- c. Further planning will take place at AFT's August 2020 Retreat.
- d. Members also suggested:
 - i. Discussion at Retreat on strategies for proactively addressing racism, taking a stand as union on issues of diversity and student equity.
 - ii. Working with CSEA members as well to build something together.
 - iii. The strong and immediate need for gender and ethnic diversity on the BOT.
 - iv. The imperative to work as best we can with whomever is elected to the BOT, and to determine what we can ask from each board member to support faculty and build something more positive in the future.

3. COPE Chair Katharine Harer reported on:

- a. The past year's work by AFT's Endorsements Committee to identify candidates for BOT & AFT's goals: to find candidates who are independent thinkers, gender and ethnically diverse and pro-labor.
- b. Endorsements in Areas 3 & 5 have been approved by AFT EC.
- c. The candidates in Area 1: Eugene Whitlock, Helen Wolter and Lisa Petrides.
- d. The Endorsements Committee interviewed the three candidates in the past week and a half since they all came into the race recently.
- e. Katharine summarized what AFT learned from interviewing and researching each of the three candidates. The Committee recommends the EC endorse Ms. Petrides
- f. A COPE open forum with all AFT endorsed candidates is planned for early Fall 2020.

4. Discussion

- a. Members discussed past experiences with known candidates, and voiced questions and comments about the candidates' stances on positions, and knowledge and experiences with issues of concern to AFT.
- b. EC endorsed Ms. Petrides: 11 in favor, two abstentions, none opposed.

The meeting was adjourned.