

FRASER VALLEY AREA COUNCIL

2013-02-09
32461 Emerald Drive
Abbotsford BC V2T 1B4

Meeting called to order at 1200 by Jayne Johns

In attendance:

Jayne Johns – President FVAC, CEIU Local 20903
Antony Paller – Vice-President FVAC Agriculture 20044
Ken Easton – USGE Section 2B086
Susan Wilmshurst – USGE Local 20091
Daniella Cairns – CEIU Local 20903
Kara Wieler – USGE Local 20091
Shelly Kozicki – USGE Local 20091
Janelle Ho-Shing – Fraser Valley Regional Rep – PSACBC
Melvin Dureen – Vice-President FVAC, Local 20054

Quorum met

1. Adoption of Previous Minutes:

Reviewed minutes recommended amendments;

- 6b. Elected Antony Paller, Susan Wilmshurst and Melvin Dureen as delegates to attend FVLC meetings
7. Donation to United Way Fundraiser at FVLC meeting December 19, 2012 did not happen due to inclement weather.
8. Correct spelling of Susan Wilmshurst name no h.

Motion to accept minutes as amended by Melvin D., seconded by Susan W., motion carried.

2. Finance Report – see attached

Motion to accept finance report as presented by Jayne J., seconded by Daniella C., motion carried.

Funding to area councils is based on a line item in the National Budget with money being divided up in different ways in each region. The new direction from National is that all area councils will put forward a budget and income forecast for the next year which the REVP will use to determine the monies to each area council.

A budget forecast was prepared by Jayne J., with operating expenses at \$1285.00 which with an opening balance for the year of \$1912.28 would leave us with \$632.58 over expenses. The proposed expenditures for the year are \$4100.00 and include

Donations to United Way, NDP, and Labour Day activities, political action and We Are All Affected, CCCABC \$10/Day Childcare and BC Fed/CLC campaigns. Once the \$632.58 is applied to the proposed expenditures leaves a shortfall for the year of \$3467.42.

Some discussion on political action with training coming up on March 2. Daniella C. talked about a letter writing party/get together providing supplies and assistance with writing letters to MPs, MLAs etc. Lobbying and signs at town hall meetings. Motion to adopt budget proposal as amended by Susan W., seconded by Daniella, carried.

4. Presidents Report – Jayne Johns

Jayne attended a CLC Ranking Officers Meeting where Ken Georgetti, CLC President, Jim Sinclair, BC Federation of Labour President and Adrian Dix, Leader of the NDP all spoke on the state of the union.

Two big Issues, Bill #377 to force unions to open books will probably pass the Senate. It would also be an attack on the RAND Formula which requires all employees in a bargaining unit that has democratically chosen a union to pay union dues, thus stopping those receiving the advantage of union working conditions and pay from simply opting out in order to avoid paying dues. This bill is seen as a move to introduce U.S. style right to work laws.

Union stands up for good jobs, fights for better pay (higher minimum wage, a living wage). With 37% of the public undecided on this issue unions need to improve overall image and profile, pushing that the union means fairness.

CLC – Campaign – The Union Advantage. Federal employees can massage, engage with provincial unions at the FVLC. BC Federation of Labour is focused on a NDP Labour friendly provincial government. They will be focusing on sixteen ridings that in the last election were very close. The union member density in the targeted areas would be enough to sway the vote. Advance poles will be a possibility to encourage members to get out and vote.

Platform Priority

- Working People Economy
- Stop Export of Raw Logs
- Skills Training
- Class Size and Composition
- Child care – Dental for children
- Safe Social Housing
- Protection and Enhancement of Public Services
- Seniors
- Green Jobs Strategy

BC Fed has packages available “We vote for a better BC”

5. Fraser Valley Labour Council – Antony Paller

Antony Paller received funding from FVAC to assist with expenses while attending the BC Federation of Labour Convention November 2012.

Antony was elected to the Small Union Executive at the FVLC meeting on January 16th, 2013. Melvin D. was elected to the alternate's position in the absence of Susan W. at the meeting. Antony has requested an update from all the delegates attending FVLC meetings at the following FVAC meetings.

Geographic Coordination April 6, 7, 8, next BC Regional Council. The council meets twice a year with a conference call monthly. Currently there are eight regional councils in BC with seven active. One on the Island needs revitalizing and there is a new one in Kamloops.

6. PSAC Leadership Summit.

Antony P. reported on the PSAC Leadership Summit in Ottawa from November 30 – December 2. Antony attended workshops with media relationships being most interesting. Melvin D. was in attendance as well and thought it was a very informative training event. Although not sure about participating in a plant gate action at 0700 in minus 10 degree weather even if it is only for a short time.

7. Roundtable

Local 20091 – Kara, and Susan

- concerns of the Programs WP-05 group over the lack of information surrounding the WFA for that group.
- Harassment – no training for the union members at the JLP 02 Harassment Prevention training.
- Shelly K. some rumblings based on the EE&D numbers.

Local 20044 - Antony

- CFIA negotiation team back next week for bargaining. Employer will not give on severance noting nothing happening until this is resolved.
- WFA final letters given out. Processing specialist in Quebec for poultry, red meat in Calgary. CFA losses 210 employees on retirement and moving, attrition. No one will lose a position if willing to relocate. Antony has been communicating with Mark Strahl who has finally responded with a no substance letter.

Local 20903 - Daniella

- Service Canada CEIU has three new opting employees under WFA.
- ULMC a JLP course next week Duty to Accommodate. Management is willing to run a second course on a Saturday paying OT to allow more employees to attend.

Local 2B086 – Ken E.

- Abby Parole AGM had eighteen attend.

- Pushing to have LMC. Harold Massey. Too easy going as Director and communication is poor. Harold is on the Social Committee for the site and misunderstands the cause of the low morale.
- Only one WFA/AS-04 Communications.

Next Meetings planned for March 12th, April 23rd and June 11th location to be determined. All meetings will be at 1730/5:30PM.

Motion to adjourn at 1435 by Jayne J., seconded by Ken E., everybody gone.

President: Jayne Johns

Vice-President: Melvin Dureen

Date

Date