

## CUPE Local 5406

### General Meeting – Minutes

April 14, 2021

Call to Order: 7:05pm

1. Roll Call
  - a. Executive Present
    - i. Don Wilson – President
    - ii. Robert Howsen – Vice President (joined 7:33pm)
    - iii. Devon Buckler – Secretary Treasurer
    - iv. Rob Collette – Recording Secretary
  - b. Guest
    - i. Adam Coones – CUPE National Rep
  - c. General Membership
    - i. Tom Edwards - Emo
    - ii. Shayne Callaghan - Dryden
    - iii. Ron Ogier - Mechanical
    - iv. Leo Label - Dryden
    - v. Hanna Schneider – Ear Falls/Dryden
    - vi. Donald Kennedy – Ear Falls
    - vii. Brian Gregory - Emo
    - viii. Michael Ans - Emo
    - ix. Jason Foster – Ear Falls
    - x. Dale Smith - Emo
    - xi. Brian Whitefield - Emo
    - xii. Rob Huard - Mechanical
    - xiii. Alain Levesque – Kenora
    - xiv. Marc Desforges – Emo
    - xv. Joe Lira - Kenora
2. Don Wilson read the Equality Statement
3. Rob Collette Acknowledgement the Indigenous Lands where the meetings are being held
4. Oath of Membership – All members present had previously taken the oath of membership
5. Rob Moved to Accept the Agenda, Devon Seconded the motion, nobody opposed
6. Tom moved to accept previous Minutes, Jason seconded the motion and nobody opposed
7. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes
  - a. Management operating equipment before all bargaining unit members have been exhausted – This was to be put forward at the next Labour Management meeting but there hasn't been one – Agreed to move to the next Agenda
  - b. Pay if sent home for COVID precautions - This was to be put forward at the next Labour Management meeting but there hasn't been one – Agreed to move to the next Agenda
8. Devon Spoke about the hurdles he's faced since taking over. There has been a big roadblock at the bank and there is nobody who has signing authority as of yet despite jumping through many hoops for the bank. As such he is unable to provide a clear picture. He's spoke about the dues that have been submitted and some outstanding bills to be paid. Rob also spoke to the problems getting this set up and suggested as soon as it is done we change banks. This problem lies entirely on the shoulders of the bank. Jason moved to accept the Treasurers report, Tom seconded the motion. No objectors
9. Don presented the Executive report and spoke to items we have accomplished. The transfer of printers and filing cabinets has been done, we have had the mailing address changed to Scott st so we don't need to chase mail. Devon moved to accept the report, Jason seconded the motion. No objectors.

10. Reports from Committees and delegates – No committees currently active. Rob mentioned the upcoming National Convention in June. Adam explained the uncertainty of in person or virtual at this point.
11. Nominations
  - a. Committees – Rob spoke about the importance of committees to the health of the union. The committees are the part of the union that is there to help members and make their lives better. Rob said he was willing to sit on any or all of the committees with anybody who was interested in sitting on the committee with him. Nobody was interested in volunteering at this time.
12. Unfinished Business – no unfinished business from previous minutes
13. New Business
  - a. Rob suggested that having physical devices to use for recording and storing union items would be helpful, especially during a change over of executive members. These Laptops would remain property of the union and would ease in conducting our business. There was a discussion on the appropriate amount to spend on laptops that would work for us. Rob moved to spend up to \$2000 on 3 laptops for the President, Secretary Treasurer and Recording Secretary. Jason seconded the motion. A vote was held and there was 15 yeas and 1 nay. Motion passed
  - b. Rob moved to join some of the associations. Adam suggested we join the Ontario Division of CUPE and the Ontario Federation of Labour and hold off on others until after the pandemic. As this is in the budget already there was no need to vote on costs. Rob will follow-up with Adam as to the process and actual cost to ensure this falls within our budget.
  - c. Alain expressed concern about the Bargaining process being behind. And the lack of clear information coming out of union. Rob spoke about the process and the surveys are out. The soft deadline to complete them is April 14<sup>th</sup>. We are planning a Bargaining committee meeting in the first week of May to discuss the survey results and decide on the proposals. Adam spoke further to the process of not being able to even start bargaining until 90 days until the current CA expires. Rob said the surveys were sent to everybody who had provided an emails as well as put up on the website. It was agreed that reminded emails could be sent out prior to the deadline. It was also decided that a bunch could be printed off and sent out to the yards and left in the lunch rooms.
  - d. Alain said there is a lack of information coming from the Union, suggested have a Newsletter and monthly meetings rather than quarterly. Rob spoke about the previous attempts at bulleting boards and emails to Stewards to get information to members in all the yards and that failed miserably. We had bulleting boards but nothing got posted on them. This lack of information flow resulted in the formation of the website which contains so much more than any bulletin board could contain. It also has the ability to reach the most members as almost everyone has access to the internet even if it is just on their phones. Adam spoke about the rationale behind quarterly meetings. Outside of COVID it is difficult to conduct meetings in 4 different areas that everybody can attend. Rob also mentioned that the zoom meetings are considerably cheaper than in person meetings and the estimate for each in person meeting, between travel and booking rooms and hotels and meals would cost close to \$1000 each time
  - e. With the presence of mechanics at the meeting Rob nominated Ron Ogier for Bargaining committee representing mechanical staff. Tom Seconded it. Rob Huard was also nominated but declined his nomination. Ron Ogier was acclaimed as Bargaining Committee member.
14. Nobody had anything to say about the good of the union
15. Don moved to adjourn the meeting at 811