

CUPE 391, Gibsons Library Workers

Meeting Tuesday, April 24, 2007

Present: L. Carlson, Carole Doerksen, E. Hare, L. Houle, L. Housden, P. Swadden, M. Young, S. Young.

The meeting was called to order at 5:25 p.m.

1) Changes/additions to agenda:

Motion to accept agenda as presented. Carried.

2) Minutes of previous meeting:

Motion to accept the minutes of the November 10, 2006 meeting. Carried.

3) Comments / Report from the Chair:

Outgoing chairperson Pat Swadden mentioned that our new executive needs to be elected prior to the CUPE AGM, which runs on Sunday, April 29. She recapped the past year, characterizing it as uneventful for our subunion. She was pleased that as a union we've been able to avert problems before they happen. Notes that management now asks for an interpretation of the collective agreement before making decisions with staff implications. Lynda Carlson has been very helpful in offering counsel.

Pat was asked to provide a letter to the Terrace Library, which was then going through a vote as part of the unionization process. She listed the benefits of unionization as we have experienced them: improvements in wages and benefits, and protection from the situation of a few years ago, when staff (and management) were subject to the whims of a dysfunctional board.

4) Election of Officers:

Recording Secretary: Laura Houle nominates Stu Young. No other nominations.

Shop Steward: Stu nominates Carole Doerksen. Laura nominates Lisa as backup. No other nominations.

Chairperson: Maureen Young nominates Lynda Carlson. No other nominations.

5) New business:

Bargaining: Our contract expires late this year. Laura mentioned that prior to our last bargaining she, as Chair, had provided a précis of what she felt needed to be addressed. Jim Gorman (our CUPE rep.) also sends us suggestions. Eileen Hare referred to the vacation clause; she feels it's odd that staff with many years seniority get no more holidays than staff with only two years.

Bargaining Committee: Lynda and Carole have agreed to form the Committee, with Pat on board for continuity.

Library Pages: Management has said there will be no pages hired. It was deemed too expensive.

CUPE 391 Union meetings in Vancouver: Previous Chairpersons: Laura attended these via teleconference. Pat felt that personal attendance was costly in time and money. She rarely had anything significant to add from our subion, and it cost the union \$70 each time to send her there.

The CUPE provincial conference takes place in Victoria on May 9. Lynda will be attending.

At 5:53 it was moved that the meeting be adjourned.

Carried.