

CUPE 391 Gibsons Workers' Special Regional meeting, Jan. 31, 2005

Attending: Pat Swadden, Jim Gorman, Peter DeGroot, Maureen Young, Stu Young, Carole Doerksen, Lisa Desaulniers, Lisa Housden, Laura Houle, Lynda Carlson

Absent: Eileen Hare, Lorrie Elgbacka.

1. Meeting called to order at 10:40 a.m. Agenda approved.
2. Oct.18 minutes approved.
3. Sept. 27 minutes approved with one typographical correction.
4. Report on Bargaining

Jim Gorman made his report on the bargaining sessions, which he characterized as relatively easy compared to the first round of bargaining in 2001-2002. The Agreement was ratified by the Board on Friday. Jim formally stated that the Bargaining Committee is recommending to the membership that they accept this Agreement, then went through the Memorandum of Agreement point by point, identifying some highlights:

- the wage increase will be instituted across the board rather than as a percentage increase; this is more equitable because everyone receives the same increase and it does not widen the gap between salaries.
- Municipal Pension Plan has been approved
- Seniority rules have been simplified

Jim also pointed out staff may be able to buy back service in the Municipal Pension Plan using some money from our old group plan RRSP as the equivalent of past service under the MPP.

5. Ratification Vote
The Agreement was voted on and unanimously accepted.
6. Report from President, CUPE local 391
Peter DeGroot offered congratulations on the advances made in our 2nd contract. He pointed out that things remain to be done to complete the process, including signing off the new contract, and printing extra copies for any new members. He said the committee should sit down with the Employer and discuss the practicalities of implementation. And staff should continue to discuss clauses we weren't successful on, such as receiving pay for completing Community Librarianship courses. He mentioned it's important to mend bridges with the Employer after every bargaining session, and encouraged members to thank Board members for their progressive attitude at negotiations, and to attend a Board meeting to thank them personally.

CUPE 391 Gibsons Workers' Special Regional meeting, Jan. 31, 2005

7. Other updates:

- the CUPE 391 website is online at www.cupe391.ca.
- Peter DeGroot will begin sending us CUPE updates by email. If you decide you don't want this, just unsubscribe from the list.
- CUPE 391 Executive meetings will now be done via teleconference, to save Gibsons members from the Vancouver commute.
- Lisa Housden will be a delegate at the CUPE Convention April 13-16.
- Laura will be attending a course on parliamentary procedure and public speaking at the CLC Winter School in February.
- Next CUPE 391 General meeting is happening at Vancouver Public Library Central Branch on Wednesday March 16 at 6 p.m.
- CUPE elections for executive members will be Sunday April 24 at 11 a.m.
- The next meeting of the Gibsons Workers will be in March or April. We'll choose the Gibsons chair for the June 1 2005 May 31, 2006 year.
- Jim Gorman is being reassigned to the CUPE health care sector, in opposition to his wishes. He would appreciate any letters in support of his position.

8. There was a staff Photo session for the CUPE 391 newsletter, and the meeting was adjourned 11:35 a.m.