

**National Labor College Alumni Association  
Annual Meeting  
Friday, June 27, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 2:55 p.m. by President Roger Ramjug.

Roll call of Officers found present:

President Roger Ramjug  
Vice President Kirk Brungard  
Treasurer Gary Lucy  
Secretary Carla Insinga

Absent was Immediate Past President Rick Root.

President Ramjug suspended the regular business of the meeting to hear from Robert Molofsky, Vice President /Special Counsel, AFL-CIO Investment Trust Corporation and Beth Grupp, President, Beth Grupp Associates on alumni fundraising. After brief introductions by Robert and Beth, discussions were held regarding the following proposed alumni fundraising projects:

- Workers Memorial – Selling bricks at \$125 each and benches at \$10,000 each (see handout). Questions and suggestions included offering something in between that would memorialize an individual or an event (i.e., 911 Triangle Shirt, etc.).
- Other – Coming up with a fundraiser that a working-class individual can afford.

Regular business resumed at 3:30 p.m.

Minutes from the previous meeting were distributed. Motion made by Brother Bruce Dunton and seconded by Sister Lainie Kitt to suspend the reading of the minutes and accept the minutes as written. Motion carried.

Treasurer Gary Lucy gave the financial report.

Building Fund	\$190.00
Scholarship	\$760.00
Operating Fund	<u>\$3,680.00</u>
Total	\$4,630.00

Brother Roger Blacklow asked if our alumni database is accurate and are we reaching all alumni. Brother Lucy responded that there has been much improvement to the database and that it is about 90% accurate.

Motion made by Brother Roger Ramjug, seconded by Sister JoAnn Johnntony to accept the financial report.

National Labor College Provost Pat Greenfield extended greetings to the alumni and welcomed the graduates of the Class of 2008. Sister Greenfield briefed the alumni on the state of the college. She reported that:

- Last year enrollment increased by 8%; this academic year enrollment increased by 11-12%. It was noted that enrollment typically declines during an election year and because of that trend the college has planned its curriculum and offerings accordingly. It was also noted that the fall week-in-residence has been moved after Election Day.
- Alumni, faculty and staff have been to a number of places setting up tables and facilitating workshops to recruit new students. Alumni Mentor Training was held today prior to the meeting. The college recognizes the alumni with their knowledge and experience as a very valuable recruitment and retention tool.
- The college now has a working student information system. The college is in the process of entering the alumni into the database. With this new system, the college will be able to better manipulate that data and keep track of who is contributing.

Sister Vera Taylor Johnson, who provides administrative support to the alumni association, asked that alumni let her know when events are scheduled within their respective unions. She noted that the college will send information and will pay mileage and per diem to alumni who help cover events. Sister Johnntony asked that the college let her know when they are coming to an event in her area and she will help cover the table. Brother Lacy Gillespie suggested sending a calendar of events that need coverage to alumni. Sister Greenfield noted that the AFL-CIO is putting together a more comprehensive calendar of events. She suggested that Change to Win unions contact Sister Taylor Johnson with their events so that they may be included.

### **Old Business**

Bylaws Committee Report – President Ramjug thanked Brother Dan Rusnak for chairing the Bylaws Committee. Copies of the proposed changes to the Bylaws were distributed for discussion. Brother Rusnak reviewed the proposed changes.

The meeting was temporarily suspended at 4:00 p.m. so that alumni could participate in Steven Greenhouse's lecture and book signing.

The meeting resumed at 5:05 p.m.

Discussion continued regarding the Bylaws.

Secretary Insinga noted that the officers of the alumni association and Sister Greenfield, as our advisor, met on a monthly basis via conference call and worked together to bring our Bylaws in line with the goals and mission of the National Labor College. President Ramjug noted that the major change in the Bylaws is that there will no longer be dues; the college has made a commitment to give us resources and help us raise funds. Sister Karen Newman expressed concern that she just paid dues so she could attend the meeting and vote only to learn that dues will no longer be paid, and asked why wasn't this agenda put out before dues were paid. Sister Greenfield noted that the dues are still in effect until changes are made to the Bylaws. Sister Greenfield went on to explain that the alumni officers met with the administration at 11:00 a.m. today and got a commitment from President Scheurman that the college would aid the alumni in their fundraising efforts. The proposal to remove the dues language from the Bylaws was contingent on the college's commitment to help raise funds. Brother Rusnak suggested a friendly amendment to the proposed changes that would clear up the confusion with the time zones referenced in Article V, Section 1. Brother Rusnak along with the Officers will work on the language. A motion was made by Brother Bruce Dunton and seconded by Sister Lainie Kitt to post the proposed changes to the Bylaws on the alumni association's website within 30 days of today's meeting and vote on the proposed changes within 90 days from the posting. The motion carried.

### **New Business**

President Ramjug asked for volunteers to serve on the various committees as outlined in the Bylaws. More specifically, volunteers were solicited for the Bylaws Committee, the Nominations Committee (as next year is an election year for officers), and the Financial Committee. Brother Dan Rusnak (Bylaws), Sister Lainie Kitt (Nominations) and Brother Jeremy Golston (Financial) volunteered to serve on the respective committees. A motion was made by Brother Bruce Dunton and seconded by Sister JoAnn JohnTony that the officers appoint the chairs of these committees. The motion carried.

### **For the Good of the Association**

Sister Vera Taylor Johnson reminded the alumni to send her dates of labor events in their area/union.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Sister Karen Newman and seconded by Brother Lacy Gillespie to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Insinga, Secretary