

NALC BRANCH 111
Minutes of the Regular Union Meeting
August 12, 2021

Convened at 6:41 pm

The meeting was also broadcast over Zoom for those unable to attend.

Pledge of Allegiance conducted by Mike Simonsen,

Moment of Silence for Richard Lorenzon who passed away.

Roll Call by Steve McNeas

Minutes of the June meeting were posted. Without objection, they will be filed for future reference.

Reading of the Communications by Steve McNeas

- From Mgr Cust. Services – Notice of route inspections in the Murray Post Office (routes 726, 729,731) from 8/9/21 through 8/14/21.
- Received the agenda and minutes of the July Labor/Management meeting.
- Letter of condolences to the family of Rick and Mari Lorenzo.
- Notices to installation heads to release carriers attending the August 6th – 7th NALC State Convention.
- Announcement of the October 17, 2021 Virtual 35th National Health Benefits Plan Seminar. Those invited are Branch officers who are enrolled in the plan.
- Notice of the Safety and Health meeting being changed to July 27th.
- From the Labor Dept: Letter explaining how the new claims for COVID-19 are being processed. The new plan makes it much easier. A new flyer is available on the NALC website (nalc.org).

Application for Membership by Mike Hansen

Jeron Tucker, James Goble, Danna-Lynn Hooper-Juario, Christopher Martinez

SPECIAL GUEST: Blake Perez– Running for SLC Council District 1

- He spoke about the issues in his district. He has lived in the community for 10 years. Started as a non-profit professional helping low-income families and youth. He was Transportation Planner for SLC for 4 years (curb side planner, etc). Served as the Community Chair for 4 years, and is currently Deputy Director for the Central Wasatch Commission. He would like to get into curb side management which affects our jobs. He supports the Inland Port as long as there is accountability, transparency, and local control (Salt Lake City).

LCPF by Josh Thibodeau – not present

MDA COORDINATOR by Jeremy Bailey

- The MDA Bowl-a-thon was a huge success bringing in \$5,050. It was the largest single event ever.
- The Steak Fry is Aug. 28th. There will be prize drawings for the MDA.

SPECIAL GUEST: Darren Mano – Running for SLC Council District 5

He was appointed to replaced Erin Mendenhall when she became Mayor. This is his 1st year running a campaign. He would like to advocate for better service downtown with a new Post Office. He would like to call our leaders when there are issues that would affect our members. He is endorsed by the Central Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, Mayors Mendenhall and Wilson, and McAdams. He would like our support.

DIRECTOR OF VETERAN AFFAIRS - Jimmy Fleming

By Zoom – Veteran Recruitment Program – He had asked Mike Wahlquist and Amie Gallo to discuss the program at a Labor/Management meeting including the postmaster. Management is in support of the program. It just needs the approval of Human Resources now.

LEGISLATIVE by Chad Mortensen

- Many candidates want to know our issues and get our support. We need to take an active role in the legislative field. We need to vote for those who support our issues (do they know our issues). We have a list of those who are supported by the AFL-CIO and Central Fed.
- Our job has been at the whim of congress. We cannot discuss politics on the workroom floor because of the Hatch Act.
- Look in the Pavement Pounder and National newsletter for more legislative info.
- Call Chad to find out about those running. Stay active, stay engaged. This is not a party race. This is a service issue. It is about how we service our customers and how we maintain our livelihood and households.

TRUSTEES by Chad Mortensen - • They met last night. Everything came out okay.

MBA, COMPENSATION by Bob Jewell

- A carrier was hurt on the job. He got no help from management. He didn't contact Bob, and his claim was never accepted. His doctor told him not to work. Management put him on LWOP. On LWOP none of your benefits are paid.

You lose your health benefits because they aren't being paid and you have to wait for open season to get insurance again. Get help early so Bob can help you with a claim. If your claim is accepted, you get your insurance and pay.

- People are losing benefits and jobs because they get hurt on the job and claims are not processed properly.

HEALTH BENEFITS by Jim Kerekes

- The current Postal Record has a lot of good information about health benefits. There is a history of the Hatch Act in the same issue.
- At CCA conversion stand-ups he tells them to read the M-39 and M-41 to learn their rights. Knowing your job and rights, helps with mental health.
- OPM is requiring a mandatory stand-up about OMP and requirements to report all family member.
- This year the Health Benefits Seminar will be virtual for branch offices who have NALC HB.

SAFETY AND HEALTH by Justin Lindquist – not present

ORGANIZER by Justin Lindquist – not present

DIRECTOR OF RETIREES by Jeff Asay

- CSR members are supposed to get about a 5% raise. FERS will only get about 3.5% but they also get Social Security which gets about a 6% raise. This is good!
- OPM log in: You should log in at least once a year. Set a reminder on your phone or calendar. That way you are set to go when you have a need.
- Steak Fry – all retirees get in free (paid by retiree funds). There will be some prizes (cash?) just for retirees.
- The Retirees' Dinner is Sept 22nd from 3:30-5:30 at the Draper Chuck-A-Rama. It is free for retiree and guest. Just show up. Pass the word to your retired friends. There will prizes there also.

TREASURER by Mike Madsen

Last month's income and expenses: Income was \$36,000 (including MDA funds). Expenses were \$40,919 (including quarterly payroll). Our account is \$7,000 to the good so far this year, well ahead of what was budgeted for this time.

VICE PRESIDENT by Amie Gallo – no report

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT by Mike Hansen

- 1,437 grievances filed so far this year.
- Back pay may be coming around August 20th. Active carrier, at top pay, COLA is \$1,934 (.93/hour). Top wages should be over \$70,000 by the end of the year.
- Swipe Simple is being used by the branch to accept credit card payments by those calling the branch. We have added links on our web page (branch111.com) to pay for activities (steak fry tickets), donate to MDA and pay for past dues.
- Calendars can be purchased on the web soon.
- Bowl-a-thon thanked Jeremy Bailey, Steve Warren and Wahlquist for their help.
- Mike Simonsen received the Letter Carrier of the Year Award at the State Convention last weekend.

PRESIDENT by Mike Wahlquist

- Richard Lorenzen (route 16 in Cottonwood) was in a car accident in a freak sand storm near Meadow, UT. He and his wife were both killed. There was a card to sign and donations of \$471 were received for the family.
- **The Steak Fry is August 28th at 6pm.** The Murray Park is under construction so we will be meeting at **Willow Pond Park Pavilion** at 6059 S Murray Parkway Ave next to Murray Parkway golf course (9th west).

SPECIAL ORDERS: none **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** none

NEW BUSINESS:

- There was a motion to cancel the November union meeting because it falls on Veterans Day. The motion passed.
- Chad would like us to endorse candidates who support our issues. We cannot donate money from branch funds (that is why we have LCFP).
- A motion to endorse Blake Perez for Salt Lake City Council District 1 was made. The motion passed.
- A motion to endorse Darin Mano for Salt Lake City Council District 5 was made. The motion passed.
- Sim Gill is running for Salt Lake County District Attorney again. A motion to endorse him was made. The motion passed.
- A motion to create a Standing Order that no money can be spent at Walmart was made. The motion and amendments were withdrawn because it was believed there was a Standing Order already.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION: none **FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE SERVICE:** none

DRAW AND ADJOURN – 7:27 pm

- \$25 drawing winners: Russ Shosted, Troy Scherzinger
- RETIREES – \$25 (Narvel Scherzinger was not present). Next month it will be \$50
- PROGRESSIVE A - \$525 (Kirk McLaughlin **was present and Won**). Next month it will be \$25.
- PROGRESSIVE B - \$175 (Rachel Jimenez was not present). Next month it will be \$200.