

LOCAL 70125 (EXTERNAL AFFAIRS)

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1979

7:30 p.m.

53 QUEEN STREET, ROOM 14

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
4. GUEST SPEAKER: Carolyn Combs, PSAC Regional Representative
5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES: June 18 Monthly Meeting
6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES
7. CORRESPONDENCE
8. REPORTS: a) Executive
b) Standing Committees
c) Group Representatives
9. ELECTIONS: Second Vice-President
Third Vice-President
10. NEW BUSINESS
11. ADJOURNMENT

BE PRESENT AND BRING A FRIEND

BIENVENUE A TOUS

MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
PSAC LOCAL 70125 (EXTERNAL AFFAIRS)
HELD AT 53 QUEEN STREET, ROOM 14

SEPTEMBER 17, 1979

1. The President called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

2. PRESENT: Françoise Maher President
Margaret George Blagrove First Vice-President
André Laporte Treasurer

COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Joan Jeakins, Membership
Ed Walsh, Steward

GROUP REPRESENTATIVES

Barry Kemball, AS Delegate
Don Larkin, CR Observer

MEMBERS:

P. Lalonde, SCY
A. Gamache, SCY

GUESTS:

Carolyn Coombs, PSAC Regional Representative
Chris Dann, PSAC Services Officer, National Component.

3. AGENDA: Motion by B. Kemball to amend Agenda under section 9 (Elections) to nominate a replacement for Jean Edwards who has resigned as a delegate to the Ottawa/Hull Area Council.

M/S/C That Agenda be accepted as amended.

4. GUEST SPEAKER: Carolyn Coombs PSAC Regional Representative

Education was the topic chosen for her talk. She suggested that the Local revive the half hour education sessions at noon hour in french and english. These were carried out in External two years ago and met with good success. Suggestion this time is to put out general poster and on the first session ask those present what they see as of interest to them for future courses. Make the members aware of the different courses available to them through the Alliance - e.g. steward training, local officer training also those courses offered to various members in the Ottawa area, e.g. federal/labour relations - human rights - occupational health and safety.

Carolyn Coombs is very heavily involved in the 'In-Residence' education programme. These are 4-5 day intensive training for Local officers, open to any officer including stewards. (Françoise Maher, President has attended). Union Development Program - Chief Steward Programme - train people on how to organize stewards committee in Department, (Ed Walsh, the Local Head Steward has attended such education programme).

Françoise Maher, thanked Carolyn Coombs and discussion followed on type of agenda to revive the in-house programme of two years ago. Volunteers are very much needed for suggestions of topics, publicity etc. It was agreed that FSDs would be an excellent topic and would bring a good turn out. Another on the Foreign Service Employee Concept would be of great interest.

Barry Kemball asked if the National Component would come to the rescue if the Local cannot properly publicize? Don Larkin asked when will these education sessions could start? October - November, Carolyn suggested. Joan Jeakins suggested to check with the EARO so that noon hour education sessions do not conflict with EARO noon hour sessions.

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES: M. George Blagrove/J. Jeakins Minutes adopted as presented.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

The President asked Ed Walsh if he had anything further to report on security manager positions. Ed said they are still waiting.

7. CORRESPONDENCE: (SEE ANNEX A page 8)

Item No. 1 - Laurier Auger Bursary: This circular letter should be reproduced for all members of the Local. National Component tries to publicize this Bursary, if Locals don't respond, how can it publicize fully? Point raised by Barry Kemball.

Item No. 19: Joan Jeakins' query. Chris Dann explained that a small number of TB sets was allotted in the following priority basis - married with children, married without children, single with children and single with no dependent. Grievance was denied by management on grounds that post management has the right to "manage" as they see fit.

8. REPORTS

President's Report - Presented by Françoise Maher

Since the June meeting, I attended a meeting called by one of the Locals to prepare a meeting with Mayor Dewar in support of bus drivers then on strike. Having learned that the Press had been informed of the meeting, City Hall cancelled the meeting.

At that same meeting, we were given a list of doctors who have opted out OHIP with a request to pass the information to our members. (List available on request from the Local Office at 233-8277)

On August 23 and 29, meetings were held to review the new version of the Code of Conduct. Union representatives had reserves on two items: dress and appearance and currency conversion reporting.

The matter of nominating a National Director for Countries Outside Canada and of an Alternate was requested by the Alliance Centre. Nominations had to be presented for September 14th hence before the September Local Monthly meeting. Names of interested members who had been mentioned in the were submitted by the President to her Executive with the following result: Don Larkin, National Director Countries Outside Canada and Barry Kemball, Alternate. Other members who were nominated, declined. A report has been prepared and is available upon request on Local File No. 30.

Two meetings took place at noon on September 4 and 6 on diplomatic passports and privileges.

Finally, the PSAC Services Officer for this Local was requested to try to get an evaluation of the duties of this Local's office clerk.

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Presented by Margaret George Blagrove

A SCY group meeting was convened and chaired by myself for two purposes:

- a) to obtain bargaining proposals for the new contract (present one to expire January 1979);
- b) to find members interested in working for the Local.

Regarding the first purpose, the meeting was very constructive for those people who did attend. Guest speaker Gerry Sarazin, Assistant Executive Secretary of the National Component, PSAC, gave the group an interesting outline of the collective bargaining process. General discussion resulted and the members were also informed of the Collective Bargaining Course available through the Alliance which goes into more details and specifics regarding the bargaining process.

Regarding the second purpose, members were informed of the current vacancies within the Local Executive and told they or anyone else they might know interested in participating would be most welcome.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Presented by André Laporte

RECONCILIATION FOR AUGUST 1979

1. Cash on hand as of July 31, 1979	1665.13 CR
2. Revenue for August 1979	1496.20 CR
3. Expenditures for August 1979	1253.05 DR
4. Equals cash on hand as of August 31/79	1908.28 CR
5. Outstanding cheque (No. 938 - Aug. 30)	193.00 CR
6. Equals bank balance per statement Aug. 31/79	2101.28 CR

FINANCIAL POSITION

Cash on hand (in bank)	2101.28
Petty Cash Advance	50.00
Saving Certificates	5000.00
	<u>7151.28</u>

Prepared by: L. Kemball
Approved by: André Laporte Treasurer.

COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Joan Jeakins reported approximately 15 form letters had been sent to new members and to date had had 10 signed cards returned.

GROUP REPORTS

AS: Barry Kemball reported on a meeting with Management re: AS Concept. Minutes are being finalized. Another LMC meeting at the end of September to discuss Concept. All groups should be invited to participate.

CR: Rotational CRs have organized a research and study group to study problems, FSEC, single assignment involving rotational CRs.

SCY: Pat Lalonde reported that 13 bargaining proposals were submitted to the National Component as a result of the June 26 SCY Group meeting. She attended the Component Bargaining Committee Meetings August 16 and 17.

M/S/C M. George Blagrove, André Laporte that reports be accepted as presented.

OTTAWA-HULL AREA COUNCIL REPORT: ^{PREPARED} ~~Presented~~ by Miki Sheldon

Several items arose at the OHAC meeting September 12/79, the first to be held following summer recess.

A weekend course on media relations will take place at the end of October.

To mark the International Year of the Child, a fair had been considered as a possibility but found to be impractical. In its place a seminar on child safety in the home was being planned.

President's report

President Linda McLaren spoke of the conference of Area Councils held July 7 and 8. Present were representatives from Windsor, Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa-Hull, which sponsored the conference. It was described as highly successful, producing much interest in Convention resolutions and on a paper on the Government's decision to cut 60,000 jobs. The paper, subsequently distributed at the PSAC Convention, was extremely well received and complimented on by delegates.

INSIGHT, the TV program produced by the Area Council in Ottawa, will resume this month on Channel 12. A show in french will also be presented as soon as volunteers can be obtained to work in the French language.

Treasurer's reports were presented for June, July and August. The August balance showed an amount of \$3,670.76.

Membership Benefit Fund

Since the Membership Benefit Fund was set up several years ago for members adversely affected by strike or lock-out, contributions had been received from various parts of Canada. The balance outstanding is \$11,054.62. Council voted and passed a motion to form a committee of five to decide whether to retain or dispose of the money and to look into various ways of disposition. The committee is to report at a general meeting prior to the Annual Meeting in February.

Jim McCarthy of the Ottawa and District Labour Council addressed Council members, promising closer co-operation in areas of mutual interest.

Katy Burnett, a member of Council's executive, appealed for support for Project 4000. She asked for sponsors, clothing and anything anyone wished to contribute. She offered to speak to groups to explain the program and to answer all questions.

PSAC President Andy Stewart was guest speaker at the meeting.

1979 PSAC CONVENTION held in Quebec City July 30 - August 3, 1979

The following report on the Convention was prepared and submitted by Miki Sheldon our Local Delegate.

The fifth Triennial Convention of the PSAC met from July 30 to August 3 in Quebec City, attended by 419 voting delegates, 13 Area Council Delegates, 261 observers and 162 guests. Delegates met in formal session for some 31 hours, with many extra hours of caucuses and meetings outside formal sessions.

With over 600 resolutions to consider, a budget to be adopted and officers to be elected, the task of completing the business seemed to be insurmountable. But delegates worked extremely hard and completed more business than at any other past PSAC Convention. At the end of the week, only a few resolutions remained to be forwarded to the PSAC Board of Directors for consideration.

While it is impossible to recount all decisions of the Convention here (they will be reported in the official Convention Report) some of the highlights follow:

- 1) Negotiating mandates are to be set by PSAC bargaining committees, with the stipulation that the committee must be consulted if contract offers by Treasury Board do not meet the mandate.
- 2) Delegates voted in principle on a resolution aimed at guaranteeing more representation for component locals. The National Board of Directors is to establish a formula to be decided at the 1982 convention.
- 3) A resolution to abolish the positions of National Directors was defeated. Delegates also voted to allow alternates to attend Board of Directors' meetings in place of National Directors who cannot attend. The Alternates were elected by their regional caucuses. The Board of Directors was directed by delegates to establish guidelines for National Directors in fulfilling their role.
- 4) The Convention gave the PSAC the authority to take whatever action was necessary to oppose Government plans for staff and service cutbacks.
- 5) A dues increase was approved. Effective October 1/79, dues will be increased by .85 cents per member, bringing the PSAC dues to \$5.70 per member per month.
- 6) An emergency resolution from the Montreal Area Council, which would have provided a Quebec component of the Alliance, was defeated by a vote of 315 to 88.
- 7) The convention passed a resolution providing for a donation to Nicaraguan relief equal to \$1.00 for each PSAC member. The amount will probably exceed \$170,000.
- 8) President Andy Stewart was returned unopposed as PSAC President. Vice-Presidents elected were: Bill Doherty, 1st Vice President; Aileen Manion 2nd Vice-President; Guy Jacob, 3rd Vice-President (formerly President of the Union of Canadian Transport Employees); and Jim Wyllie 4th Vice-President (formerly 2nd Vice-President).
- 9) Eleanor Ryan was re-elected National Director for Ontario.

10) The convention approved a resolution that all meetings of the Board of Directors shall be open to Alliance members and officers, with each Component guaranteed a minimum of one observer. (It is interesting to note that this resolution had come originally from this Local and that it had been defeated at the National Component convention - only after bitter opposition from the undersigned. But other Components submitted it to the Quebec body, which approved it with a two-thirds majority).

11) Other bitter debates occurred on the subject of Area Councils. Although Councils did not achieve financing from the PSAC, nor the right to vote at the convention, much support was shown from delegates both on and off the floor. The result was that they now have a more clearly defined role to be spelled out in the Constitution and the right to submit resolutions to the Board of Directors one year in advance of the convention. Even more encouraging to Area Councils was the response of delegates to the suggestion of one delegate that the extra per diem be donated to Area Council delegates (who are not entitled to any expenses except travelling to the convention). Within a day and a half, over \$1,200 had been donated by delegates. On the last day, the fund was divided among Councils and returned to them to help defray delegate costs and, in addition, delegates formally voted a donation of \$6,000 to be spent on programs such as rallies, political action etc., which they are engaged in across the country for the benefit of all members.

9. ELECTIONS:

M/S/C Margaret George Blagrove, André Laporte that Pat Lalonde be elected Second Vice-President. Carried.

M/S/C Joan Jeakins, Ed Walsh that Barry Kemball be elected as delegate to the Ottawa-Hull Area Council. Carried.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

Ontario Federation of Labour Convention to be held in Toronto November 27 - 30, 1979

No money budgeted to send delegate from this Local.

M/S/C B. Kemball, J. Jeakins to move this item to next meeting.

Re: Executive Structure: Barry Kemball reported that anything to be changed in by-laws pertaining to executive structure, must be publicized a month before AGM.

George Stewart and Barry Kemball examining structure of the Local Executive. Suggest to drop group delegate structure; allow all members present to be allowed right to vote.

Barry Kemball asked Chris Dann to clarify re: selection of steward to represent a given group of people at a post abroad. Must the person have attended a steward course? Is he/she elected by the Local or by members at the Post?

Chris Dann gave his personal opinion that he felt the best way is to have people in work area select their own steward, although not always easy to do. If the Local accepts, letter should be sent to the work area/post to see if this is acceptable.

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Carolyn Coombs says there/no rule that one has to take the steward course. 2/3 have not taken the course. Being an elected steward, actually not a question of training so much as a question of being accepted as a steward by the Local. General policy re designation of steward is: member takes course, obtains certificate and a letter from the National Component is sent to the Department confirming member is a steward.

André Laporte asked should the by-laws be changed to ensure stewards take the course.

The President advised those present that a member at a post abroad had requested to be nominated as Steward at his post. A letter will be send to the members of the post requesting their reaction to that nomination since it does concern them directly. Copy of this letter will be forwarded to APRS for info.

11. ADJOURNMENT: M/S/C A. Laporte, M. George Blagrove that meeting be adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Margaret George Blagrove
Acting Recording Secretary

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING - OCTOBER 15, 1979

Submitted by: Françoise Maher

On September 19th, the President and representatives of the SCY, CR and PRC groups along with PSAC, other Unions and Departmental representatives met with the Minister, at her request, to get to know each other and exchange viewpoints over wine and sandwiches. This initiative was well appreciated and rewarding as you will be able to see from reports of group representatives. The Minister expressed the view that this was only a beginning.

A few LMC meetings took place on diplomatic passports, AS assignments and Insurance and Disability benefits for employees working abroad whose death or injury results from war or insurrection. A report on the last issue, prepared by Brother O'Neil, Courier, is forthcoming.

Representatives of this Local and of PSAC met to prepare a series of noon courses on matters of interest to the members. This will be launched on October 17th.

*meet
discussion*