

Minutes of Columbia Typographical Union Local 101-12

November 19, 2022

6210 N. Capitol Street, NW, Washington, DC 20011

Members In Attendance:

Michael Maher, Deborah Lord, Larry Sibiski, Richard Anderson, Mike Divver, Tim Terrell,
Mary O'Brien, Mary Stanfield, Bill LaChance, Sr., and George Lord (Guest)

Members In Attendance via ZOOM:

John Kane, Wanda Green, Sue Goldberg and Jean Paffenback

Meeting called to order by Michael Maher, President, at 9:12 am.

Stand for the Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of silence for our recently departed members

Minutes:

Mike asked for everybody that attended this meeting to introduce themselves since some of us knew each other and others did not.

Minutes from the September 17, 2022, were approved and accepted by the members.

Moving forward the Bulletin along with a copy of the minutes of the meeting will be posted on our CWA website. The website address is in the Bulletin. Larry started the website and now Mary O'Brien is the caretaker of this website. Suggestions for improving the website should be e-mailed to the Local. Thank you, Mary!

Committee Reports:

Executive Report: None.

Laws Committee:

May is when members must submit any proposed by-law changes to the by-laws committee. The by-laws committee will go over the proposed changes and make their recommendation at the September meeting whether they do or do not recommend them. Members attending the September meeting will vote to decide if any of the proposed by-law changes should be sent to a referendum vote for the membership. Members can find a copy of our By-law's on the CWA website.

Officers Report:

President's Report:

I like to remind members to send us their current mailing address along with their personal e-mail address, so we can keep in touch with them.

GPO is currently conducting a study using the Office of the Inspector General (IG). In conducting this study the IG is using an outside firm. The IG wants us to participate in this study. We have refused to participate. They want GPO and the Union to have a better relationship. George Lord (former president of the JCU for over 30 years) is here at this meeting and has been gracious enough to help us understand this study.

We think this study is not about the Union/GPO relationships like they have stated but about the amount of official time chairman are off the clock. They won't come straight out and say it but my advice for working members at GPO if they are approached about participating in this study, please see your chairman right away. You should contact your chairman before talking to anyone about this study. We can't stop you, but we would like for you to consult your chairman before you speak with anyone on this issue. The Unions position is if someone approaches you tell the Union.

Vice President's Report:

No report was filed.

Secretary/Treasurer Report:

Mike has been doing most of this job to try to get more things straightened out. We are in the process of combining all expenditures within the last year and that will be printed in the January Bulletin.

Members working at GPO got paid three times in October. You will be receiving the reimbursement of the 3rd pay period soon. The Local would like to get away from issuing these checks, but most of the members would rather receive this check and not change the process.

We have been using QuickBooks to keep track of the local's finances. It is a time-consuming process, but it is better to do it this way and relieves some of the work our accountant will need to do in filing our taxes at the end of the fiscal year.

We are keeping our expenses down. We have paid off most if not all the financial issues left from the previous administration.

Old Business:

We have asked the members to send us their up dated information (addresses/email). We would like to start sending out the Bulletin by email. Dues cards for retirees will be sent in the January Bulletin.

Larry Sibiski: We completed an investigation with the IG that we were duty bound to comply with. They found nothing but reporting of official time. Instructions were we must do better at reporting official time.

Survey was a disguise that they wanted the relationship with the unions warmer and fuzzier than it already is. Union has a good relationship already. The IG and the Directors office were having issues but the word we got is they are asking employees what your relationship with the union is and how is it, how do they treat you, etc. No unions have participated in this study to the best of our knowledge.

George Lord: IG is an investigative body. It's duly required to seek and eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse. It is the first time ever (I was chairman of Joint Council for 32 years) they participated in any kind of study that deals with the employers, employees, etc. The last study like this was ordered by OPM. The watchdog of Civil Service system. OPM hired a contractor that came in and did the study. Was not about union and management relationship. Dealing with mostly merit promotion process for about 9 months to a year. It's not enough for the unions to say we are not going to participate. We are the exclusive representative of our union and required to represent everybody non-union and union in the bargaining union. Title 5 Chapter 71 and in the Master Agreement says any management representative meets with an employee talking about personnel matter/policy is declared a formal meeting and therefore the union has a right to be at all meetings under those circumstance weather the employee requests them to be there or not. I would take the position meeting any employee in the bargaining unit the union must be represented. You can't participate. You are only there as an observer. Can take notes of questions asked and answers given. The non-union would probably object to union being there but we have that right and it is a statutory right. Let management know and be aware if union not given the opportunity to attend, we will file an unfair labor practice.

There are now codes that labor management has given chairmen to input into WebTA when they are off the clock dealing with issues with the union and/or meetings.

New Business:

Larry and Mike met with Eunice and Kelly about details from the Hill coming back to work overtime during the weekend if you make yourself available by calling the Congressional desk. One reason for not wanting to hire detailees from the Hill to work overtime on the weekend was because the detailees have been away too long from GPO and they don't know the style anymore. We have requested another meeting and have not received a response back.

Wanda: Answer they gave most of us is we don't know the style. We were doing bills and resolutions. Only thing not doing was federal register. So, nothing has changed. Some people that are going up on the Hill are being drafted. They don't want to go and then we get drafted and get cut out of the overtime.

Partial/full hire is the reason they say detailees can't work on the weekend.

George: Any person detailed to capitol hill your total wages and benefits are reimbursed by the Congress.

Good and Welfare:

Joe Neri had a serious fall and was in the hospital for a few weeks.

Larry Stickler suffered a mild stroke and the doctor recommended that he not drive.

Melvin Prior retired from the Washington Post passed away.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn made and seconded.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 am.

Respectfully submitted:

Deborah Lord,

Secretary-Treasurer