

Minutes of Columbia Typographical Union Local 101-12

SEPTEMBER 21, 2024

1738 Elton Road, Suite 210, Silver Spring, MD 20903

Members In Attendance:

Michael Maher
John Mogavero
Mary O'Brien
Mary Stanfield

Members In Attendance via ZOOM:

Sue Goldberg Nate Samples
Wanda Green Sharon Farris
John Kane Deborah Hill
Tim Terrell Anja Dolan
Jean Paffenback

Meeting called to order by President Michael Maher, at 9:00 am.

Stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of silence for our recently departed members and members who passed in 2024.

Minutes:

Minutes from the May 25, 2024, minutes were approved and accepted by the members as printed.

Committee Reports: None.

Executive Report: None.

Laws Committee: None.

Officers Report:

President's Report:

President Maher spoke about the 1982 "Truth March" article on Capitol Hill that was printed in the September Bulletin.

On June 29, 1982, 4,000 GPO employees marched to the U.S. Capitol against the actions of Public Printer Danford L. Sawyer in trying to furlough all employees for six days without pay and reduce their wages by 22 percent. Public Printer Danford L. Sawyer also made outrageous accusations against the GPO unions, Joint Committee on Printing Chairman Senator Charles Mc Mathias and other members of Congress. You can read the complete article in the September bulletin.

The reason President Maher put this article in the bulletin is to give our newest members a history of what our union has done to give us the pay and benefits that we enjoy now because of the actions of our UNION and its members. We did not receive these benefits and pay because the employer loves us, it is because of the determination and sacrifices of those members who came before us. More articles of this type will follow in upcoming bulletins.

The GPO has begun an apprenticeship program. The program was originally scheduled to be for 3 years and now has been reduced to 2 years. The starting salary for the apprentices will begin at 60 percent of a journeyman's pay for their first year and increase to 85 percent at the beginning of their second year. Hopefully these apprentices will have on-the-job training and learn everything that needs to be learned in the proof room and keyboard. The question came up about apprentices working overtime. If all journeymen in that division were asked first to work overtime, there is no problem in asking the apprentices to work overtime.

Another issue that came up is when a group of apprentices come into the GPO when will their journeyman priority begin. Upon completion of the 2-year apprentice program, at that time the apprentices will be given their journeyman priority date. This information can be found in the Memorandum Of Understanding. Apprentices can join the Union prior to the completion of their apprenticeship.

Vice President's Report:

No report was filed.

Secretary/Treasurer Report:

The Local has no outstanding bills. All bills are being paid on time. When the Washington Typographic Federal Credit Union (WTFCU) merged with the AFL-CIO Credit Union, the Local had 2 accounts that were transferred to the AFL-CIO Credit Union. After several months of trying, we were able to close out these 2 accounts and have the funds returned to the general fund of the Local.

Several of the GPO chapels also had accounts with the WTFCU that were transferred to the AFL-CIO Credit Union and are still going through the process of closing out these accounts. We suggested that the chairperson of the chapels that had accounts with the WTFCU go to the AFL-CIO Credit Union in person to have your chapel account resolved.

The AFL-CIO Credit Union is located at 555 New Jersey Ave., NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC 20001.

Sometime in 2022, we found 262 shares of stock certificates from the years 60's-70's in the office safe from a company known as Ullico Insurance. After contacting Ullico about selling these stocks back to Ullico, the number of shares currently owned by the Local increased to 414. In August of 2024, Ullico offered a stock buyback, and the Local sold the 414 shares of stock back to Ullico for \$16,000.00.

Old Business:

The Chairman Chapel By-Laws are in the process of being updated. They have not been updated since 2004. Chairpersons wishing to make changes to the Chairman Chapel By-Laws need to submit their proposals to Chairman Sibiski. The Chairman Chapel By-Laws cannot conflict with the Local's by-laws.

All members in good standing with the Union are eligible to serve on the scale committee. Members need to inform their chairperson to ask to be considered.

Union Printers Home Foundation has a scholarship for union members immediate family. Visit UPHF online at: <https://www.uphfoundation.org> and follow directions.

New Business:

On August 28, a meeting was held with GPO on the current situation involving having employees work in the bill end section of the proof room. GPO's big concern is that when an employee is assigned to work in the bill end, they may be drafted out to a detail on Capitol Hill. All employees working in the bill end section or any section in our bargaining unit can volunteer or be drafted, depending on their priority for a detail to Capitol Hill or any other agency when a detail becomes available.

The Union made a couple of suggestions that could help resolve this situation. One was to have the supervisors on both the 2nd and 3rd shifts hold a section meeting and ask for volunteers to work in the bill end section. Another was to have the supervisors meet with the chairpersons on each shift and set up a 2-to-3-week training program, rotating employees on their respective shift into the bill end section for training. If anyone on shifts 2 or 3 wants to volunteer to train in the bill end section on a shift other than their current shift, that would be fine.

However, GPO management suggested if no one volunteers they were going to just move people into the bill end regardless of what shift they are currently working.

The Union's position is that moving employees from shift to shift must be done using the transfer and vacancy system.

President Maher has asked chairman Sibiski to keep him up-dated on this issue.

GPO can resolve this and other issues simply by hiring more qualified journeypersons and starting another apprentice program as soon as possible.

If a member has an issue or question for any reason, please contact your shift chairperson or the chairman of the chairmen's chapel. If you feel that your issue or question has not been resolved to your satisfaction, contact the Union office.

Good and Welfare:

Breakfast at RIPS in Bowie is the 3rd Friday of month. All welcome. Stop by.

Urge Members to let us know when a member has health issues so we can inform the membership.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn and seconded.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11 am.

Respectfully submitted,

John Mogavero