

MARCH 2013 SPECIAL MINI- EDITION

Master Team Negotiations meetings began in February. Meetings are scheduled for Thursday, March 7 and Monday, April 15, both in the Government Center Auditorium from 5:30pm to 7:30pm—and food is served. Any member in good standing can be appointed at a General Assembly meeting to join us in working with Locals 552, 2822, 2864, 2938 and 1719 in writing our initial 2013 contract offer.

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Nominations Committee Report—February 2013

At the February General Assembly meeting, the following members were nominated for offices representing Local 34 for the two-year term of May 2013-April 2015, unless otherwise noted. **Nominations will also be taken at the March 6 General Assembly meeting**, and if any seats are contested, the membership will vote to determine their representative, by mail, in April.

- Vice President: **Victoria Moore**
- Recording Secretary: **Katherine Kelly**
- Membership Secretary: **Heather Hemmer**
- Chief Steward: **Kela Williams**
- Members-at-Large (three positions): **Angel Alexander, Laura Ross, Miguel Salazar**
- Trustee (three vacancies): **Kathleen Farber, Paul Madison**
- Mpls. Regional Labor Federation Delegate: **Kathleen Farber, Heather Hemmer, Rhonda Griffin, Kela Williams, Patrick Regan**
- Mpls. Regional Labor Federation Alternate: **Margaret Keating, Cathy Cowden, Kim Kurth, Jacqueline Poole**
- St Paul Regional Labor Federation Delegate: **Janet Keefe**
- St Paul Regional Labor Federation Alternate: **Lindsay Schwab**

Negotiations for a 2014-2015 contract got underway on a snowy February 11th, with each of the Locals introducing those who would help create our initial contract offer this summer, and setting a general timeline for Master team meetings through the spring. The next two meetings—on **March 7 and April 15**—will identify our primary goals for this negotiation, and begin to determine which contract provisions will be included in our initial offer.

Local 34 sent one of the largest groups to **Day on the Hill** on Tuesday, February 26th. Our banner flies proudly at the Capitol, as seen in the photo above. AFSCME has many issues and concerns before this DFL-led legislature—from wages for state employees to raising revenue fairly, to fixing the budget without gimmicks like the last Legislature used with K-12 education dollars, to the principled creation of health exchanges under the Affordable Care Act.

At our February **HSPHD Meet and Confer**, we clarified procedures for grievance handling with the Department, HR and Labor Relations. The Eligibility Area discussed the HSR

**In the
Midst of
the
Action:**



**Master Team
Negotiations, Day on the
Hill, Local 34 Elections**

Induction Team process and results, and explained why many of those hired in mid-2012 remain on extended probationary (at-will) status. We reached agreement on having the Department discuss with their supervisors that AFSCME stewards need sufficient notice—at least 24 hours—to be informed of meetings that members would need union representation at.

Local 34 moved to staggered, bi-annual elections in 2011. **This year, we are electing both the Recording Secretary and Membership Secretary positions, the Senior Chief Steward and 1st Vice President positions, three Members-at-Large, as well as trustees and representatives to the Labor Federations.** The February Nominations Committee report is at the left on this page, and shows those who were nominated in February. If interested in one of these positions, nominations can be submitted to LaQuita Williams or shared at the March 6 General Assembly meeting. If you've been a member for at least a year, please consider helping us to fill our officer positions.

At the February 6, Local 34 General Assembly meeting, members approved additional Master Team Negotiations Committee names and Day on the Hill

participants, as well as participating in the officer nominations process.

The Local approved renewal of their ACLU and Southern Poverty Law Center memberships at \$55 each for the coming year. Council 5's 2013 Scholarships were announced (May 3, 2013 deadlines for each) - Richard E. Patterson, Clarence J. Moss and Robert Norberg.

Eight members were elected to attend the Nellie Stone Johnson Dinner on March 21- Maslah Jama, Dana Hanson, Mara Hill, Kela Williams, Laura Ross, Cathy Cowden and Jacqueline Poole, with Kim Kurth as alternate.

Dana Hanson reported that Weingarten cards are in and ready to be distributed, and Steve Cook reported that the Health Care Savings Plan Committee meet on February 27th at Noon.

The Local voted to contribute \$100 in memory of former Local 1719 President Dean Enge to AFSCME's Fallen Heroes Fund, and congratulated Katie Farber and Carolyn Vreeman for their election to the PEPSA Board.

Good and Welfare

The Good and Welfare Committee was established to send remembrances to dues paying members at times of happiness or sorrow. This includes marriages, the birth or adoption of a child, prolonged illness or hospitalization, or the death of a member, immediate family member or significant other – as defined in the Contract.

In the case of surgery or prolonged illness, or for the birth or adoption of a child, flowers or plants can be sent to a member. In situations involving the death of a member or a death in the family of a member, memorials can be sent. ("Family" is defined the same as in Article 16 – Funeral

Leave – in our contract; it includes: spouse, child, significant other, aunt/ uncle, father/ mother, sister/ brother, grandparent/ grandparent-in-law, grandchildren, niece/ nephew, or a person regarded as a member of the member's immediate family). In the event of members getting married, retiring, gaining U.S. citizenship, or for a death in the family of a member or in the case of the death of a member, a card can be sent to the family.

Please send all requests for remembrances to the co-Chairs for the Good and Welfare Committee - Marcia Dietz (MC L890) or Merry Brigham (MC L890). The referrals must include the name of the member and the reason for your request. If the request is for a plant or flowers, you will also need to include the person's home phone number for delivery purposes.

Who We Are

AFSCME's 1.3 million members provide the vital services that make America happen. With members in hundreds of different occupations — from nurses to corrections officers, child care providers to sanitation workers — AFSCME is the voice of the dedicated workers who take care of America, and is a leading advocate for all working families.

Local 34 Information

Local 34 Officers & Stewards - 02/15/13

President:

Jean Diederich 348-0266 – HSB - 880

Vice Presidents:

Vicki Moore (1st) 348-6051 - CP 140

Wes Volkenant (2nd) 388-8262 – CP 630

Chief Stewards:

Cathy Cowden (Sr) 543-0301 – FJC - L890

Dana Hanson (Jr) 388-3861 – FJC—L890

Recording Secretary:

Kathy Kelly 348-6593 – FJC—L890

Treasurer:

Patrick Regan 348-8760 – FJC - L890

Membership Secretary:

Kela Williams 348-9152 – CP 2—630

Sergeant-At-Arms:

Andrea Lazo-Rice 348-2249 – HSB - 960

Members-At-Large:

Kay Powell 596-7820 - HSB—880

Jacquelin Poole 348-4246 – HSB - 961

Angel Alexander 596-1885 - CP 1—630

Miguel Salazar 348-8322 – Northwest Hub

Laura Ross 348-6881 – HSB—961

Kim Kurth 596-6632 – 1800 Chicago—612

Stewards: *Who do you turn to when you need steward assistance? If you know one of the stewards below, please contact them. But, if you don't know who to call, contact **Chief Stewards Cowden and Hanson, Membership Secretary Williams** or senior steward **Denny Moore**, listed below— they are your emergency contacts.*

Zachary Rice	348-2274, Century Plaza 1	Lindsay Schwab	596-7170, Family Justice Center
Fatuma Kassim	596-8457, Century Plaza 2	Martha Dille	964-1778, GC A-14 (COPE)
Halima Said	348-9469, Century Plaza 2	Elena Izaksonas	348-3538, HSB 5
Abdimalik Mohamed	596-9160, Century Plaza 2	Penny Wile	348-7133, HSB 9
Maslah Jama	596-9057, Century Plaza 2	Jody Stadler	348-7371, HSB 8
Tywanna Gray	596-7261, Century Plaza 2	Monica Jochmans	348-4192, Brookdale
Monica Love (New)	596-8525, Century Plaza 2	Pamela Shones	763-413-3113, 1800 Chicago
Rebecca Zaremba (New)	596-8587, Century Plaza 2	Maureen Glover	348-4492, 1800 Chicago
Jamoda White	596-8948, Century Plaza 4	Sheila Lipsco	348-4204, 1800 Chicago
Leah Hicks	596-8873, Century Plaza 4	Dennis Moore	879-3560, 1800 Chicago
Farida Farah (New)	596-8635, Century Plaza 4	Mara Hill	432-7107, 1800 Chicago
Nancy Scarlotta	348-9452, Northwest Hub	Sametta Hill	596-6905, Southside Garage
Shawnice Reid	543-2622, NorthPoint Medical		
Jacqueline Coleman	543-2605, NorthPoint	Trustees	
Jim Edin	763-221-4443, STS	Vacancy, Vacancy, Vacancy	
Terrance Davis	290-3907, STS		
James Stevenson	763-843-1246, STS	Delta Dental Trustee	
	- please contact James at: qmaster1965@yahoo.com	Monica Jochmans	
Terry Grace	348-7308, Juvenile Justice Center		
Heather Hemmer	543-0767, Family Justice Center		

Next Local 34 Assembly Meeting—April 3—5:30pm, HSB 110—

The following GA Meeting is Wednesday, May 1, 2013

Congratulations to former Steward and Chief Steward Carolyn Vreeman on her promotion to Senior Administrative Assistant as the ROWE Change Manager!