

Santa Monica Municipal Employees Association
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday August 19, 2021 1:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.
Location: Zoom Virtual Call
www.smmea.org

1) Call to Order: MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 1:32

2) Roll Call

Vice President Christopher Camp
Director Najah Ha'San
Director Stephen Jones
Director Lizzy Acosta
Director Katherine Ahlers
Director Maria Cabral
Treasurer Quinetta Rogers
Secretary Sylvia Moreno
Steward Gilbert Sotelo
Steward Veronica Baez

Guests

CEA, Mindy Garland

Absent

President Rebecca Adams
Past President Sheri Batalla
Director Cathy Taylor

3) Approval of Minutes

- A) July 15, 2021 - Motion Director Acosta, second Director Ahlers, with the following corrections:
1. Jeff of CEA, not MEA
 2. Steward Sotelo was *not* present at July 2021 meeting.
- Motion carries with changes.

4) President & VP Report

- A) Updates and Announcements
- i) VP Camp reported on the city's letter and policy for vaccination. The city did not mention consequences if not vaccinated. Policy sent out to BUs on Wednesday evening, August 18, 2021. VP Camp spoke with Sara of HR. He asked for consequences and HR response was that the issue will be a meet and confer item and handled on individual employee basis.

5) Treasurer's Report

A) Net Worth & Reconciliation Summary

Treasurer Rogers reported on a recent issue regarding AFLAC. She reported that individual members/employees cannot update or pay their dues. This is only done as a group payment by the city. There are some employees receiving CEA assistance who are not dues paying members. It was agreed that a message will be sent to all MEA members, with information regarding dues and the benefits of doing so and asking members to be sure and confirm if they are paying dues. Treasurer Rogers will gather the list of non-paying members and draft a letter to be sent those members. VP Camp will draft a letter for all members reminding them of the benefits. Motion Director Ahlers, second Director Jones. Motion Carries.

6) Committee Reports

A) Coalition - Director Acosta reported the recent meeting was held August 18, 2021. AFSME is reevaluating dues payments. Araceli from AFSME mentioned changes. Benjamin Steers reiterated the purpose of the coalition was for employee and BU benefits. The City also wants the coalition to manage employee retirement. The issue has been tabled. Director Acosta will meet with other members of several BU s. Discussion was also held regarding the negotiation committee. The city has not scheduled any meetings. There is no information for benefit increases and no discussion since the city is NOT changing vendors (an item agreed upon between MEA and the City)

B) Medical Trust – Director Jones reported that the next meeting is the last week of August.

C) Membership Services/Public Relations – no report.

D) MOU – No report.

7) Discussion –

8) New Business

- a. Returning to in-person MEA Board meetings – VP Camp asked board members to send an email with their preference.
- b. HR Meetings with BUs re: Municipal Code Changes – VP Camp reported that one meeting has been held. Director Acosta expressed concern with the changes as it eliminates protection for employees.
- c. Annual MEA Membership Meeting – tabled for next meeting.
- d. Elections – Secretary Moreno will have all election information available for September 2021 meeting.

- e. CEA Rep for Negotiations – Jeff, CEA will refer reps. VP Camp will schedule a separate meeting to interview.
- f. Cesar Chavez Letter to Council – tabled for next meeting
- g. MODE – call center for BBB – VP Camp reported that the city wants to bring in a contractor to handle calls. City stated that this will not create more work for MEA employees and CSAs will not be affected negatively. VP Camp asked for board member input.

9) Old Business

A) MEA Website – Management – add Lisa Noble information for AFLAC

B) Member Recruitment – continue with member recruitment.

10) CEA – CLOSED SESSION

A) MOU

B) Case Updates

11) Adjourn – Motion Director Acosta, second Director Jones. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at **3:37pm**.