# A NEW VOICE

a monthly newsletter for the members of AFSCME Local 2822

## United

**AFSCME** 

## We Bargain, **Divided**

### We Beg!



Negotiations are scheduled to start May 7

#### 2822 Contract Input Meeting Thursday, February 15, 2018 4PM-6:30PM Health Services Building, Room 112 525 Portland Ave S, Minneapolis

Local 2822 will be having our first member meeting for members to bring forth issues they would like to see addressed in our upcoming contract negotiations. We need your input to help make this the best possible contract!

#### We Need You!

#### Nominations and Elections of Executive Board and Trustees to Local 2822

This is a notice calling for nominations for the AFSCME Local 2822 offices of President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, (2) Chief Stewards, (4) Members at-Large, (1) Trustee, and delegates to the Minneapolis and St. Paul Regional Labor Federations on WEDNESDAY, February 7 at 6:30PM, Minneapolis Central Library, Doty Board Room. A member must be in good standing for one year immediately preceding the election to be nominated for office. Any contested race for a position will be determined by a secret ballot vote at the March 7 membership meeting. Duties of these roles are outlined in Article VII of Local 2822's Constitution, available on our website. Anyone with questions or interest in running for office should contact an officer listed on the back page. Voters must be full dues-paying members of Local 2822.



#### February 2018

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February Membership Meeting Wednesday, February 7 Minneapolis Central Library Doty Board Room 6:30PM Special Order of Business: Nomination of Officers

#### March

Membership Meeting Wednesday, March 7 Minneapolis Central Library Doty Board Room 6:30PM Special Order of Business: Election of Officers

For our members who are physically challenged, please let us know if special accommodations are needed.



LIKE us on Facebook: facebook.com/AfscmeLocal2822

Subscribe to our email list! From your personal email address, send a blank message to 2822-open-forumsubscribe@lists.riseup.net

#### Get to Know Your Union Representatives!



#### Susan Rose Recording Secretary and Steward

Susan Rose has been a Library Specialist at Franklin Library since November, 2014. She also works part-time as a court reporter for the Social Security Administration Disability Hearings in downtown Minneapolis. Additionally, she is Recording Secretary for Local 2822, and also a Steward. She is a founding member of the Union Stitchers, and had the honor of presenting a green "Pussy Hat" to Governor Mark Dayton at Convention 2017 in Duluth. She enjoys holding the employer's feet to the fire whenever possible. Her cat, Max, makes helpful suggestions whenever she tries to work at home. Her daughter is employed in the insurance industry.

#### Labor History Is Black History

All books are available through the Hennepin County Library system.

- Detroit, I Do Mind Dying: A Study in Urban Revolution, by Dan Georgakas
- Black Workers Remember: An Oral History of Segregation, Unionism, and the Freedom Struggle, by Michael K. Honey
- Going Down Jericho Road: The Memphis Strike, Martin Luther King's Last Campaign, by Michael K. Honey
- Nellie Stone Johnson: Life of an Activist, by Nellie Stone Johnson
- Goddess of Anarchy: Lucy Parsons, American Radical, by Jacqueline Jones
- A. Philip Randolph and the African American Labor Movement, by Calvin Craig Miller
- Household Workers Unite: The Untold Story of African American Women Who Built a Movement, by Premilla Nadasen

#### Shane Clune Executive Board At-Large and Steward

Shane is a Library Specialist who enjoys helping the East Lake Library to meet the needs of the community it serves.

Shane became involved in the Union after being voluntold to attend a steward training. After seeing how operating within the workgroup framework favored by the County was unable to produce results, becoming involved with the Union was an obvious choice. The position of steward has been rewarding, challenging, and extremely educational. Shane also serves on the 2822 Executive Board and as a delegate to the Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation.

In his *very* spare time, Shane likes learning to cook new things, practicing historical fencing, and getting beaten at video games online.



#### In Solidarity: Voting on a Fair Contract at the U of MN

Teamsters at the University of Minnesota have been voting whether to accept a new contract or to go on strike. Teamsters Local 320 represents 1500 service workers at the U of MN campuses throughout MN, doing essential work like cleaning, maintenance, and food preparation. They have been working without a contract for over six months.

Dave, a 20-year Teamster working on the St. Paul Campus as a farm equipment operator and on the negotiating committee, spoke about the U of MN workers issues at 2822's January membership meeting. Low wages are one concern, with many Teamsters making less than \$15 per hour. (Like HC employees, U of MN workers are not impacted by Minneapolis' minimum wage ordinance. We only have a \$15 minimum wage in HC because of our union contract!) They also want workers who take approved extended family or medical leave to be able to return to the same worksites after their leave. Although the final contract offer addresses some of these issues, U of MN workers have also been fighting for dignity and respect for the hard, unglamorous but valuable work they do every day.

Results of the contract vote will be in after the print newsletter goes out, so look to your email or 2822's website and Facebook if Teamsters at the U need our support on the picket line!

#### 2018 Contract Campaign Update

The starting date for contract negotiations has been set! Negotiations will start **May 7, 2018.** Look for surveys and union activists coming to your worksite. If you want to get involved, let us know! We need folks to talk to coworkers, compile data, and everything in between. The union can pay for lost time from work for activities that take place during your work day.

#### **Call to Creative Action**

Liz Knaeble, Webber Park Library

I'm looking for people who want to take action for our union using fun outrageous ideas, visual art, theatrics and skits. Would you like to join up with me and other union members from our local to share ideas on ways we can communicate, take a stand, and fight back using the power of art to help win rights for working people and other people's movements we endorse? If so, email me at **lknaeble@gmail.com** or talk to me in person.

Sounds good but you don't have any ideas? Join us anyway and we'll brainstorm to see what kind of things we can cook up together.

#### Cut Redbrick, Not Our Benefits!

Due to what is being called a "file miscommunication," between Redbrick and Preferred One, many Hennepin County employees did not see their health incentives reflected on their 2018 health insurance cards. Because of the widespread error, HC AFSCME Locals are asking HC administration to give **everyone** the health incentive. Please let us know if this happened to you, or if you've had other problems with Redbrick! We want our money to go to healthcare, not for-profit corporations with D-minus Better Business Bureau ratings.

#### **January Meeting Highlights**

Compiled by Lindsey Fenner from notes by Susan Rose, Recording Secretary. For a full copy of meeting minutes, contact Susan directly at susanrose1955@gmail.com

- Representatives from Teamsters Local 320 spoke about their ongoing contract negotiations at the University of MN. Read more in this newsletter and online.
- The membership voted to send 10 members to the Labor Notes Conference in Chicago this April. Look to the right for more.
- After much enthusiastic member feedback, the Standing Rules were approved! The updated rules are posted on our website.
- Our 2822 trustees are working on completing audits for 2015 and 2016. Look for the full report soon.
- Members approved to send a 2822 speaker and a \$200 donation to the Super Bowl Anti-Racist Anti-Corporate Rally. 2822 will also bring work and transportations issues of HC workers impacted by SB52 to HC Admin.

#### **Upcoming Events**

#### Precinct Caucuses

#### Tuesday, February 6, 7PM

Precinct caucuses are one way to engage in the democratic process at a very local level. You have the right to take time off work to attend a precinct caucus, with ten days written notification to your employer. Find your caucus location here: http://caucusfinder.sos.state.mn.us/

#### HC AFSCME Education, Engagement and Outreach Monday, February 12, 5:30PM-7PM Seward Probation Office, Second Floor 2600 26th St E, Minneapolis

The second Monday of each month, members from the Hennepin County AFSCME Locals meet and plan ways to connect and inform our members. Right now, we are getting ready for contract negotiations and we need you! For more, contact **Susan Rose, susanrose1955@gmail.com** 

#### Local 2822 Contract Input Meeting Thursday, February 15, 2018 4PM-6:30PM Health Services Building, Room 112

525 Portland Ave S, Minneapolis

Local 2822 will be having our first meeting for members to bring forth issues they would like to see addressed in our upcoming contract negotiations. If you need to miss work to attend, the Union can pay for lost time from work.

#### AFSCME Day on the Hill Tuesday, March 20, 2018 All Day!

Be part of the Big Green AFSCME Machine at the Minnesota State Capitol! Every year AFSCME members from across the state gather in St Paul to lobby our elected officials to support our work as public employees. If you are interested in attending, contact Ali Fuhrman, **afuhrman13@gmail.com** or **afuhrman@hclib.org** 

#### Labor Notes Conference April 6-8, Chicago

One of the largest union- and labor-related gatherings, the Labor Notes Conference offers over 100 workshops and meetings, and most importantly, brings labor activists together to learn and share. 2822 members approved money for 10 people to attend this year's Labor Notes Conference. Members will be selected to attend at our February membership meeting. If you are interested, contact Ali, **afuhrman13@gmail.com**.

#### Thanks to Union Word Find Submitters!

So many folks responded, we need to find more fabulous prizes! If you have other ideas for interactive newsletter activities, contact Lindsey, **lindseyafenner@gmail.com** 

#### New to Hennepin County?

If you haven't been approached by a union representative yet, please fill out this form and send to our membership secretary.

To sign up as a full union member or for Delta Dental Insurance, or to get answers to questions about AFSCME and membership benefits, please fill out this coupon and send to: **Rita Watson** 

Rita watson

County Attorney's Office Mail Code 510

Name				
Job Title				
Work Location				
Mailcode				

Phone

I want to sign up as a full member.

I want to sign up for Delta Dental.



Help us remember your co-workers with a card! Let us know to send a sympathy card, get well, or congratulations. Contact Rosine Johnson,

our Good and Welfare Coordinator: **rosine.johnson@hennepin.us** or call **952-221-7454** (cell) or **612-596-0970** (work). The request should include the name of the member, the reason for the request and home address, if possible.



With Delta Access, you can find out about your Delta coverage without even opening your mouth. www.deltadentalmn.org

*Delta Access :* **651-406-5900 or 1-800-862-6042**. Always refer to your group number **538**.

For an application or if you are retiring and want to continue Delta Dental, contact Deb Cassidy at AFSCME at **651-287-0508** or email **dental@afscmemn.org** 



## *A New Voice* deadline is February 15, 5PM.

Articles should be 400-600 words in length, letters less than 300 words. Send your written contributions to:

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	Rosine.johnson@hennepin.us	952-221-7454 (cell)
Local 2822 Website & Facebook	http://www.afscme2822.org/	Facebook Group: AFSCME Local 2822

#### **Steward's List**

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Sam Gutierrez Chief Steward	612-460-7264 samuel.gutierrez@hennepin.us afscme2822sg@gmail.com In subject line type "2822 911" for emergency	HSPHD Government Center
Jayne Mikulay	612-543-8426 jjmikulay@hclib.org	Library <i>East Lake</i>
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