

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

October 12, 2016

(Approved by Executive Council on October 26, 2016)

Executive Councilors present (noted by *):

*Karen Frindell Teuscher, <i>presiding</i>	*Shawn Brumbaugh	Robert Jackson	*Margaret Pennington
*Filomena Avila	Dianne Davis	*Sean Martin	*Karen Stanley
*Denise Beeson	*Terry Ehret	*Molly Matheson	*Michelle Van Aalst
*Paulette Bell	*Deirdre Frontczak	*Bud Metzger	*Albert Yu
*Marc Bojanowski	*Michelle Hughes Markovics	*Terry Mulcaire	

Negotiators/Appointed Positions present: ~~Debbie Albers~~, Mark Ferguson, Warren Ruud

Staff members present: Carol Valencia

Faculty members present: Angie Evins

The meeting was called to order at 3:06 p.m. in Doyle Library, Room #4246, on the Santa Rosa campus.

CLOSED SESSION REPORTS

1. **Negotiations Report.** This report and discussion were conducted in Closed Session.
2. **Conciliation/Grievance Report.** None.

Closed Session adjourned at 4:01 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

Open Session reconvened at 4:08 p.m.

MEMBER CONCERNS WITHIN AFA'S PURVIEW

1. Denise Beeson asked if AFA will be sending representatives to the FACCC Advocacy & Policy Conference to be held March 5-6, in Sacramento (see <http://www.faccc.org/events/>). Deirdre Frontczak confirmed that registration for the conference has just opened, but the agenda is not yet posted. She agreed that it would be good for AFA to have a presence at the conference. Karen responded that we have funds in our conference budget to send representatives. More information on this will be forthcoming.
2. Bud Metzger asked if the AFA negotiating team will be bringing up the newly-signed legislation (Senate Bill [1379](#)) regarding part-time faculty rights in its negotiations sessions this year. Karen responded negatively explaining that our Article 16 goes beyond what is required in the Bill for Districts to negotiate.

MINUTES

There being no corrections or additions, by unanimous voice vote, the Council approved a motion made and seconded to approve the minutes from the September 28, 2016 Executive Council meeting as submitted (16 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

(Approved minutes are posted at <http://santarosa.edu/afa/minutes.shtml> .)

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. **CCCI Support for Legal Response to Pension Fund Court Case** (*Added Discussion Item*)

- Karen explained that due to the timeliness of the issue, she would like to add this item to the Agenda. California Community College Independents (CCCI) recently sent out a communication about a new court decision out of Marin County that appears to threaten the security of faculty pensions and retirement benefits. Legal counsel, Bob Bezemek, has drafted a letter to the California Supreme Court asking that they review the case and believes that the affirmation of his request to the Court by CCCI local unions is important ensure its success. Although this decision does not directly affect CalSTRS, Bezemek believes it is a large crack in the security of public pensions in California. In addition to the request that we sign the letter as a supporter, CCCI is also asking locals for a pro rata share of the costs of preparing the letter. If the letter is successful, and the Supreme Court agrees to review the case, Bezemek will be preparing a lengthier (and costlier) Amicus Brief in support of the case. (For background on the case, see <https://calpensions.com/2016/08/22/court-pension-decision-weakens-california-rule/> .)
 - Karen would like to Council to consider signing on to the letter and Brief and contributing our share of the total cost. The total cost of the letter is approximately \$2,000; and the total cost of the Brief is estimated to be \$10,000. Depending upon how many locals sign on, our share for both would be approximately \$1,500.
 - There was a discussion about the contents of the letter and the larger ramifications of this court decision. Several Councilors raised concerns about the uncertainty of the total amount AFA would be required to contribute.
 - A motion was made, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote to move this item to an Action Item (16 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).
2. **Member Relations and Communications Planning**
- Karen explained that this item is a carryover from a discussion held at our recent Fall Retreat. At that time, the Council decided on four Goals/Outcomes for AFA. From these four goals/outcomes, the group specified three ways/means to accomplish the goals/ outcomes.
 - In today's meeting, Karen would like the group to split up into three sub-groups in order to discuss ideas that could be implemented this year.
 - The Council split into three self-selected groups, brainstorming and recording ideas.
 - Due to time constraints, the groups did not have time to complete their discussion and share their ideas. It was suggested that the group continue this process at our next meeting, allowing people to rotate to different groups, adding to the lists begun today.

ACTION ITEMS

1. **Support for Letter/Amicus Brief on Pension Fund Attack**
- This item was moved from a Discussion Item.
 - A motion was made and seconded to add AFA to the list of supporters on the letter to the Court and approve the funds for our share of the cost of both the letter and Amicus Brief.
 - There was a further discussion about the cost for and timing of the letter and Brief. Several Councilors raised the option of approving the letter today with a discussion about the Amicus Brief to be held at our next Council Meeting. Secretary/Treasurer, Michelle Van Aalst, confirmed that we do have funds in our budget to support a contribution toward both the letter and Brief.
 - A call for a vote on the current motion was made. The motion was approved (12 in favor, 4 opposed, 0 abstentions).
2. **Use of Robert's Rules of Order at AFA Meetings**
- Karen explained that we began this discussion at our last Council meeting.
 - A motion was made to use Robert's Rules, as needed, during Council meetings and to temporarily suspend the AFA Bylaws requirement for the Rules until the first of the year.
 - Questions were raised about how the rules would be invoked during a meeting.
 - An alternative motion was posed.
 - Due to time constraints, this Item was tabled until the next Council meeting.

OTHER REPORTS

1. **President's Report.** None.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Carol Valencia