

Branch 105 – General Meeting
September 18, 2007
Cranston Country Club

Meeting called to order at 6:40 p.m.

Attendance: 62

Pledge of Allegiance led by Alan Conca.

Dean recognized guests Cy Dumas, Andy Sozzi and Southcoastal Branch President Don Spirlet.

Roll Call: Present: Dean Ambrosino, Norma Johnson, Sue Evans, Pam Thurber, Joe Murdock, Al Poli, Joanne Keeling, Gail Gagne, Peter Wood, Eric McCarthy, Frank Halm, Alan Conca.

Absent: Michaela Saccoccio.

Guest Speaker Carl Papino spoke regarding the Combined Federal Campaign. Carl reiterated his experience giving to the CFC and also his experience being the beneficiary (after falling victim to a brain aneurism) of some of the different agencies, such as the Visiting Nurses, which are supported by the CFC. Carl encouraged all members to support the Combined Federal Campaign to help those less fortunate.

Dean reiterated the importance of giving to the Combined Federal Campaign.

Quick note: Dean expressed the importance of calling in your reservation for the NAPS meeting to get an accurate count for the meetings.

Treasurer's Report: Sue Evans

Financial report as of August 31: Checking account balance: \$127.16, Savings account balance: \$188.48, Money Market account balance: \$23,574.32. Total assets: \$24,033.96. Total Income: \$27,051.38, Total Expenses: \$22,234.86, Balance: \$4,816.52.

Motion made to accept the Treasurer's report made by Eric McCarthy, seconded by Santo Lobouno. Motion passed.

Secretary's Report: Norma Johnson

Regular members on the rolls 262, associate members on the rolls 16. Received Thank you notes from George Mandeville and Immaculate Conception Church in memory of Ruth Maiorano. Read a two page letter from Bill Farrar regarding his experiences with NAPS and to inform this branch that he would no longer be an active member of the branch.

Motion made to accept the Secretary's report made by Pat Bennett, seconded by Gail Gagne. Motion passed.

Dean echoed Bill Farrar's sentiments regarding participation in NAPS.

Legislative Report: Pam Thurber

Pam encouraged all of us to take an interest in what is happening with the Postal Service and our jobs and to keep abreast of Legislative activity by visiting the NAPS National website. NAPS Legislative Counsel has made it easy to send a letter to our legislators requesting their endorsement on bills that affect us. All you have to do is log on to the website, type in your zip code and the letter is created for you and sent to the Senator or Representative for that area. Pam received an update from Bruce Moyer on June 25th addressing NAPS endorsement of the Harkin bill to ban contracting out of delivery services (Mail Delivery Protection Act of 2007 – S 1457). The postal service claims that the contracting out of delivery is necessary to control cost, that is use low-wage, low-benefit, part-time contract carriers instead of career postal service employees. The House bill addressing this matter is HR 282. Another update was that the House prepares to avoid its obligation to repay the postal service (again). Revenue forgone, money the government owes the postal service for postage discounts to charitable organizations, political parties and free matter for the blind, is the only source of taxpayer funds received by the postal service. The House

Legislative Report: Pam Thurber (cont.)

Appropriations Committee voted to deny the postal service its annual \$29 million reimbursement to offset Congressionally mandated postage discounts. The Federal Government expects the Postal Service to act responsibly, efficiently and in the public interest. It is not unreasonable for the Postal Service to expect the same from the Federal Government. Pam encouraged all NAPS members to help get the following bills co-sponsored: We need Rep. Langevin to co-sponsor HR 728 – Veterans Reassignment Protection Act, we need both Rep. Kennedy and Langevin to co-sponsor HR 281 – Universal Right to Vote by Mail Act, we need Rep. Kennedy to sign on HR 1110 – Premium Conversion and we need both Sen. Reed and Whitehouse to co-sponsor S. 773 – the senate version of Premium Conversion.

Motion made to accept the Legislative report made by Alan Conca, seconded by Mike Limoges. Motion passed.

Featured guest speaker: Northeast Regional VP Andy Sozzi

Andy commended Branch 105 for its fine leadership. Andy made great sacrifices to come to the Branch meeting tonight. As Retail Manager of the New York Metro Area, Andy was to make a presentation tonight at Yankee Stadium to the “Express Mail” Player of the Month, Alex Rodriques but he joined Branch 105 instead. Andy spoke at length regarding the Pay Consultations. He described them as “odd, at best”. Andy explained that the % increases applies to the raised ceiling of top step (2% each year for the first two years of the contract and 2.25% each year for the last two years of the four year contract). Andy also spoke on Pay for Performance. NPA is not perfect. Headquarters is working with NAPS to rectify PFP. Andy also spoke at length regarding SWCs. We will now get Administrative Leave for bone marrow (7 days), stem cell (7 day) and organ (30 days) donations. We will also now get bereavement leave. Also, on healthcare, you will begin paying an additional 1% per year. Andy also indicated that with repositioning/downsizing, there are fewer and fewer support positions. You should be flexible and remain positive and help each other out.

Guest speaker: Cy Dumas

Cy announced to the Branch that Executive Secretary/Treasurer Jay Killackey suffered an accident at home recently, was hospitalized and would be undergoing surgery. Cy asked that we remember Jay at his home address at 26 Kevin Road, Brockton, MA 02302. Cy will be holding a leadership meeting for NAPS officers on Sunday, October 21st. Cy also spoke regarding the ASP.

President: Dean Ambrosino

Dean spoke briefly on repositioning and the question of fairness of limited competition. Dean had a question for Andy regarding SWCs: Andy and HR Manager Ann Mailloux commented regarding how the formula for SWCs was going to roll out. Dean indicated that the District Manager is going to ask the Area to open up the ASP to Customer Services and Plant. Dean also advised the membership if you need help relative to any type of investigation or administrative action, you need to ask for it.

Social Committee: Alan Conca

There will be a Holiday Party on December 9th at the Venus de Milo Restaurant. The cost will be \$25 for members and \$33 for non-members. Sign up sheets were available on the tables.

Nominations: Elections to be held in November.

Nominees:

President: Dean Ambrosino
Vice President – Michaela Saccoccio
Treasurer – Sue Evans
Secretary – Rose Russo
Legislative Representative – Pam Thurber
E-Board – Pawtucket – Gail Gagne
Warwick – no nominations
Wakefield – no nominations
Newport – no nominations
At Large – Alan Conca
Dan Guenette
Frank Halm
Laurie Papsadore

Nominated by:

Cy Dumas
Pam Thurber
Betty DiSalvia
Frank Halm
Laurie Papsadore
Ed Gutierres

Eric McCarthy
Mike McKeon
Joe Murdock
Pam Thurber

