

NAPS Branch 105 Regular Meeting #3

Thursday, September 28, 2023

Meeting Place: Santa De Prata Society Hall, 29 Walnut Grove Avenue, Cranston, RI

Members Present: 24 Members total (20 active members and 4 Associate members)

Our Acting President, Shaun Branch called the meeting to order at 18:10pm with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Colin Clarkson.

Roll Call of Officers: Acting President, Shaun Branch, Treasurer, Susan Evans, Legislative Rep David Costa - all present

Executive Board Members: Bill Downes, Richard Wilson- present

Excused: Jim Bourque, Victor Giorgio

Absent: Secretary, Jason Caffrey

Shaun welcomed NE Area VP Bill Austin.

Vice Presidents Report: Shaun stated there was no cases pending.

Motion to accept Vice Presidents Report made by Matt Tiner, seconded by Dave Costa

Secretary Report: Jamal Salih gave the member count from the most recent DCO; 149 regular members and 11 associate members.

Motion to accept Secretary Report made by Betty Disalvia, seconded by Susan Evans.

Treasurer Report: Susan Evans stated that there were no expenses in August. Total expenses for the year are \$16,043.89. The August dividend for the Money Market was about \$200 over normal. She called PGE and they said there was a significant increase in rate. So far, we have received in from DCO and dues \$16,820.49. With out expenses \$16,043.89. Resulting in a \$776.60 increase in funds. Our total assets are \$75,647.38.

Motion to accept Treasurer Report made by Bob Conroy Sr, seconded by Betty Disalvia.

Legislative Report: Dave Costa stated The NAPS Legislative Training Seminar (LTS) was held in March 2023 in the Washington D.C. The in-depth multi-day training event educates NAPS members on current legislative and political issues confronting them and the U.S. Postal Service. The comprehensive legislative instruction provided at L TS results in effective meetings with lawmakers and their staff members. In addition, key Senators, Representatives and USPS leadership address LTS Delegates. Over 500 retired and active postal managers, postmasters and supervisors attend this event annually.

Current NAPS Supported Legislation:

H.R. 82: Social Security Fairness Act of 2023 I 2023-2024 Regular Session (118th)

H.R. 594: Postal Supervisors and Managers Fairness Act of 2023 I 2023-2024 Regular Session (118th)

H.R. 595: Postal Employee Appeal Rights Amendment Act of 2023 I 2023-2024 Regular Session (118th)

H.R. 866, the Equal COLA Act I 2023-2024 Regular Session (118th)

H.R. 3005: The Postal Police Reform Act I 2023-2024 Regular Session (118th)

H.R. 3721, the USPS Shipping Equity Act I 2023-2024 Regular Session (118th)

H.R. 4260, the Public Servants Protection and Fairness Act I 2023-2024 Regular Session (118th)

H.R. 716: Fair COLA for Seniors Act of 2023 I 2023-2024 Regular Session (118th)

S. 597: Social Security Fairness Act I 2023-2024 Regular Session (118th)

Motion to accept Legislative Report by Susan Evans, seconded by Betty Disalvia.

Shaun asked Jamal Salih to give an update report on the current President situation. Jamal stated he was recently promoted as the Postmaster of Fall River. The change in position required him to step down from the president position according to the Branch 105 Constitution bylaws.

Old Business:

Blue Cross/Blue Shield was to be present at this meeting but will be at the November meeting to answer questions regarding the upcoming changes.

New Business:

Shaun stated he needed (3) Names for the Scholarship and Ballot committees.

Scholarship Committee – Shaun Branch, Danny Hernandez, and David Costa.

Ballot Committee – Matt Tiner, Bill Downes, and Jim Bourque.

Shaun opened the floor for nominations for election of officers and Eboard.

President – Shaun Branch was nominated by Susan Evans.

Vice President – Jim Bourque was nominated by Betty Disalvia.

Secretary – No nominations.

Treasurer – Susan Evans was nominated by Shaun Branch

Legislative Rep – David Costa was nominated by Shaun Branch

Alison Peter was nominated Dan Hernandez

Executive Board at Large:

Victor Giorgio was nominated by Bob Conroy Sr.

Bill Downs was nominated by Russel Fontaine

Matt Tiner was nominated by Bill Downes

Lizules Perez was nominated by David Costa

Richard Wilson was nominated by Bob Conroy Sr.

Jennifer Deandrade was nominated by Matt Tiner

Dan Hernandez was nominated by Dave Costa

Janet LaPage was nominated by Russell Fontaine

Shaun stated that anyone attending the November meeting will receive an order form for a Branch 105 Polo

Shaun asked NAPS NE AVP Bill Austin to speak to the group. Bill stated NAPS HQ has notified the executive board about the items that are going to be presented in the lawsuit case against the postal service, the Judge has issued few items to be revealed for discovery and the USPS has a limited time to produce them. Will provide more information to the members as the case progresses.

The National Budget had a special assessment. Assets are down from 14 million to 7 or 8 million due to Covid. Budget for top officers was reduced by 10% and Executive Board was reduced by 5%. There will be no Spring Eboard meeting as a result and October Eboard will be reduced to a minimum of 2 days. They are looking at the Legislative and National Convention to reduce expenses as well. It was found that the President budget was too high and was cut in half. Our current dues have not been increased since 2004. Bill stated that RI is #3 in membership chasing New York in New England. And now the Northeast area is #3 in country. Our DCOs will also now include Postmasters.

Jamal and Bob Conroy Sr talked about the \$2.00 increase in dues. The information will be sent out with the November meeting notice. Our branch last had an increase in dues when Dean Ambrosino was President.

Associate Dues will increase to \$70 starting January 2024.

Shaun asked Betty Disalvia to report on changes with PGE merging with Navigant Credit Union. She said it would start October 1 and be completed December 1, 2023. She said members having any direct deposits or with withdrawals will need to go on PostalEase or OPM to change routing number. All accounts will receive a 3% dividend for the amount they have in the account as of last September. If there are any question/problems, please call PGE at the West River Street location, they have a hot line for any issues with trained personal to handle these issues.

Bill Austin recognized how much Jamal contributed to our branch and presented him with a NAPS watch.

Betty Disalvia made a motion at 8:07 PM to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Bill Downes

The 50/50 was pulled by Ndyé Mansour; Susan Evans won. It was \$70 and she donated \$40 back to SPAC.