

# LINDEN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

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Representative Council Minutes

October 23, 2003

- I. Call to Order at 3:45 PM:** The following units were represented: # 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, Soehl, McM, LHS, PPS, AA Field, Maintenance, and Special Subject Teachers.
- A. Introduction of Buddies:** Buddies JoAnn Donachy (#5), Mary Christie Williams (#2), and Carole Anne Davis (#5) were introduced by their Reps Cindy Walker (#5), Tanya Cooper (#2), and Susan DiBiagio (#5).
- B. Announcements:** The following items were presented to council:
1. Copy of LEA Rep Council Minutes – 9/25/03
  2. LEA Rep Council Agenda – 10/23/03
  3. LEA Budget Proposal for 2003-04
  4. Letter from Sally Stevens, Chairperson, Philanthropic Committee
  5. Letter from Sally Stevens, Webmaster, Linden Education Education
  6. Election Day Flyer – Union County NJEA PAC Endorsements
- II. Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Mickie Hamilton to accept the minutes of Rep Council meeting of September 25, 2003 with a second by Guy Peluso. Council passed motion.
- III. Correspondence:** *Please send all correspondence to Betty Ogureck at Soehl 486-0550 or 486- 7799. Email address ([bettyo47@yahoo.com](mailto:bettyo47@yahoo.com)) PLEASE INFORM THE OFFICE OR BETTY –A.S.A.P. THERE HAVE BEEN COMPLAINTS THAT CARDS HAVE NOT BEEN SENT.* The following cards were sent: Joan Van Vliet,(#1), birth of daughter; Barbara Madej,(#8), illness; Ed Bajgrowicz,(HS), death of father; Jen Malone,(#1), marriage; Mary Pat Hooper,(#6),illness; Karen Mulligan,(#6), death of father; Danielle Piscino, (#4), birth of daughter; Carrie Kusky, (#4), marriage; Bewilda Julius, (#5), death of aunt; Norma White, (HS), illness; Peter McTiernan,(HS), marriage; Kim DeMatteo,(McM), engagement; Brenda Cahill,(McM), cousin injured ; Cheryl Fish, (#2), birth of granddaughter; Mary Fucci, (Soehl), birth of granddaughter; Elizabeth James, (Soehl), death of aunt.
- IV. Treasurer's Report:** *Judy Vacca*
- A. Current Balances**
- |                |             |               |              |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Checking:      | \$10,621.49 | Luncheon:     | \$ 754.00    |
| Philanthropic: | \$ 5810.29  | Money Market: | \$ 17,174.79 |
- B. Budget:** The budget was presented to Rep Council. The membership will also receive a copy. The budget will be voted on at the November Rep Council Meeting.
- V. Standing Committees:**
- A. Negotiations:**
- Guy Peluso- Teachers/Sec/Paras:* Guy has asked Reps to get in as many Surveys as possible. The more information that the Committee can gather and give to the NJEA, the better the picture of what we need to focus on. The next meeting will be on 11/12/03 to complete the contract review. Some of the Negotiating Team will go to each building and gather members concerns. The first meeting will be at McManus on 11/11/03.
- Tom Monaco - Custodian/Maintenance:* This unit has their proposals and will be meeting with NJEA/Uniserv Rep Glen Johnson on 11/11/03.
- B. Membership:** *Betty Ogureck* –Members are reminded to inform Betty with a change of name, address, or phone number. Any member that has returned from a **LEAVE OF ABSENCE** needs to re-apply for membership . NJEA desk calendars are available for members that have not received one. Please contact Betty at Soehl.
- C. Legislative/UCEA:** *Nancy Garafola* –Absent- Next meeting 10/28/03.
- D. Newsletter:** *Chris Hudak* – Check the Newsletter for the last 4 digits of your home phone number, YOU may have won a prize. Call the office if the number is yours. If there is anything LEA related and you wish to see in the Newsletter, please call or email the office.
- E. Grievances:** *Cindy Apalinski* –There are none at this time. If a member feels that their rights are being violated, Cindy should be contacted immediately.
- F. Philanthropic:** *Sally Stevens* – Forms have been distributed to all members so that they may

contribute a monthly donation to the Fund. It is payroll deducted and a donation of \$1/month is suggested. Fund monies are used for needy families in Linden and scholarships are given to qualified High School students. Please send applications to Sally at Media or Cindy at #6.

- G. Superintendent's Liaison:** *Nancy Gavan* –The first meeting will be 11/10/03. Concerns can be sent via email to the office or directly to Nancy at [npgavan@yahoo.com](mailto:npgavan@yahoo.com). All concerns MUST have the member's name for verification or questions. Any concerns must be addressed at the Building Liaison level first.
- H. LEA Luncheon:** *Media/IT/PPS*- The Luncheon's fate has not been determined, but the information to organize it, should one be held, has been passed on to PPS.
- I. Scholarships:** *Margaret Novalany* – No report.
- J. LPDC:** *Joann Bolduc* – Election Day PD is set, employees will receive schedules. The committee is working on the Spring session which will be focused on Technology. Any suggestions can be forwarded to Joann at the High School.
- K. Web Master:** *Sally Stevens* – Refer to PINK flyer – LINDEN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

## VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A.** LEA sponsored workshops – The next workshop will be on 11/19/03 –  
**CONSUMER MEMBER BENEFITS/NJEA**
- B.** Building Liaison – A reminder to all buildings to have a monthly meeting and that a copy of the minutes are to be sent to Cindy.
- C.** Spring Party – Cindy looking for any suggestions for a “Show of Force” Party. Please contact her with your ideas.
- D.** No Child Left Behind (ESEA) – Glen Johnson
- E.** Statfeld Vantage(formerly HIGHVIEW PLANNING) – 1-800-844-1169 – Maria Meehan – Any problems with any of your medical/dental coverage please contact Maria.
- F.** UCEA Rep Payment – Having spoken with the accountant, the following points were made. 1. Any payment \$100 or less would have no tax implications. 2. There are other committees in which the Chairperson gets a stipend and the other members of said committee do not, such as the Liaison Committee. Len Sobel who made the motion is not present, therefore the item will remain for the November Agenda.

## VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A.** Report from Board Meeting – 10/15/03 – Cindy reported notification of retirement and the hiring of several new employees. Reps are reminded to encourage new employees to join the Association.
- B.** American Education Week – Nov.16-22, 2003 – Please inform Cindy of activities that will take place in your building. She has requested that Reps FAX the information to her at the LEA office.
- C.** Negotiations Surveys – Reminder to all members to complete a survey and return it to their building Rep, or send it to Guy Peluso at the High School.
- D.** Elementary – Italian/Spanish time – Teachers of Grades 2-5 are asked to inform Cindy as to how this time is being used. Is it being considered a PREP? Are the teachers being used for a Duty? Please get your information to Cindy, A.S.A.P.
- E.** Common Planning – Cindy needs the information from all buildings as to how Common Planning is assigned.
- F.** Tanya Miller – Oxford Insurance Rep will be at Soehl on 10/28/03 (2-4 PM) to discuss any problems or concerns members have with their coverage.
- G.** Winter Leadership Conference – At this time there are 6/7 members going. There are 1 or 2 seats open. Anyone interested, please contact Cindy.
- H.** Dental Problems – Any member having problems with their dental coverage, please inform Cindy or contact Statfeld Vantage.
- I.** Rutgers Student –JoAnne Ferrara brought to the attention of Council that the Rutger's student that was in an incident last month and injured is a cousin of one of our LEA members. She mentioned that the family had set up a trust fund for him. Morris Leone then made a motion to donate \$50 to the family, which was second by Kathy Kruper. A discussion was held by Council and a vote was taken. The motion was voted down.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:40 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth A. Ogureck