

Signed: _____
Date: _____

**CONNECTICUT STATE EMPLOYEES' CAMPAIGN
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

Office of the State Comptroller, 3rd floor, Conference Room F
55 Elm Street, Hartford
1:44 p.m. – 2:35 p.m.

Members Present

Cindy Cannata (*OGA/FOI*)
Valerie Clark (*OPM*)
Kathleen Gensheimer (*Judicial*)
Jacqueline Henry Rafiq (*Transportation*)

Patrick Kilby (*CHRO*)
Charles Kistler (*State Retiree*)
Tim Newton *CHAIR* (*Correction*)
Ina Wilson (*Education*)

Members Excused/Absent

Jason Crisco (*Admin. Services*)
Joseph Duberek (*Emergency Ser. & Public Protection*)

Peggy Gray, *VICE CHAIR* (*Comptroller*)
Sheila Hummel (*DECD*)
Chris Taylor (*Legislative Management*)

Federation Representatives

Ann Pean (*UW*)

Lorna Sager (*CHC*)

Campaign Staff

Jan Gwudz (*Director*)

Joyce LeBaron (*Coordinator*)

Meeting Called to Order – Tim Newton

Committee Chair Tim Newton called the meeting to order at 1:44p.m. A quorum was reached.

Review of September 2013 Meeting Summary – Tim Newton

A motion was presented and unanimously passed to accept the October 13,, 2013 minutes as presented.

Nominating Committee – Tim Newton

Kathleen Gensheimer will chair the 2014 Nominating Committee, with Valerie Clark and Jacqueline Henry Rafiq serving as its members.

Campaign Update – Jan Gwudz

Jan reported the Commissioner/Union Breakfast was very effective and motivating. She extended a thank you to Cindy Cannata and Valerie Clark for sharing their experiences as campaign volunteers. The Committee discussed the problem of the way invitations were accepted because they were actually extended to the Commissioners, not to coordinators, though some chose to accept with the intent of sending the coordinator as a representative. The Coordinators have their own event.

The Campaign total to date stands at \$300,000 and is very slow. Whereas some coordinators are very enthusiastic and motivating, others are not. Also most people are just not responding.

Jan informed the Committee about the Club 26 initiative created by Dept. of Energy & Environmental Protection. Now the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities is showing an interest in the same promotion. Interim CHRO Commissioner Tonya Hughes (recently appointed Commissioner) is very supportive of the Campaign.

In discussion, it was mentioned that some thought that new blood was needed in the ranks of the coordinators. For instance, at DAS, the coordinator has not returned calls or emails. Cindy Cannata will contact Martin Andersen who, as a former Committee member, has always been willing to assist.

Jan will ask Denise Merrill for another email to be sent statewide. Kathleen pointed out that the more we rely on online giving, the more email blitzes need to be done. A major problem is that of younger employees not giving and not taking the place of those who are retiring, so this is why more electronic methods of communication need to be employed.

Regarding BJ's, Jan explained that many workers think that the promotion is a benefit of State employment, and they don't understand the tie-in to the State Campaign. For instance, it is true that a purchaser can designate the \$5 if they wish, which raise contributions within an agency, but most do not understand.

A discussion ensued regarding the Campaign start date for 2014. It was agreed that the start date would go back to the day after Labor Day, which will be Tuesday, September 2, 2014. However, the Kick-Off event will remain in August.

Regarding the disastrous typhoon in the Philippines: Employees can donate to relief through the Campaign with certain charities as targets. Jan will prepare a list of specific charities. A message will be posted on the CSEC website.

Schedule of upcoming meetings – Tim Newton and Jan Gwudz

The schedule of meetings as distributed was agreed upon and a motion was made and accepted to the following: **2/11/14, 3/11/14, 4/14 Application Review, 5/13/14, 9/9/14, 10/14/14, 11/18/14 and 12/9/14.** The recognition luncheon will be scheduled in May 2014.

Round Table Opportunity to Speak – Tim Newton

Committee members discussed their individual agency Campaigns. Kathleen Gensheimer mentioned that Judicial is slow and that 800 Judicial Marshals don't use computers. Sheryl will email again. Kathleen also would like to get the list of the 200 retired marshals as well as the list of retired judges and deceased judges' spouses to ask if they wish to give. She mentioned Josh Leliville as a potential contact for this information and will work with Jan on this. Discussion ensued about including a stuffer when the 1099's go out in the mail and getting volunteers to physically insert them. She asks that this please be included in the agenda for our next meeting. Tim says not soliciting retirees is seriously hurting the campaign. Ina agreed and again asked that this matter be discussed at the next meeting.

Regarding donations being low, it was mentioned that the younger employees do not tend to donate on a regular basis and Ann Pean used the phrase "donor fatigue" to describe why others have stopped donating.

Arts Counsel letter – Tim Newton

A letter was sent to the various charities under the Greater Hartford Arts Counsel. Only one replied. The New Britain Museum contacted Tim to say thank you for the notification.

Meeting Adjournment – Tim Newton

At 2:27 p.m., Tim asked for a motion to adjourn, with a reminder that the next meeting will be held on:

REMINDER:

NEXT MEETING WILL BE *TUESDAY December 10, 2013*

The meeting concluded at 2:27 p.m.
(Respectfully submitted by Joyce LeBaron)