

United Teachers of Dade
2200 Biscayne Boulevard
Miami, Florida 33137

Special UTD Executive Board Meeting
May 31, 2011

Approved Minutes

This Special meeting of the UTD Executive Board was called to order by President Karen Aronowitz at approximately 5:00 p.m.

Present: Karen Aronowitz, Artie Leichner, Fedrick C. Ingram, Linda Cohen, Mari Corugedo, Beverley Dowell, Steve Goldman, Angie Gonzalez, Cassandra Holmes, Larry Howell, Wildrede Jacques, Valarie Johnson, Albert Kunze, Thomas Lander, Thomas Nunn, Chris Radney, Ingrid Robledo, Sandy Simon, Antonio White, Sharon Williams.

Absent: Joy Jackson (excused) Francisco Porrata (excused) Seth Patterson (excused) Gwen Trice (excused)

Agenda

President's Report: Karen Aronowitz

- ***Report: Charges Against UTD Steward: Patricia Ireland, Attorney at Law***

Ms. Patricia Ireland addressed the Board members indicating that we had received charges against a UTD Steward. Ms. Ireland explained that in accordance with the UTD Constitution/Bylaws, an initial probable cause investigation was conducted by the President in tandem with Legal Counsel.

It was moved by Thomas Lander and properly seconded to call this meeting into Executive Session to discuss the investigation. After discussion, motion carried.

It was moved by Sandy Simon and Peggy Green to reconvene the Special meeting of the UTD Executive Board. After discussion, motion carried.

It was moved by Peggy Green and properly seconded to adopt the findings of probable cause in the charges against the Steward. After discussion, motion carried.

Ms. Ireland stated that in accordance with the UTD Bylaws, the accused member will be notified of the alleged charges and a Trial Committee will be appointed.

- ***Contract Ratification Vote June 3 through June 7, 2011***

President Aronowitz stated that we will be having the Contract Ratification vote from June 3rd through June 7, 2011, and we will be using VOTE NET. President Aronowitz reminded Board members that if the contract is voted down, the School Board could increase the insurance co-pays and out of pockets costs

for the remainder of the 2011 calendar year. President Aronowitz asked Board members to contact five members and explain to them what a Yes vote would mean.

President Aronowitz explained to the Board members that we will go back into bargaining during the summer for health insurance and salary and each side has the option of reopening two contract articles.

Question/Answer session followed.

Several Board members expressed concerns that people are confused with RTTT and do not understand what the contract ratification vote is about. President Aronowitz reported that we will be doing a video, robo calls, and emails explaining the vote, and Staff has been asked to contact Stewards to fully explain the Ratification vote.

Ms. Valarie Johnson reported that ESP's should get the message also, and she would like to have UTD's help in getting ESP's to attend the School Board meeting in June 15th, to speak in support of their jobs.

- ***Race to the Top (RTTT)***

President Aronowitz reported that the Miami Herald had the wrong information in the story that they did on RTTT moneys, which has created a lot of confusion—President Aronowitz stated that she had spoken to the Miami Herald but they still had a lot of misinformation. It was recommended by several Board members that information on RTTT be placed on the UTD Web site. President Aronowitz responded that information regarding RTTT will be placed on the web site, but we need to focus on the contract ratification vote right now.

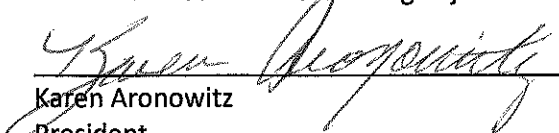
First Vice President's Report: Artie Leichner

Mr. Leichner reported that the language used in the recall petitions was pulled and needs to be rewritten; several people in Broward County are involved and are working with Rick Brizeman in achieving this. Mr. Leichner reported that there are a lot of costs involved in this process and he is requesting that the Board approve a transfer of \$ 25,000 to ECO funds to be used for this purpose.

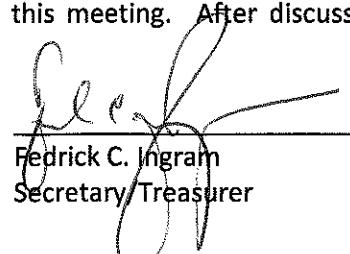
It was moved by Artie Leichner and properly seconded by Cassandra Holmes to request that \$25,000 be placed in the ECO funds to be spent in activities relating to the filing of the amendment and the petition drive. After extensive discussion, it was moved and properly seconded by Antonio White to amend the motion to include the transfer of funds only on an as needed basis. The motion on the amendment carried. It was moved by Antonio White and properly seconded to have the motion read as follows: The Board authorizes the transfer of up to \$25,000 on an as needed basis to the ECO funds for the purpose of participation in the petition drive and amendment recall efforts in state election processes. After discussion, motion carried with one opposed.

Adjournment

It was moved by Steve Goldman and properly seconded to adjourn this meeting. After discussion, motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.



Karen Aronowitz
President



Fedrick C. Ingram
Secretary/Treasurer