

The American Railway and Airway Supervisors Association

A DIVISION OF TCU – AFL-CIO – CLC – RLEA



UNITED WE STAND
GOD BLESS AMERICA!

Subordinate
Officials &
Professional
Employees



National
Organization

Rev. 10/2005

ARASA LODGE 5041 MEETING MINUTES

Date: January 18, 2006
O'Casey's Restaurant
22 E. 41st Street, NY, NY

President Dmytryszyn called the meeting to order at 5:18 pm and lead the members present in the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer. A roll call indicated twenty-three members in attendance.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the November 16, 2005 minutes without reading. President Dmytryszyn gave a favorable financial report that FST John Scally had provided. The report was accepted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Labor Coalition met with the Mediators on January 11, 2006 and submitted a contract proposal to Ray Burney of the MTA. This updated proposal includes a choice of two plans: a defined benefit plan option where a member will receive a pension and a defined contribution plan option where a member keeps the Vanguard plan.

President Dmytryszyn read from a document regarding the pension plan as follows: "The pension is administered by a Board of Managers of Pensions. This Board of Managers reserves the right to amend or terminate the Pension Plan at any time." This statement caused great concern to the members in attendance of the security of the pension plan and many questions were asked. The Coalition did ask to have a member sit on the Pension Board and was told no even though a member does sit on the Board for the Vanguard Defined Contribution Pension Plan.

The members also felt that we need to get the riding public more informed about our lack of contract and the Company's stance on not negotiating in good faith for the last three years. President Dmytryszyn stated that informational pickets are being organized by Chris Silvera and other leaders of our Coalition. These pickets will allow our members to hand out flyers to inform the riding public of MTA's take it or leave it attitude.

It was also brought up that if you haven't sent the letter to your State Legislative Representative, you should do so. These letters may help encourage the MTA to start negotiating in good faith. It was also stated that the Coalition should send out new mailers for this.

NEW BUSINESS

The swearing in of officers took place after the Financial report was read. President Dmytryszyn did the honors. Congratulations to these officers in attendance:

Over -

"SAFETY IS THE ROAD TO HAPPINESS"

Bryon Thomas – Vice President
Ed Vaughan – Recording/Corresponding Secretary
Felix Maestri – Member Board of Trustees
Peter Hosking – New Haven Division Chairman
Thomas Murphy – Maintenance of Way Division Chairman
Marty Marcus – Ticket & Structures Division Chairman

A list of the new ARASA officers was distributed at the meeting. Officers elected in addition to the above are as follows:

William Mills – General Chairman
John Dmytryszyn – President
John Scally – Financial Secretary/Treasurer
John Ketsoglou – Chief Trustee and Harlem Division Chairman
Mike Wohlfahrt – Member Board of Trustees
Lee Conklin, Jr. – Hudson Division Chairman
Tim O'Shea – Grand Central Terminal Division Chairman

Congratulations to all who were elected.

Questions were also brought up regarding the website. Members stated that the website needs to be updated more regularly.

President Dmytryszyn would like to see more interest in the union and mentioned that everyone should bring a buddy to the next union meeting.

The next monthly meeting will be held on February 15, 2006 at Holy Name of Mary Church, Grand Street, Croton-on-Hudson, NY.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to close the meeting at 6:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Vaughan
Recording Secretary