

# MINUTES OF THE TNG-CWA Human Rights and Equity Committee

January 23, 2010

PRESENT: Carl Younger, Chair; Natalie Hill, Sheila Lindsay, Chair SEC HRE Committee; Vernon Clark, Ka Yan Ng, Tiffany Heath, Natalie Hill, Yoko Kuramoto-Eidsmoe, Melissa Nelson.

Absent: Matt Olson, Vincent Proteau, Nestor Soto, Arnold Amber, director, CWA-SCA Canada, Carol Rothman, Secretary Treasurer TNG-CWA, TNG President Bernie Lunzer

MINUTES PREPARED BY Carl Younger. Called to order at 1:04 pm eastern time.

The committee discussed the possibility of having an equity workshop at the Cleveland Multi Council meeting April 30<sup>th</sup> through May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vernon, Sheila, Natalie said they would attend; Carl has petitioned to vote on funding his trip and will have that information by next meeting. It was decided to base the workshop on our current project to gauge the effect of the current economic down turn on equity seeking people by asking locals to participate in a member survey. Because our total project may not be completed it was decided that we pick out 3 locals as test subjects to collect and analyze data for use at the workshop. Vernon picked the Philadelphia local, Sheila said she would handle Memphis and Natalie has a choice of Pittsburgh or Buffalo. A goal is to enlighten as many as possible of the need for inclusion if our union is to survive in any workable numbers and have the support of the communities they serve. The participating members agreed to each prepare a five or more minute presentation for the committee to discuss at our next meeting.

The announcement Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> by the Bureau of labor Statistics that membership in the private sector has dropped to levels not seen since 1900 and is for the first time below public sector was discussed and could be a warning the old methods are failing and organizing for inclusion is paramount.

Carl said he would resend the demographic survey letters for suggestions for revision before they are sent out to all locals. The possibility of including the CWA's policy letter on mutual respect was brought up.

Carl, Vernon, Natalie and Sheila reported that their locals are sending a minority candidate to this year's new officers seminar. Sheila and Yoko are working on a joint presentation.

Melissa will check into the possibility of the TNG posting a link on its web site and the HREC web site to legitimate charities assisting the disaster victims in Haiti. Melissa is also looking into the status of the [guildequity.org](http://guildequity.org) web site.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Saturday Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm Eastern time.

The committee adjourned at 1:51

