

# Pennsylvania Federation of Injured Workers Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

03/11/09

**Call Meeting to Order** 11:03 AM

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America**

**Moment of Silence** – For our troops and those injured or lost their lives in a workplace accident.

## **Roll Call of Board Members**

- |                    |                   |                             |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Mike Kerstetter | 5. Carl Dillinger | 9. Paul H. Christmas- guest |
| 2. Bob Scholeck    | 6. Dennis Straub  | 10. Kate McCarney           |
| 3. John Donato     | 7. Mike Pron      |                             |
| 4. Jake Long       | 8. Pete DePietro  |                             |

## **Introduction of Guests**

1. Paul H. Christmas: member of Lehigh Valley Chapter

## **Minutes from 01/14/09 meeting submitted by Mike Kerstetter**

1. Motion to accept – Carl Dillinger
2. Motion to 2<sup>nd</sup> – Bob Scholeck
3. Vote – carried

## **Financial Report submitted by Mike Kerstetter**

1. Motion to accept – Dennis Straub
2. Motion to 2<sup>nd</sup> – John Donato
3. Vote - carried

## **REPORTS FROM CHAPTERS**

1. Berks County Chapter:
  - a. Chapter Meeting – guest was a new representative from IWP Jennifer McGoggle. She had to cancel due to snow.
  - b. Made a donation to BC TV for Berks Chapter.
  - c. Civil Justice Foundation grant request was turned down until next year.
  - d. Explanation of Angel Food Ministries.
  - e. State sent a letter about a grant applied for and said PFIW was not registered. We have no idea of what registration number is required.
  - f. Berks Chapter needs to get the office setup and needs a printer.
  - g. Responses are starting to come in from people that were invited to speak at the Injured Worker Memorial Day Event. Senator Lawrence M. Farnese will speak at the event.
  - h. April 2, 2009 there will be a network cocktail party sponsored by Kenneth M. Kitay's Law Office. Just for Medical and Legal people and PFIW is invited.
  - i. Berks Chapter wants to change its name to be Berks/Schuylkill County Chapter.
2. Dauphin County Chapter:
  - a. Chapter is still trying to re-organize and join up with the Harrisburg CLC. We still need a meeting location.
3. Delaware County Chapter:
  - a. No Report.
4. Lebanon County Chapter:
  - a. Chapter sent in audit information.
  - b. Planning an outing to Hershey hockey game.
  - c. A couple of fundraisers are going on now.
5. Lehigh Valley Chapter:
  - a. Submitted year-end report.
  - b. Carl Judd is in the hospital and may not come out.
  - c. Bingo is starting to pick up again.
  - d. Working on a Worker's Comp Expo.

- e. Lehigh Valley Chapter is now a member of the Lehigh Valley CLC as of a month ago and cooperation is excellent so far.
- f. April 26, 2009 Lehigh Valley Chapter and the Lehigh Valley CLC will sponsor a memorial service for injured workers and workers killed on the job. It will be held at the Rose Garden, in Bethlehem.
- g. Got about \$1000 from the most recent ticket fundraiser.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- 1. Delaware County Chapter
  - a. John Kennedy called because he was unable to make the meeting.
  - b. John says the Chapter meetings are being held at the law office of Cherry, Fieger & Marciano. Meetings are held once every 3 months.
  - c. The Chapter has \$123.00 in its bank account.
  - d. A website for the Delaware County Chapter is being created by the Law Office of Cherry, Fieger & Marciano.
- 2. PFIW Brochure is in Spanish
  - a. Spanish brochure is done and ready for publication.
- 3. Grants
  - a. As talked about earlier, a grant application kit will be assembled and made available to all the Chapters so they can use it to apply for grants. This will include all registration numbers for PFIW.
  - b. Submitted a grant request to Google.com. It is strictly an advertising grant.
  - c. Carl Dillinger says nothing has been done on the application for the Heinz Foundation.
  - d. Kate McCarney says she can try to plan a seminar for grant writing.
  - e. Contact will be made with Frank Kelly (717-231-2859) of the PA AFL-CIO to coordinate the design of a grant form.
- 4. New Chapters
  - a. Pete has contacted the Spanish speaking organization in Bethlehem to try and organize a new chapter for PFIW that will be for the Spanish speaking community.
  - b. Still need a Chapter in the western part of the Commonwealth. Carl Dillinger said we should contact Jack Shea of the Alleghany CLC.
  - c. Jean Martin of the Lancaster CLC may be interested in starting a PFIW Chapter. Kate will give her a call about a Chapter.
- 5. Injured Worker Memorial Day Event
  - a. We will try to get attendance up for this years event.
  - b. April 26, 2009 is the Lehigh Valley Worker Memorial Service.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Chapter Name Change
  - a. Berks County Chapter wants to be known as the Berks/Schuylkill County Chapter.
    - i. All reference to the Chapter will be changed on the website.
  - b. A motion to change the name of Berks County Chapter to Berks/Schuylkill County Chapter was made by Bob Scholeck.
  - c. Second to the motion was made by Jake Long.
  - d. Motion: carried
  - e. All funds from the old Schuylkill County Chapter will be deposited to the Berks/Schuylkill County Chapter.
- 2. Setup a Panel of Physicians if possible
  - a. Lehigh Valley Chapter has a Physician Agreement made up already in use. The agreement will be examined by Kate McCarney to see if there are any legal changes that need to be made to the agreement.
  - b. There should be a \$300 fee for the agreement.
  - c. There will be separate agreements for Physicians and Chiropractors.
- 3. Workers Compensation Expo
  - a. Pete & Kate are planning this for May 16, 2009. It will be a free all day exhibitors event. There will be classes offered on every subject for workers compensation. Then a dinner will take place in the evening after the day activities are over. There will be a keynote speaker to draw attendance at \$50 a plate.
- 4. Skype
  - a. We want all to use this communication service for video conferencing. It is great for coordination of projects and training.
- 5. Labor Councils & Injured Workers

- a. We need to get the Labor Councils to understand about the PFIW and get them to use us for information for their injured workers.
  - b. The unions don't seem to understand what we are or what we do because they continue to ignore us.
  - c. PA AFL-CIO passed a resolution to recognize the PFIW but the Labor Councils still continue to ignore the PFIW.
6. Multi-Media demonstration by AmericaVen
- a. There was a demonstration of multi-media equipment after the meeting.

#### **GOOD AND WELFARE**

1. Open the meeting to the floor for discussion
2. Bylaw changes need to be corrected and sent out to everyone to be informed for the next meeting.
  - a. Audit Additions
  - b. Ken Kitay said about insurance but nothing has been done yet. Ken will be okay to remain a member of the Board since his malpractice insurance is okay with it.
  - c. A year-end information packet for PFIW will be created and distributed to all Board members and made available on the website.
3. Date of next BOD meeting – May 13, 2009. The meeting location will be at the Dauphin County Chapter meeting location at the USWA Union Hall, 200 Gibson Street, Steelton, PA 17104.
  - a. The host Chapter will pay for the lunches.

**A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by – Bob Scholeck**

**A 2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion to adjourn was made by – John Donato**

**Vote - carried**

**The meeting for the PFIW Board of Directors adjourned at 1:17 PM**