

Officer and Delegate Nomination Results!

Local 2822 held nominations for officers, one trustee, Minneapolis and St. Paul Regional Labor Federation delegates, and delegates to the Special AFSCME North-Central Legislative District Convention at the February 5 membership meeting. No nominations were contested which means there will be no elections in March.

President: Ali Fuhrman, *Library*

Vice President: Jayne Mikulay, *Library*

Treasurer: Tonicia Ambrose, *HHS*

Recording Secretary: Brett Schlosser, *Library*

Membership Secretary: Rita Watson, *County Attorney's Office*

Co-Chief Steward: Regina Jones, *Northpoint*

Co-Chief Steward: Shane Clune, *Library*

Executive Board At-Large (4): Lind-

sey Fenner, *Library*; Valerie Wiggins, *Sheriff's Office*; Anthony Ware, *HHS*; DJ Hooker, *Library*

Trustee: Dari Kolstad, *HHS*

Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation: Anthony Ware, Shane Clune, Paris Koehler, DJ Hooker, Brett Schlosser,

St. Paul Regional Labor Federation: Rita Watson, (1 vacant)

Special AFSCME North-Central Legislative District Convention 2/29/2020:

Ali Fuhrman, DJ Hooker, Anthony Ware, Shane Clune, Dari Kolstad

March 2020

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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**March
Membership Meeting
Wednesday, March 4**
Minneapolis Central Library
Doty Board Room
6:30PM

**April
Membership Meeting
Wednesday, April 1**
Minneapolis Central Library
Doty Board Room
6:30PM

We want YOU at our meetings! We will accommodate you, pay for parking, transportation, lost time from work, and childcare.



What is the AFSCME Council 5 West Metro People Committee?

Brett Schlosser, Recording Secretary and Steward, North Regional Library

The AFSCME West Metro People Committee screens candidates for political offices in and around Hennepin County and the West metro area. After interviewing candidates, we make recommendations for AFSCME Council 5 to endorse and/or make financial donations to campaigns. All donations come from the PEOPLE fund which individual members opt into contributing to. The money does not come from member dues. Any member is welcome to attend the PEOPLE Committee screenings in an observational capacity. **On March 9, we will be screening candidates for District 1 and 6 Hennepin County Commissioners.**

2020 will be a critical election year for any number of reasons. For Hennepin County workers this year is especially unique. Three of the seven-member Hennepin County Board of Commissioners are retiring this year. Since the County Commissioners are our elected bosses here at Hennepin County, it is crucial that we elect strong labor allies!

Please join us Monday, March 9, 5:30PM, at the United Labor Centre, 312 Central Ave SE Minneapolis, Room 550

Questions? Contact Brett at Brett.schlosser@afscmelocal2822.org

AFSCME Hennepin County stands in solidarity with its SEIU siblings in struggle!

Workers with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) have voted to strike. SEIU Healthcare MN, which represents more than 3,000 healthcare workers, and SEIU Local 26, which represents 6,500 janitors and security guards (including Hennepin County contracted workers) both planned to strike at the end of February if their demands weren't met.

The SEIU-represented workers at HealthPartners were facing increased healthcare costs, and changes to the rules to make it harder to earn overtime pay. At the same time, HealthPartners has increased their CEO's salary by \$600,000 last year.

SEIU Local 26 is up against metro-area contractors refusing to honor the earned sick and safe time requirements of St. Paul and Minneapolis. SEIU Local 26 is also fighting for a \$15 minimum wage and to secure employer-funding for safer working conditions. SEIU Local 26 represents many of the people who keep our workplaces at Hennepin County safe, clean, and in working order, so we owe them as much solidarity and support as we can give them.

Both of these strikes were sanctioned by the AFL-CIO's Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation. This means that the AFL-CIO is supporting the strike effort, and every AFL-CIO affiliate, like AFSCME, is expected to honor the picket lines when possible. While public sector workers usually can't honor picket lines at our places of employment, nobody can force us to do business somewhere where there is a strike.

The last few years have seen a resurgence in the willingness of workers to fight back against the boss by withholding their labor. **Successful strikes build power for all workers.** We have a responsibility to our siblings in the labor struggle, and to ourselves, to see that these strikes succeed.

Update

Strikes work. Even the threat of strikes work, if workers are prepared to follow through. As of February 24, both SEIU HealthCare and SEIU Local 26 Security Officers had made tentative bargaining agreements that met the majority of their demands. SEIU Local 26 planned a one-day strike and rally in solidarity with janitorial workers, including workers who keep Hennepin County buildings clean!

Department Updates!

DOCCR

Adult Field Services has started the practice of disciplining OSIII employees for excessive unexcused absences or tardies. FMLA leaves are covered, but any time that has not been pre-approved, or when the employee has exhausted all vacation/sick or PTO hours, the employer is counting any absence or tardy as unexcused, even with a doctor's note. Staff should be made aware of this current practice in order to prevent discipline. If this has been happening to you, reach out to DOCCR Steward Susannah Olson, susannah.olson@afscmelocal2822.org

Library

2822 has filed two class-action grievances around holiday pay in the libraries. The first grievance, which has a Step 2 hearing scheduled for Friday, March 13, seeks to ensure that bargaining unit subs are properly

paid for work done on open holidays (like Thanksgiving Friday). The second grievance seeks to clarify that 2822 library workers should be paid the holiday premium for any worked holiday; the County seems to be trying to make a confusing distinction between being "scheduled" and "volunteering to work." This grievance was denied at Step 2, so we are pursuing a Step 3 grievance through mediation.

Service Centers

We met with management on February 12 to discuss issues with Service Center workers not receiving tuition reimbursements in a timely fashion. Human Resources agreed to the following:

- ★ Identify workers who were unable to receive the last \$500 for their 2019 reimbursement. They may qualify for a reimbursement if they were wrongfully denied.

- ★ Human Resources will update Tuition Reimbursement document requirements in APEX by April 12 2020.
- ★ Human Resources clarified that the employee do not have to submit a certified transcript, if they submit the following printed information instead: Start to end dates; Number of credits; Number of courses; Final grades (If final grades show Student ID number only, a scanned copy of the student ID that shows the number and employee name must be included.)

If you have questions or need help, reach out to Service Center Stewards Gertrud Wiesner or LaKeashia Moore:

Gertrud.wiesner
@afscmelocal2822.org

Lakeashia.robinson
@afscmelocal2822.org

AFSCME Announcements

Service Center MOU Vote Results!

The Service Center Memorandum of understanding was approved by the membership. The changes will go into effect starting the first paycheck in March. We want to thank our team and all of the Service Center workers for showing the importance of continuing to talk with each other and push the County for better wages in the service centers.

Attend the 2020 Labor Notes Conference in Chicago!

The Labor Notes Conference is the biggest gathering out there of grassroots union activists, worker center leaders, and all-around troublemakers. Meet thousands of labor and union activists in more than 200 meetings and workshops. Local 2822 will be paying for 14 members to attend. Interested? **We will be having nominations to select the 14 attendees at the March 4 membership meeting.**

Attend a Council 5 Regional Planning Meeting

As part of Council 5's strategic plan, AFSCME leaders are holding recurring regional planning meetings for members across the state. These meetings provide an excellent opportunity for members to build solidarity with folks from other locals, as well as a space for planning collective work to advance our union's mission based on each region's specific needs, issues and interests. Scheduled West Metro Meetings: **April 22 at 4:30PM; Room 365, United Labor Centre, Minneapolis**

February Meeting Highlights

- ★ The membership approved a motion to sponsor former 2822 retiree members to attend Day on the Hill
- ★ The 2822 Executive Board and Stewards had a planning meeting in February: look for a report back in the next newsletter!
- ★ The HC Policy Committee approved a statement of solidarity with SEIU HealthCare MN and SEIU Local 26, who both had strike votes. Read the statement to the left, plus updates!

Upcoming Events

(a more complete list is on our website, www.afscme2822.org)

International Women's Day Sunday, March 8

International Women's Day has its roots in working women's struggles as New York textile workers in the 1850s. The struggle continues today, as the fight for fair wages, safe working conditions, and the right to vote spread throughout the world.

AFSCME West Metro People Committee Candidate Screening Monday, March 9, 5:30PM

**United Labor Centre, Room 550
312 Central Ave SE, Minneapolis**

Get involved in screening candidates for political office, including candidates for the three open Hennepin County Commissioner seats. For information or questions, contact Brett: [**brett.schlosser@afscmelocal2822.org**](mailto:brett.schlosser@afscmelocal2822.org)

HC AFSCME

Education, Engagement, and Outreach Committee Monday, March 9, 5:30-7PM

**Health Services Building, Room 110,
525 Portland Ave. S, Minneapolis**

Each month, folks from the different HC AFSCME Locals meet and plan ways to inform and connect with our members. Interested? Contact Ali: [**ali.fuhrman@afscmelocal2822.org**](mailto:ali.fuhrman@afscmelocal2822.org)

Labor Lunches

**Wednesday, March 4, 11AM-1:30PM
Health Services Building, Room 110
525 Portland Ave S, Minneapolis**

**Wednesday, March 18, 11AM-1:30PM
South Minneapolis Hub, Conf. Room 331
2215 East Lake Street, Minneapolis**

Come for the lunch, stay for the solidarity!

We will be preparing for next contract negotiations, discussing current class action grievances, and learning about our rights as union workers. Thirty minute presentations begin on the hour and half hour.

AFSCME Day on the Hill

Tuesday, March 31, All Day

Be part of the Big Green AFSCME Machine at the Minnesota State Capitol. Lost time and meals provided. Contact Ali if you want to attend! [**Ali.Fuhrman@afscmelocal2822.org**](mailto:Ali.Fuhrman@afscmelocal2822.org)

Labor Notes Chicago Conference April 17-19

Hyatt Regency O'Hare at Chicago's O'Hare Airport

The Labor Notes Conference is the biggest gathering out there of grassroots union activists, worker center leaders, and all-around troublemakers. Meet thousands of labor and union activists in more than 200 meetings and workshops. Local 2822 will be paying for 14 members to attend.

Still need to become a member?

Never got around to filling out that membership card? There are several ways to become a member of Local 2822:

- ★ Sign up online at <https://members.afscmemn.org/>
(click on "Sign Up Now")
- ★ Call the AFSCME Council 5 Member Action Network: **651-450-4990**
- ★ Contact our Membership Secretary, Rita Watson by email or send in the card below:
rita.watson@hennepin.us

To sign up as a full union member or to get answers to questions about AFSCME and membership benefits, please fill out this coupon and send to:

Rita Watson
County Attorney's Office
Mail Code 510

Name _____
Job Title _____
Work Location _____
Mailcode _____
Phone _____

I want to sign up as a full member.



AFSCME Dental Plan Contacts

Health Partners:
952-883-5000 healthpartners.com
Group Number: 35991

AFSCME:
651-450-4990
Email: dental@afscmemn.org
<https://members.afscmemn.org/>



A New Voice deadline is March 11, 11:59PM.

Articles should be 400-500 words in length, letters less than 300 words. Send your written contributions to:

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Local 2822 Officers and Contacts

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	Daniel Winker daniel.winker@hennepin.us	612-348-9566
AFSCME Council 5 www.afscmemn.org	651-450-4990 council5@afscmemn.org	Union Dental: dental@afscmemn.org
AFSCME Field Representative	Kate Black kate.black@afscmemn.org	651-328-3705 (cell)
Good & Welfare Local 2822 T-Shirts	NaTasha Baker Nelson natasha.bakernelson@hennepin.us	952-288-6134 (cell)
Web Administrator	Melissa Diaz mdiaz@hclib.org	

AFSCME 2822 Steward Assistance

Phone: 612-470-2822 Email: AFSCME2822steward@gmail.com

Weingarten Rights: If you are called to a meeting with a manager, you have the right to have a union representative, officer, or steward present if you feel the discussion could in any way lead to being disciplined or terminated, or affect your personal working conditions. Until a representative arrives, you have the right to not participate in the meeting. Stewards are assigned by the chief stewards.

Shane Clune Chief Steward East Lake Library	sclune@hclib.org shane.clune_afscmelocal2822.org	612-543-8426 (work) 320-224-9344 (cell)
Regina Jones Chief Steward Northpoint	regina.jones2@hennepin.us regina.jones@afscmelocal2822.org	

Sharaunta Beach Hennepin Health	Antoine Moore GC Service Center	Anthony Ware HSPHD
Shari Casso IT/Imaging-GC/NW Hub	Susannah Olson DOCCR	Gertrud Wiesner Midtown Service Center
Ali Fuhrman Mpls Central Library	LaKeashia Robinson Midtown Service Center	Jacky Wilson Public Safety Facility
Dari Kolstad HSPHD/HSB	Brett Schlosser North Regional Library	Daniel Winker IT/Imaging- HCGC
Jayne Mikulay East Lake Library	Robbin Sudduth HSPHD/HSB	

*Steward-in-training