

VINCENT J. SANTAGATE BRANCH 147

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS/ AFL-CIO

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Robert Dyer
President

Bruce Anderson
Secretary



Keith McLeod
Vice President

Frank Glick
Treasurer

MEETING MINUTES MAY 2006

President Bob Dyer called the May meeting of NALC Branch 147 to order at 6:35 on Wednesday May 17, 2006. Sgt at Arms Terrell Johnson led the pledge of allegiance. Secretary Bruce Anderson read the roll call: one officer excused, two trustees excused; five National Convention Delegates excused two absent. All other officers and delegates were present. Twenty one branch members were in attendance. The secretary read the minutes of the April meeting. Uly Whitby moved to accept the minutes as read. The motion was seconded by Wayne Zola and passed. There were no communications or new applications for membership.

COMMITTEES

Safety

Bob Morgan reported that accidents in Norwalk are down 60% from last year. The major causes though continue to be hurried driving, failure to pay attention and backing. The steps at the Main Office are scheduled to be repaired and although the back ramp at Belden has been fixed, further repairs are scheduled.

CPR training must be approved by OIC Joe Fagan with classes tentatively planned for June. The dog warden has not been able to talk to carriers due to a busy agenda.

MDA

Vice President Keith McLeod announced that the Stride and Ride raised \$1,715 particularly through the efforts of Marl Cassell and Lenny Telesco.

Food Drive

Keith reported the initial amount of food collected in Darien and Norwalk to be between 47 and 48,000 pounds.

Retiree Dinner

Tickets to the retiree dinner will be passed out to the stewards and trustees. The date is June 14 and several retirees have responded already. Brian Hellman will be the guest speaker from national.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bidding has been completed. Mike Benko and Smitty Payne will have retreat rights. Jim Beddington has volunteered and been appointed to be the branch COLCPE coordinator.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

President Dyer read from a recent article in the news blaming labor costs for the next raise in postage rates. This is typical rhetoric during a contract year.

Bidding: Carriers will now be assigned to their new positions on May 27 as this is the beginning of a new pay period. Three carriers would have been switching pay grades in the middle if management had gone through with its original May 20 date. Letters will be sent to the successful bidders by May 24 informing them of their assignment and scheduled day off.

Route 5129 (Jerry Simmons) will finally be posted on May 19.

OIC Fagan has stated that new trainees will be with their trainer for two days and will deliver the trainer's route on the third while the trainer does Express Mail etc. This is a violation of Article 41 of the National Agreement.

Three new carriers are being trained in Darien. The trainers in Darien have not been sent to OJT training. Pres. Dyer will talk to PM Samuelson about that.

HR and personnel changes will now be done almost exclusively by phone or online. Every employee should have a pin number.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

Nominations were held for delegates to the 2007 Connecticut State Association of Letter Carriers convention. The branch is entitled to 22 delegates. The first four officers are elected delegates by their position; therefore nominations were taken for the remaining 18 delegates. Nominated were:

Brenda Holguin	Bob Morgan	Mark Danielle
Buck Iannacone	Marvin Simmons	John Cammarota
Wayne Zola	Mike Kish	Tom Moore
Lenny Telesco	Chris Carriera	Terrell Johnson
Richard Barrett	Brian Burgess	Orlando Rivera
Don Vagnone	Uly Whitby	Irak Contreras
Eric Crosswell	Ed Friend	Bill Mills
John Klein		

Also nominated were Michael Haser, John Cornacchio and Kathryn Rubenstein who declined.

Election will be by secret ballot at the June meeting. The election committee will be Michael Haser, Kathryn Rubenstein and Pete Bardos.

Chris Carriera moved that the branch provide the president with a cell phone. The motion was seconded by Michael Haser. Discussion ranged pro and con from the suggestion of paying a portion of the president's personal cell phone bill (union business only) to the fact that the phone will be transferred to each elected president. The motion passed unanimously and it was suggested that the branch purchase a 700 minute plan from Verizon Wireless.

John Cross moved that the branch reimburse President Dyer for a portion of his present cell phone bill. The motion has been tabled until more information can be obtained. Dyer's bill does not break down into individual calls and cannot be sure of how much time has been spent on union business.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Frank Glick reported the following:

Opening balance:	\$41,692.21
Month's expenses:	\$3,418.95
Checking deposits:	\$4,541.626
Checking balance:	\$25,050.51
Savings balance:	\$17,764.37
Closing balance:	\$42,814.88

John Cross moved to accept the Treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Brian Burgess and passed.

ADJOURNMENT

Terrell Johnson moved that the meeting be adjourned. Jan Pasciak seconded, the motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:10.