UNITED NATIONS STAFF UNION



SYNDICAT DU PERSONNEL DE L'ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES

NEW YORK

Minutes/Actes:

46/11
18 July2019
13:15 - 14:30
Conf. Room C
09/17 Units

46th Staff Council Meeting Minutes

The meeting was quorate with 9 Units present at 13:35. Staff Council Chair Camille McKenzie chaired the meeting and Assistant Secretary Sarah M'Bodji took notes.

Units present were: 13, 14, 17, 18, 21, 22, 29, 31, 33. The President and the 2nd VP were in attendance.

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted with no changes.

2. Adoption of previous minutes

Adopted for Meeting no. 9 with no changes. Minutes for meeting no. 8 were postponed to incorporate further changes. Minutes for the Council's 1st emergency meeting were still pending. The 1st VP briefed the Council on some substantive changes in the 6th and 7th minutes and asked the Council to approve them. The Council re-approved the 6th and 7th minutes. The Secretary will re-share the adopted minutes as approved by the Council.

3. President's Report and Summary of Communications

iSeek, DGC: meeting to obtain support for Staff Day and Video and promotions.

2008/5: submitting comment for the next day's deadline.

ST/AI/2013/3: There are flaws in the current ST/AI. The administration has suggested to review the existing document, suggesting an information session for Staff at large. The main change is low cost airlines are now flying traditional transatlantic routes, but do not have amenities like checked luggage, reserved seats (for families to travel together) or meal service. The President stated that official travel sometimes does not allow staff to fly from the airport closest to their house, which costs more if you have to cross States or boroughs to get to airport.

The Treasurer Jaime Garreta stated that the policy requires booking the lowest discounted fare. We should move toward self-ticketing.

A Staff Rep asked if conditions for official travel apply to travel taken for training; if so, was the rule being applied?

The 1st VP said that Leadership was pushing for self-ticketing. He would seek clarity on the point regarding travel for training. It is important to clarifying the existing rules and also to star brainstorming on the next policy review, what our position is and what we want to request.

4. Executive Board report

No questions raised.

5. Staff Day

Tesla as Grand Prize

Adoption of the respective Resolution was pushed to the following week, when budgets would be finalized.

The President said she had obtained a firm offer for three overnight test drives and in the meantime was working on negotiations to obtain a Tesla car

Concerning the raffle, Michelle Rockliffe was in charge and had printed tickets. 2,000 books would yield USD 40,000 if all tickets were sold.

Staff Day Briefing

There was a short briefing about sports and the Staff Day Committee held meetings with Special Events and with volunteers for the Parade of Nations. First meetings were also held with volunteers and forms for participants had been sent out. There was a need for more Council members of to volunteer as focal points. A meeting would be held with iSeek and the GDU, they would explain how the design and branding were managed. Existing graphic material would be re-configured with this year's date and colors.

The UN Bookshop will provide gifts for winners of sports events, as well as 20 per cent discount for that day in the Bookshop.

6. Resolution for Union Discount Programme (adjusted on Agenda during meeting)

This item was moved up and included.

Printers for ID Cards pricing was discussed, and pricing was 2719.78.

Idea was to incentive for Staff members. Will have booth for membership drive.

The resolution was adopted as RES/STC/46/12 unanimously with 9 votes in favour.

7. Communications Committee resolution

The Staff Council adopted RES/STC/46/12 establishing a Communications Committee. Staff Council members appointed to the Committee were: Patel Noble (Unit 14), Ashley Rode (Unit 21), Sebastian Cervantes (Unit 22), Sarah M'Bodji (Unit 31) and Kathryn Kuchenbrod (Unit 31).

8. CCISUA

The 1st VP referred Staff Council members to the draft CCISUA GA report and asked for questions and concerns. He pointed out that the CCISUA report is a good reflection of the GA and what happens there and highlighted that it is very important for members to attend. The next CCISUA Assembly will be held in May 2020 in Rome.

9. Reports by Units

The Assistant Rapporteur asked about the apportionment lists and about dates for a byelection. Leaderships replied that in order for by-elections to be held, we need Unit chairs, as unit chairs have to elect polling officers. The existing polling officers may be willing to stay on, but they must be confirmed. Unit reps must work to have Unit chairs elected as soon as possible.

10. AOB

The President asked if any units were reporting problems with the education grant, as she had heard some issues. A few members stated there were but nothing recent.

A Council member asked if staff nominated for Staff Day tasks could get time-release.

The meeting adjourned at 14:25.