

**NALC Branch #421
August 12, 2021
General Branch Meeting**

- 1) The regular branch meeting of Alamo Branch 421 was held on August 12, 2021, via ZOOM virtual meeting. The meeting was called to order by President Richard Gould at 7:00 pm.
- 2) **Invocation** by Burnie Miller
- 3) **Pledge of Allegiance** led by Carmichael Lewis
- 4) **Roll Call by Louise Jordan, Vice President:** Assistant Recording Secretary Esteban Ramirez was absent. All other Executive Board Members were present.
- 5) **Approval of Minutes from Previous General Meeting** – Louise Jordan
 - a) Burnie Miller request his name to be correctly spelled on item 6.a
 - b) Motion to accept the meeting minutes made by Rudy Ramon, Second by Henry McKnight. Motion carries.
- 6) **Reading of Official Communications** – Louise Jordan
 - a) We received a post card from the TSALC President Carlos Rodriguez and Kimberly Arnold asking for our support and vote in the TSALC officer elections. As a reminder the branch made a motion recommending supporting Homar Hernandez and Kathy Ruffo.
 - b) We received a Proposed Bylaw change for Article 3, Section 4. This is the first reading there will be no discussion.

ARTICLE 3 Meetings

Current Language: Section 4: Any action which is proposed and passed by Branch action, which involves any form of Branch action, i.e., demonstration, picketing or not participating in any Combined Federal Campaign or Savings Bond Program shall require a referendum of the ENTIRE active membership before it can be carried out. EXCEPTION: If an emergency arises which required immediate action, the Branch President with the consent of the Executive Board can proceed immediately to act.

Proposed New Language: Section 4: Any branch action (i.e., demonstration, picketing or not participating in any Combined Federal Campaign or Saving Bond Program) must be proposed at a branch meeting and must be passed with a majority vote before it can be carried out. EXCEPTION: If an emergency arises which required immediate action, the Branch President with the consent of the Executive Board can proceed immediately to act.
(2021)

7) **Application for Membership** – Louise Jordan

- a) Current membership count is 1,143 active members and 524 retired members which 115 gold members and 34 retirees that haven't submitted their 1189's yet. The Branch has 111 new members, they are Brandon McVicar, Sarina Palacio, Samantha Morales, Angel

Chapa, Stephanie Perez, Maribel Tavares, Vanessa Sanchez, Manuel Fontanez-Santiago, Stephen Martin, Antonio Chacon, Salvador Chararria, Joseph Rehmert, Pedro Borrelli, Juan Rodarte Jr, Steve Aguilar, Louise Rodriguez, David Ramirez, Addison Pruess, Devon Holmes, Jonathan Comacho, Latoya Mosley, Ray Sifuentes Jr, Rachelle Gaddy Johnson, Sarai Hernandez Deliz, Pedro Ortiz, Andres Cruz, Tavares Hines, Michael Smith, Carlos Cuellar, Alejandra Lujan, Andrew Peralta, Edward Bettencourt, Paul Wagner, Constantino Salinas, Geraldine Smith, Shana Cary, Dylan Adoptante, Brian Leal, Tori Hererra, Brian Delatorre, Samuel Garcia, Alyssa Crespo, Nikita Moodie, Jose Carillo, Julian Torres, Robert Grizzell, Eric Lam, Amanda Valentin, Cesar Vasquez, James Wilson, Jessica Rodriguez, Stephanie Perez, Juan Villareal, Jessica Garcia, Jenna Harcharik, Daniel Espitia, David Sullivan, Kevin Kohlhepp, Alex Delgado, Jacqueline Lozano, David Parrish, Lashanda Robinson, Jalen Garcia, Martin Medina, Michael Zapata, Arturo Guerrero, Alexis Saldana, Jacob Marin, Jose Quiroz, Russ Keeney Jr, Marie Olivera, Felix Rivera, Cheryl Gray-Smith, Tad Garcia, Chris Villareal, Joel Rubio, Micah Milford, Gamaliel Gonzalez, Vincent Gutierrez, Ignacio Rodriguez, Juan Saucedo, Jeffrey Ward, Domonique Medellin, Tony Washington, Justin Navarro, Scarlett Gamez, Matt Rosnagel, Jesse Vazquez, Analicia Vazquez, Jahon Mathews, Chantell Moulton, Tracey Fewell, Stephen Hererra, Roy Garza Jr, Robert Hobbs, David Rios, Ray Ibarra, Monica Carrasco, Justin Contreras, Christian Dominguez, David Lopez, Christian Garza, Gilbert Alejandro, Ashley Hubbell, Alejandro Carrillo, Jesus Montano, Michael Pina, Blass Gonzalez, Mario Pineda, Jantrail Cortez.

8) Unfinished Business –

- a) None.

9) New Business

- a) Ernest Rosas wants to let the membership know to keep an eye out on their OWCP paperwork they submit to e-comp because management has been changing information. Make sure you review the information before signing. This information was passed on to him by Gloria form Azriel.
- b) Mary Pardo informed the membership that Galls Uniforms has bought out Brookfield Uniforms.

10) Reports of Special and Standard Committees –

- a) Dan Torres, AFL-CIO. The Central Labor Council held a press conference at the Central Labor Council Offices and then did a caravan to Ted Cruz' office where they held a protest on his vote for the pro act. Thanks to Brothers Richard Gould and Joe Blancarte who attended. He wishes that more of the delegates from the NALC would show up. The Coalition of Black Trade Unionists is asking each union to pay for five (5) memberships at \$35 for regular members or half that price for retirees.
- i) Joe Blancarte makes the motion. Mary Pardo asks if we have the money for that. Dan Torres states it could come out of the Ted Carter Fund. Louise Jordan responds that there is \$223 in the Ted Carter Fund. The Motion passes. The branch will pay for three (3) regular members and two (2) retiree members.

- b) Phil Jordan, Social and Recreation Committee. The Fiesta Texas Family Fun Day was very successful. Close to 4000 people showed up.
- c) Louise Jordan, MBA. Looked into what happens to your life insurance when you turn 55 or 65 and it's not pretty. The premiums go up significantly and the amount of life insurance goes down.
- d) Mary Pardo, Health Benefits. Stressed to the carriers about staying hydrated and applying sunscreen. Spoke on the Covid vaccine and wearing your mask.

11) Good of the Association –

- a) Martha Johnsen informed the membership that audits are up to date. Timely Messenger is delayed for a month.

12) Improvement of the Service –

- a) Louise Jordan

- i) Spoke on the process for reporting Covid. If anybody is positive or living with someone that's positive for Covid they need to call the branch and the branch will send them the complete packet that they need to submit. There three things they must send to get paid leave. The member must sign an Employee Agreement Form stating that they understand that if OPM runs out of money or if there's a problem with their EFEL they will not get paid and will reimburse the post office. They must identify the one (1) reason out of the eight (8) reasons they're asking for the EFEL, provide documentation if that reason requires documentation, and they must submit a PS Form 3971. If they don't send those three (3) things the EFEL will not be approved, and the carrier won't get paid.
- ii) Gave an update on the building. The transformer is being installed by CPS and there are various tasks that need to be completed including painting, staining, a brick pad in back and landscaping to fix the CPS issue. They will also be installing a bike rack, it is a code requirement if there are more than 13 parking spaces.

- b) Richard Gould

- i) Nominations are next month for recording secretary and delegates for the 2022 National Convention. Notice was sent out to everybody by email, our newsletter, and the Postal Record. Terina Huckleby will be running the election.
- ii) JCAM's are available for \$20 and the remainder of whatever we make for them will go to the MDA.
- iii) We have officer training August 8th and August 22nd.
- iv) We are in the process at looking for tables and chairs. We want tables that are about 18 inches thick so everyone will face the stage and for events you can butt them together to make a regular sized table.

- v) The NBA's office is holding training in October at our hall.
- vi) Dennis Alltop is helping to work on a podcast that covers a few articles of the JCAM at a time.
- vii) There is a CCA meeting August 24th.
- viii) Spoke on H.R.4268 which is a bill that is meant for CCA's to buy back their time. Contact your representatives and ask them to support this bill.
- ix) Spoke on the LMOU and how the three items that were impassed were all resolved. Gave a shout out to our LMOU committee, thank you to Louise Jordan, Erin McLaughlin, Raul Reyes, Pete Velasquez, Mark Isenhour, Dennis Alltop, and we had a few people that showed up for a day as replacements, Ernest Gonzalez, Esteban Ramirez, Joseph Blancarte, and Cesar Hernandez.

13) Financial Secretary's Report of Receipts – Dennis Alltop.

- a) Nancy Feldt pointed out that there was \$40,000 more in expenditures. Also asked what was \$900 for?
 - i) Richard Gould responded we give out three \$300 scholarships.
- b) Nancy Feldt asked about building improvements.
 - i) Dennis Alltop responded that it's for continuing work.
- c) No other questions or concerns were brought up.

14) Motion to adjourn made by Gerrie Aldorf, seconded by Dennis Alltop. Motion carries.
Meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm