

AFSCME LOCAL 517

General Membership Meeting Minutes

October 15, 2025 - 12:00-1:00pm

Virtual: WebEx - See instructions below



WebEx Instructions: *Please mute your line when you are not speaking*

Join by phone:

Call-in Number: +1-415-655-0001 US Toll

Access code: 2558 832 5477

Password: 55782965

Join by computer:

Meeting Link:

<https://afscme517secretary.my.webex.com/afscme517secretary.my/j.php?MTID=mbc7ec8ae8847b5be88d7e3ec9562ba2e>

Meeting number: 2558 832 5477

Password: kKPubyNJ683

Attendees: Gina S, Danielle Johnson, Christy Aufderhar, James Wittling, Justin Dunford, Karen Brown, Stephanie Johnson, Carissta, Tami Leemon, James Wittling, Lori B, Ashley Stoner, Cydney B, Chris Fennern, Gao Lee, Madeline Nyvold, Kristine Krawczewski, Hailee Hennessy Dhein, Karen Harjes, Kathryn Bursinger, Carrie Genereux, Donna Sloan, Shannan Hendricks, Shannon Feeney, Chris Bibeau, Heather Vandenheuvel, Steven Spandl, Nichole Aguilera Torres

Agenda

- Call to Order: 12:07
- Treasurer's Report
 - Prior Month(s) review and approval
 - March Through July
 - Karen Brown motion to approve, Carrie second
 - No discussion
 - Treasurer Updates
 - Shawn will more than likely be stepping down, Shannan has expressed interest in stepping back in. Shawn has access to paperwork.
 - "Change in leadership" form has taken effect, so Ben can do the new NDAs. Once that is done we can sign off on these expense reports.
 - Motion for Shannan to be allowed to receive the allocated stipend left over from Lisa's departure until such time as she resumes the role of treasurer or as long as she is assisting in that work.
 - Ben first, Kaitlyn second
 - Motion carries
- Secretary's Report
 - Prior Month(s) review and approval
 - James Wittling motion to approve, Carrie second
- President's Report
 - Big news is Ben is president now.
 - Grievance is still at step 3, they have 9 months to decide if it should go to arbitration.
- Business Rep's Report
 - Paul Schwarz is out due to family things, new business representative's name is Paul Gammel (but not present at this meeting). Unclear whether this is permanent or temporary.
- Old Business
 - Contract Negotiations Updates
 - Ask is that washco covers the entire premium increase for healthcare.
 - Initial proposal is 6% cost of living and 6% step increase, generous PTO ask.
 - Reward for longevity!

- Ben is in a group chat with all presidents to get a consistent message.
 - Next meeting on 19th!
 - New Business
 - Recent Activities
 - Ramsey County NEO Recap
 - Solidarity Week Recap
 - Committees Discussion- Push To Next Meeting
 - Good & Welfare
 - Gift Card Drawing
 - Justin, a nonmember visitor, was accidentally put into the drawing and won first, but he had left the meeting already. It was decided that if he does happen to become a member by the next meeting, he will be eligible for a \$20 Cub gift card, but from an ethical standpoint he will not be notified of this unless he does become a member.
 - Steven Spandl winner
 - Adjourn
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Questions about the union or membership? Fill out our [contact form](#) and a local union member will be in touch.

Get involved! Visit the [Local 517 website](#) and [Facebook page](#).

Executive Board:

President: Lisa Peterson

Vice President: Ben Henry

Treasurer: Shawn Carpenter

Chief Stewards: Carrie Genereux (non-exempt) and Vacant (exempt)

Recording Secretary: Kaitlyn McCarthy

New Member Secretary: Heather Vandenheuvel

Communication Liaison: Alexea Cheatem

AFSCME Business Representative: Paul Schwarz

Contact AFSCME Council 5:

Phone: 1-800-652-9791

MAC Line: 651-450-4990

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