

OCEOTA Fall General Meeting Minutes
6:00pm
October 25th, 2023

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Meeting called to order at 6:02pm by Dixon. Introduced VP Jamieson Dyer and Exec members Alicia Szewczyk-Chan and Jessica Ho.
2. **ETFO Human Rights & Land Acknowledgment Statement:** both read by Deria.

Pat Dixon introduced Exec members Hacene Oukacine and Fadumo Deria.

3. **President Pat Dixon:**

3.1 Welcome

- Shared video from ETFO (an AD (advertisement) that ETFO is thinking of presenting) and remarks about OSTA and fund cuts in Ontario by the Ford government and how it has impacted our board specifically when there are 1500+ students who have switched boards. Cutbacks to our structures are impacting our kids-a very fearful time, and virtual learning was very difficult.

ETFO Violence Strategy:

- OCEOTA has been collecting data since 2015 and all we still have is the data. PD discussed school violence and the ETFO violent strategy and encouraged members to go on the website to look at it and read about the strategy. PD explained to members that we have an inclusionary model, and we don't have the support to maintain the inclusionary model and without support we are unable to do our jobs well as educators. We need change and apply pressure on our MPP's and possibly the board.

Israeli-Hamas War:

- PD reminded members to maintain political neutrality when it comes to the unrest in the middle east, sorting our real from not real and reminding ourselves that students may need support navigating these tough issues.
- The meeting etiquettes slide was screened for members.

3.2 President's Remarks

- Pat announced she will be retiring on Dec. 22nd and expressed that she really enjoyed her time as president of OCEOTA. Also shared her hope for advancement of OCEOTA when it comes to the board, and it has not reached where she envisioned it to be but has hope it will.

4. **Business Meeting:** Parliamentarian Leah Dobbin

4.1 Approval of Agenda. Mover: McMaster, Seconder: Walter. Motion carried
No debate.

4.2 Approval of Minutes from the last General Meeting. Mover: Deria,
Seconder: Caputo. No debate. Motion carried.

4.3 Accountant's Statement: Motion to Accept Dixon/Dyer

Open debate? Dixon passed. Motion carried.

- PD explained who our accountant, Larry Vance is and the process of approval to get the report approved and how it goes through ETFO. PD went through the material that Larry based the report on the "Engagement Report". Engagement report was screened and verbally explained by President Pat Dixon. PD discussed the levy and how it was voted by the membership last year to reduce the levy (members pay less every pay) and our income was less. The ETFO rebate is 33% of fees you pay to ETFO back to the local based on the FTE (full-time equivalent). PD discussed the OTIP rebate and explained the release time decrease compared to

previous years due to removal of David's (Previous OCEOTA President) expertise not being there, as he stayed on as Chief Negotiating Officer for OCEOTA when he retired. Q & A about the report opened to the floor-no questions from the membership.

4.4 Member's Equity Report: PD asked if anyone would like to see the report, it can be screened and that it is an information piece that covers the years from 2016-2023. Members with questions can reach out to the OCEOTA executive.

4.5 Approval of Budget: Motion to Accept Dyer/Dixon

- Budget screened for members and Dyer verbally explained the budget lines to members and members had access to the proposed budget in their Fall AGM packet. Dyer explained the increase in the social committee line.
- Q & A open to members
- **Q1: What is OLDC?**
Answer: Dyer explained that OCEOTA belongs to ODLC and we attend the meeting once a month. OCEOTA pays a fee, FTE/member and our FTE fluctuates and we pay on FTE basis not the actual # of members we have. Also, explained how OCEOTA supports other unions while they are striking. Reciprocity of unions.
- **Q2: What does the Office support budget line include?**
Answer: Dyer explained to membership that OCEOTA has 1 office administrator, 1 bookkeeper and pay support (ADP).
- Debate opened to the floor. Parliamentarian Leah Dobbin asked if there was any debate on approval of the budget? A Member asked what the ideas for social events are. And why is not that extra money being spent on the office staff? Dixon explained the pay rates for office staff. Szewczyk-Chan introduced herself to the membership as the social committee chair and explained the holiday social idea to be held at Diefenbunker and due to the cost associated with transportation and activity fees, more money will be needed. Debate closed. Approval of budget Mover: Dyer, Seconder: Dixon. Motion carried.

5. New Business

5.1 Awards Szewczyk-Chan

- Alicia awarded members with their 5-year and 10-year pins. Started with the 5-year pins and a group picture of all the winners was taken at the meeting.

5.2 By-elections on December 6, 2023

- Dixon explained the importance of keeping our federation growing and developing, information will be coming out tomorrow on OCEOTA websites and through President Updates about the by-election. There will be two 1.0 FTE Released positions (President + 1st VP), Executive Member-at-Large and other subsequent vacancies.

6. Federation Information Dixon

6.1 Collective Bargaining & Update

- Dixon explained the two bargaining tables and that ETFO bargains at 2 tables, and OCEOTA does not bargain at central. Dixon urged members to speak up about what their issues are as Occasional Teachers, and that it is best to hear directly from the members. Dixon & Dyer going to Toronto on November 7th for a strike action meeting in Toronto and will present what

will best benefit our members and our collective. Dixon explained to members we are in the conciliatory stage of bargaining and there should be something at the table for OT's and Dixon is willing to vote no if there is not something for OT's and asked members to think about what they can do for the collective.

7. Upcoming Events & Door Prize Draws Szewczyk-Chan/Deria

- Dyer explained to members the upcoming events and the list of events were screened for members on the floor.
- Upcoming events are: OCETFO running ETFO Pregnancy & Parental Workshop on Nov. 9th. OCEOTA members are invited to attend and will be invoiced by OCETFO for the meal(s) for our member. ETFO awards on ETFO website, OCEOTA By-election Meeting Dec. 6th.
- Door prize draws: Alicia and Fadumo gave out the 3 \$50 door prizes and there was 1 early registration/bird prize and an OTIP swag (lunch bag) prize.

8. Q & A

- Members asked questions about more funding for AQ's, compensations for workplace violence-Dyer discussed the importance of submitting EVIRs, and the coverage that is available to OTs. There were questions about first duty for OTs, end of day duties for OTs, misconceptions about getting a contract, Contract % vs. LTO %, inquiries and suggestions about OCEOTA investments (i.e. bonds), available BMS training for OTs, using accessible union jargon in emails and on websites, a suggestion to create a "Did You Know?" portion on the website or in the President Updates.

9. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn Mover-Kilicaslan, Seconder- Oukacine.
Motion passed.

Time adjourned: 7:52pm