

## Statewide Executive Board Meeting September 21, 2013

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Statewide Executive Board (SWEB) voted to approve the minutes from the June 8, 2013 meeting.

### COMMITTEE LISTS AND APPOINTMENTS

SWEB voted to approve committee appointments per the committee list dated September 19, 2013. For a complete list of committee members, please visit our Web site at [www.seiu668.org](http://www.seiu668.org).

### SPECIAL UEU RETIREMENT WINDOW

SWEB voted to authorize the officers to provide a special retirement window to all SEIU 668 staff from September 21, 2013 up to and including December 31, 2014.

### SEIU 668 BUDGET

SWEB voted to move \$632,903 from the Strike/Emergency fund to bring the 2013-2013 budget into balance.

SWEB voted to approve moving sufficient funds from the under spent line items to balance those items which have been overspent in the 2012-2013 SEIU 668 budget.

Also, SWEB voted to approve the fiscal year 2013-2014 SEIU 668 budget.

### SEIU 668 ELECTION TASK FORCE

SWEB voted to approve the report and recommendations of the SEIU 668 Statewide Election Task Force as amended. A copy of the report and the recommendations will be included in the 2014 Election Re:union newsletter.

### **Dear Steward Leaders (Sisters and Brothers)**

As the shutdown of our federal government unfolds, it is clear how much of a challenge we face in fighting for our fundamental rights and protections for working class Americans. As always, I thank you for your work as part of our continued and shared efforts to improve the worksites of our SEIU 668 members. But as SEIU members, we must renew our focus and attention on local and national legislative issues as well. We are gearing up for some significant actions to ensure the following local outcomes:

- The expansion of Medicaid in Pennsylvania as set forth by the provisions of Obamacare, NOT the Governor's Healthy Pennsylvania plan which would leave many of our most vulnerable residents uninsured;
- Continued enactment of responsible pension reform. This includes the pension reforms in Act 120, but NOT newly proposed cash balance plans;
- The creation of funding streams for public services and education by putting a fair severance tax on Marcellus Shale or closing the Delaware loophole;
- Arresting the advancement of Right-to-Work efforts that endanger Pennsylvania's working class; and
- Ending the Governor's privatization efforts, which would cost our state jobs.

In the coming days and months, we will also be working with our parent union on national legislative and social issues, such as educating the public about Obamacare, comprehensive immigration reform, and higher education lending reform.

As in the last Shop Steward Summary, I strongly encourage you to call, email, write and/or visit your legislators to let them know your feelings about these issues. We must continue to work together to not only protect our own interests, but we must be united in our fight to protect and preserve the rights of the working class locally and nationally.

## SS SUMMARY

To quote John F. Kennedy, "The rights of every man are diminished when the rights of one man are threatened."

On another note, in order to cut costs, we will no longer be mailing the Shop Steward Summary to your homes. Future copies of the Summary will be emailed to the address we have on file for you, and uploaded to our website. Please check with us to make sure that we have your current/preferred personal email address on file by either calling Stacey Brown at 717-635-6722 or emailing [stacey.brown@seiu668.org](mailto:stacey.brown@seiu668.org).

We will also be retooling aspects of our Local's website to ensure that you are kept more informed and can access the information you need easily. We invite you and the members at your worksite to provide comments or suggestions by emailing [local668@seiu668.org](mailto:local668@seiu668.org).

Finally, I strongly encourage you to help us increase support for the 2013 State Employee Combined Appeal (SECA) campaign to raise funds for human service and environmental charities doing work locally, nationally, and globally. This year's fundraising goal is \$3 million and a new "Leadership Giving" program will recognize those donors who give the equivalent of an hour or a half-hour of pay each month.

There are eight umbrella organizations, such as the United Way, that represent the approximately 1,000 charities that participate in SECA. And with more than 1,000 charities to choose from, there is sure to be a charity with a mission that is important to you and your co-workers. You can learn more by checking out our website or searching for "State Employee Combined Appeal" online.

Advancing the Common Good is at the core of what it means to be a Pennsylvanian. But our charitable contributions must be only a part of the way we advance the Common Good. We must educate and inform our co-workers, neighbors, relatives and friends about the key issues of our times and how they can and must get involved. Our government was shut down because our President passed a bill that would ensure that millions of our most vulnerable citizens, including seniors and children, would receive healthcare. There is no greater illustration of our need to unite and act in furtherance of the principles upon which our union and our local were founded. In the coming days and months, we will be reaching out to you with specific actions you can take to help protect your rights as SEIU 668 members as well as the rights of working class families throughout this country. I know that you will answer the call.

Thank you again for your dedication and commitment to our union.

In Solidarity,



Kathy Jellison, President  
SEIU Local 668

Visit our website for more information on how cash balance plans are more harmful than beneficial for the average worker;



SEIU 668 President Kathy Jellison (far right) at the State Employee Combined Appeal (SECA) kick-off with Pennsylvania's First Lady Susan Corbett (center).

President Jellison was "dunked" in a dunking booth to raise money for this important cause.

Please visit our website at: [www.seiu668.org](http://www.seiu668.org)