

United Teachers of Dade  
2200 Biscayne Boulevard  
Miami, Florida 33137  
UTD Executive Board Meeting

January 10, 2008

**Approved Minutes**

This regular meeting of the UTD Executive Board was called to order by President Karen Aronowitz at approximately 5:15 p.m.

**Present:** Karen Aronowitz, Fedrick C. Ingram, Artie Leichner, Sony Ambroise, Magda Brooks, Linda Cohen, Joyce Cook, Joan Cortez, Willette Cruse, Beverley Dowell, Pablo Gomez, Peggy Green, Peter Hill, Cassandra Holmes, Paul Moore, David Prince, Chris Radney, Ingrid Robledo, Wendi Werther, and Sharon Williams.

**Absent:** Valarie Johnson (excused) Thomas Nunn (unexcused) Maggie Palmer (excused) Shirley Person (unexcused) Carl Robinson (excused)

**Adoption of Agenda:** It was moved by Pablo Gomez and seconded by Ingrid Robledo to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**Minutes:**

December 6, 2007: It was moved by Magda Brooks and seconded by Joan Cortez to adopt the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

December 13, 2007: It was moved by Magda Brooks and seconded by David Prince to adopt the minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

**Agenda**

**President's Report: Karen Aronowitz**

***Legal Issues Briefing: Political Campaigns***

A power point presentation was shown to the Board members regarding the political campaigns that we are presently involved with, including a segment dealing with the do's and don'ts in accordance with School Board rules. Ms. Elsa Lopez addressed the Board members distributing informational packets which included the power point information.

Ms. Lopez reminded Board members that when they vote on January 29<sup>th</sup>, the property tax issue is under Constitutional Revision I. Elsa further stated that UTD will be asking for volunteers for phone banking, and the Board's participation will be appreciated.

President Aronowitz informed the Board that the UTD Edge will be distributed in a week and we are targeting our members to vote no, on the Constitutional Revision I. We are asking for volunteers to help in the UTD phone banking.

### ***Health Care Update***

Mr. Joe Minor explained the proposals to the Board members the tentative insurance agreement, beginning with the history of where of what initially the district had proposed and where we are right now. (Copies of the plans were distributed to the Board members). Mr. Minor reminded the Board members that in the past three years, there has been no increase in our health insurance premiums, but healthcare costs have continued to go up.

Mr. Minor stated that we are still working on the MOU, and once we have all of the information it will be placed on the UTD web site. The open enrollment if UTD members ratify the agreement would run from March 17 to April 11.

President Aronowitz stated that District officials have guaranteed the salary increases for 2008-2009. The Zone schools will change, and there will be no 20% differential and we will be back into bargaining for the Zone in terms of working conditions.

Questions/Answer session followed and it was recommended that the formulary lists be provided to members, and that a plan comparison be provided

### ***Approval of Appointees to UTD Internal Functions Committee***

President Aronowitz stated that we need to replace some members of the Internal Functions committee who are having problems attending the meetings. Therefore, she would like to nominate Linda Brent, Robin Lattier and Patty Rucker to the committee.

It was moved by Magda Brooks and seconded by Pablo Gomez to approve the nominees (Linda Brent, Robin Lattier and Patty Rucker) to the Internal Functions Committee. Motion carried.

### ***Quarterly Membership Report***

Mr. Michael Molnar distributed copies of his report, "UTD Membership Report, Second Quarter 2007-2008 School Year, and October 1-December 31, 2007" to the Board members. Mr. Molnar reported that there has been an increase in membership as a result of school visitations. Mr. Molnar explained that schools sites are chosen by the organizers who visit the sites and make the recommendations.

Board members stated that some organizers are not communicating what is happening at the sites. Mr. Molnar responded that this problem would be taken care off. It was recommended by Joyce Cook that we should be giving something to the members, perhaps pins, in appreciation of their membership in UTD.

Mr. Molnar reported that he would be meeting with the Chief of Staff to discuss awarding membership pins.

Mr. Molnar also stated that once we receive a delete letter from a member, the organizer for the site visits the school immediately.

### ***Francisco R. Walker Teacher of the Year Dinner (Reminder)***

President Aronowitz stated that this dinner will be held on January 30<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. at the Sheraton Mart Hotel. Board members who would like to attend are to contact Carmen.

It was moved by Pablo Gomez and seconded by Magda Brooks to extend the Board meeting for another 15 minutes. Motion carried.

Mr. Paul Moore addressed the Board stating that he is opposing the insurance plan, and feels that this is a concession that we are making to the school district. Mr. Moore further stated that we should reject the plan.

Questions continued, and it was moved by Peggy Green and seconded by Wendi Werther to continue letting Mr. Moore speak on the issue. Motion carried.

Mr. Moore stated that if we reject the insurance plan, then the plan would have to be imposed by the district, and the administration would then have to be blamed.

President Aronowitz reminded the Board that if the plan is rejected, then the School Board can impose a plan and not necessarily the plan that we have negotiated, but the original plan they had submitted which was completely unacceptable.


**Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Fedrick C. Ingram**

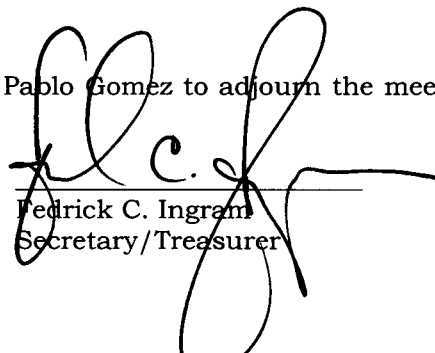
***Financial Management Review***

Secretary/Treasurer Ingram reviewed the report, "Financial Management Review as of October 31, 2007 and Year to Date" with the Board. Ms. Joan Cortez asked about the state of the lot, where are we with it. Mr. Ingram reported that we have filed the necessary legal papers to get the lot back. President Aronowitz reminded the Board members that the Judge has ten days to make a decision and then, we have to wait sixty days before the land reverts back to UTD. So, we are not owners of the property yet, but our lawyers are working on it.

**Adjournment**

It was moved by Magda Brooks and seconded by Pablo Gomez to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

  
Karen Aronowitz  
President

  
Fedrick C. Ingram  
Secretary/Treasurer