

**DCLERA Board Meeting
Minutes**

April 14, 2010
BlueCross Blue Shield Association/National Labor Office
12-1 PM

Attending: Ed Hilz, David Jacobs, Jim Kimball, Julie Martinez Ortega, Mindy Reiser, Fred Stahl, in person
Bonnie Summers by phone

Fred Stahl, DCLERA President, chaired the meeting.

1. MINUTES: The March 10 minutes were approved.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT: Julie Martinez Ortega noted that DCLERA is better off financially than two years ago. Fred explained that this is due to increases in dues and fees and new organizational members.

3. BOARD MEMBERSHIP: Julie Martinez Ortega has left American Rights at Work to become the Vice President of Policy and Advocacy at PowerPAC where one of her primary concerns will be the development of a jobs agenda. The DCLERA Board wished Julie good luck. She will continue to serve on the Board. However, Board member Chris Johansen has left Washington for a job with the Kaiser Partnership in Oakland. Julie recommended that Nancy Wiefek of American Rights at Work join the Board in his place, thereby preserving ARAW representation.

Jim Kimball so moved and Ed Hilz seconded the motion. The Board unanimously Nancy Wiefek's elevation to the Board.

4. LUNCHEON VENUES: The Women's National Democratic Club has raised rates. They now charge \$28 per luncheon plate, up from \$21. DCLERA paid a discount rate of \$17.50. The NWDC's diminishing endowment has led them to outsource catering services.

Fred Stahl has visited the National Education Association building where there is catering and an attractive conference room (the "news room"). Board member David Schlein is our NEA contact.

Unfortunately, NEA facilities are not available for the DCLERA April 28th meeting.

Fred reported that he was able to arrange accommodations for our April luncheon at the Laborers International building on 16th Street adjacent to the AFL-CIO. There is a boardroom on the top floor with mahogany tables and cafeteria catering. Sandwiches, salads, and dessert are served at \$15 per person with no room charge. The publicity is already prepared.

DCLERA can plan future luncheons at both NEA and Laborers buildings.

Bonnie Summers asked about space for a registration table at the Laborers building. Fred agreed to investigate.

Julie recommended that the NEA facilities be reserved for our May meeting. This will be done.

Board members discussed luncheon fees. Ed suggested that we charge less given the Laborers building rates. Fred proposed this fee schedule:

Member \$20

Non-members and non-registered \$25

Retirees \$15

Students \$10

No discount for on-line registration

(Later communication from Fred has reaffirmed these prices with the exception of retiree discounts.)

5. NATIONAL LABOR COLLEGE VISIT: Jim reported that ten people had called him to reserve spaces and arrange transportation. He promised to call them back before the field trip. Bonnie indicated that she would contact the NLC to confirm plans for billing for lunch. There is no cash register at NLC. DCLERA will collect fees and Bonnie will transmit to NLC.

Fred said that he would prepare a certificate to thank Lisa Hughes at NLC.

6. FUTURE LUNCHEONS: The IRA panel remains on the schedule for April 28. Jim Kimball is committed to doing the program May 26. Bonnie will confirm Josh Williams' availability on June 23. Mindy reported that Jeffrey Barton of the Potomac Job Corps Center and Edith Primrose of the DOL will likely speak on youth employment issues at the September 22 meeting. This meeting will be co-sponsored by the Kalmanovitz Initiative at Georgetown and could indeed take place at Georgetown.

David Schlein is the contact for the October 27 luncheon featuring Paco Martinez.

The November 17th International Meeting which Steven Silvia is organizing could be at the Japanese Embassy through the kind assistance of Board member Kaori Nakamura.

7. MEMBERSHIP: Fred noted that he has spoken with Kathryn Medina of the Chief Human Capital Officers Council (CHOC), a target for DCLERA recruitment. Ed suggested that Bob Tobias, former President of the National Treasury Employees, speak on labor-management partnerships at a luncheon. He could replace Williams if necessary and he would draw the CHOC community.

Board members discussed the absence of new organizational members. Revae and Fred are in touch with the Iron Workers about organizational membership.

Fred reported that recent dues payments consist of forty plus new members and forty plus renewals.

Bonnie pointed out that DCLERA recruited new members when existing members pay for their colleagues' lunch!

The Board adjourned around 1:15 PM.

David Jacobs, Secretary
April , 2010