

**Approved OEA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, January 30, 2003**

Board Members present: Visnick, Gorham, Miele, Swayne, Rendon, Ough, Mandel, Balderston, Mordecai, Ellis, Traylor, Griffin, Turner, Wong
Absent: Quintana, Allen

Members: Janice Lord-Walker, Bonnita Solberg

CTA Staff: John Grace, Bruce Colwell

Guest Members: Marla Kamiya, Tim Marshall, David Laub, Marya Alsop, Jonah Zern, Stella Collins

Call to Order 4:45pm

Guests

Marla Kamiya and Tim Marshall

Urge for members at some sites to be more mobile, informed and not demoralized. Draft flyer aimed at parents presented to board for review.

David Laub – Peace and International Relations Committee

Need for joint public presence with OUSD for rally that raises the issue of the budget in light of impending war and the drainage of resources and funds. What might federal monies otherwise be used for? Teach-ins should yield for students and teachers as much information as possible. Week of February 7th next target date for movement.

Jonah Zern

Proposed flyer demanding justice for Oakland students. Meeting planned for Monday, February 18, 2003 at Oakland High auditorium.

Stella Collins, ECE

Need for support from union base now. ECE program in jeopardy. Governor Davis' proposal that child development centers go under social services will weaken ECE program.

Motion to adopt agenda as amended approved

Treasurer's Report moved to first position under Officers' Reports.

Treasurer

John Grace

An organization called LIFETIME expressed interest in renting downstairs offices of OEA Center for \$1500 a month. This offer is not firm.

First Financial expressed an interest in installing an ATM downstairs as well.

Investment Advisor Harry Licursi wishes to rent an office upstairs for \$500/mth.

John Grace commended Mark Rendon for his contributions towards a balanced OEA budget.

Renee Swayne

OEA Fiscal Oversight Committee met locally and with CTA to put together a balanced budget. Two larger problems: Budget does not include \$140,000 check borrowed from crisis fund. We will need to go back to Rep Council. Impossible to borrow the money as previously agreed upon. No other place to make cuts. \$30,000 (borrowed for emergency purposes) more needed to be paid back as well. Difficult decisions ahead considering crisis. Conferences cut so low that we will no longer be able to afford them. Office Staff costs cuts suggested to be looked at or major dues increase.

Mark Rendon/Renee Swayne

Release Time procedure in need of overhaul. Ways to decrease release time sought. Office expenses – Electricity and paper savings needed. Concern about credit card usage voiced.

Relena Ellis - Not everyone works 9 to 3, impossible to cut release time totally. Ben Visnick presented a form (Incorrect Dues Deduction) for potential savings. A debate regarding cost saving practices followed, i.e. Release Time pros and cons, emailing literature, credit card usage and management.

Move to Approve Budget as Presented passed (Turner/Ough)

OLD BUSINESS

Motion A (Mandel/Rendon)

?? That we recommend a \$75 per member one time assessment fee, adjusted so those who are not full time be assessed less; but that we not present it to Rep Council until after the Fiscal Oversight Committee recommends specific cuts to us.

The Motion was tabled to the February 20th meeting.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

Special Motion A (Mandel/Ough)

?? That we ask \$2300/mth, of the prospective tenant for downstairs with a one-year lease. Our bottom line for settlement is \$1800/mth. with a one-year lease.

The Motion passed.

Special Motion B (Turner/Traylor)

?? That we rent an upstairs office for \$500 a month to Harry Licursi.

The Motion passed.

Special Motion C (Ough/Balderston)

?? That we organize a major Contract rally on February 26, 2003, focusing on “No Caps on Benefits,” as well as to maintain an ongoing OEA presence at all School Board meetings.

Turner and Mandel made an Amendment to the above motion.

?? That we organize a major Contract rally on February 26, 2003, focusing on “No Caps on Benefits,” as well as to maintain an ongoing presence at all School Board meetings to protect the cuts which have affected all unions.

The Amendment failed.

For – Visnick, Rendon, Mandel, Turner

Against – Gorham, Swayne, Ough, Mordecai, Ellis, Griffin, Wong

Abstain – Miele, Balderston

The Main Motion passed.

Abstain – Mandel, Turner

Special Motion D (Ellis/Visnick)

?? That the OEA Executive Board direct the OEA President to make a statement at State Council that CTA send a statement requesting that the Governor reconsider his proposal to remove the Early Childhood Education Programs out of the Education Department and to Social Services. We urge him to keep the ECE Program where it is (under Ed.).

The Motion passed.

Motion to Enter Executive Session Approved 6:38pm.

Objections to entering Executive Session – Mandel, Rendon Returned 7:45pm.

1st VP

March 4th meeting - Building Partnerships for Great Schools.

Ben Visnick presented a copy of a letter that was sent by Sheila Quintana to Judy Goff, Executive Secretary and Treasurer of the Central Labor Council of Alameda County. The letter invited Goff and representatives of all the AFL-CIO unions to attend our Executive Board meeting of February 6, 2003, to discuss a unified approach to the current fiscal crisis.

Visnick also presented a form from the Negotiation Committee documenting their approval of SB 39 (Perata).

Ben then presented literature from past OEA leadership as a possible model for communication. He stressed that alliances must be built for long term benefits.

2nd VP

Declaration of Candidacy for NEA Representative Assembly Delegate due Feb. 7th. Local RA results due by April 22nd.

Secretary

Executive Board minutes of January 16, 2003 approved.

Executive Directors' Report

Ara Prigian presented a memo (attached) detailing cases he is currently handling as well as those he has completed.

Relena Ellis commended the Executive Directors for attending Executive Board meetings, Rep Council meetings and School Board rallies.

New Business

Motion # 1 (*Visnick/Balderston*)

?? That the OEA co-sponsor the March 4th “Building Partnerships for Great Schools” conference initiated by CTA and NEA.

The Motion passed with one abstention (Mandel).

Motion # 2 (*Visnick/Gorham*)

?? That in order to facilitate communication with the membership, the Current Issues Newsletter be combined with a new OEA Advocate which will appear on a monthly basis.

The Motion passed.

No – Mordecai

Abstain – Miele

Motion # 3 (*Visnick/Ellis*)

?? That a committee of members be established to provide Professional Growth (150 Hours) Advisors to those teachers whose post 1985 credentials require the five year renewal.

The Motion passed.

Motion # 4 (*Visnick/Miele*)

?? That a professional library be established in the old OEA Board Room in order to increase OEA’s outreach to the membership. This library will include sample management plans and lesson plans for new teachers.

The Motion passed with one abstention (Gorham).

Motion # 5 (*Balderston/Griffin*)

?? That the OEA publicly state our opposition to public library closures in Oakland and participate in mobilization to preserve our libraries.

The Motion passed.

Motion # 6 (*Mordecai/Turner*)

?? That the OEA President bring a report to the next meeting of the Executive Board on the procedures of notifying alternates to State Council in a timely manner.

The Motion passed.

Adjournment 8:40pm

Minutes

Tony Miele

Secretary ^{OEA}