

MONTEREY COUNTY REGISTERED NURSES' ASSOCIATION

Tuesday, May 26, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joni Hentges, Carole Swain, Larry Katz, Lupe Bravo, Sharon Barnett, Marisa Jang, Anna Stewart Everett, Christina Marten, Georgia Sapiens, Laura Anderson, Jose Villagomez, Alida Outman, Natalie Lujan-Silva.

The meeting was called to order by Joni Hentges.

<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
1) Larry Katz	MCRNA	Sharon Barnett PHN introduced herself and had many questions regarding MCRNA. Mr. Katz presented an in depth explanation of the formation of and immediate plans for MCRNA. This included the 20 month's long journey and the culmination of the County accepting MCRNA as the bargaining unit for Registered Nurses with the stipulation that the members include ALL county Registered Nurses (not per diems).	Information
2) Laura Anderson	Posting of information	The supervisor in Labor/Delivery at NMC was not allowing the posting of any union or MCRNA memos or flyers. Mr. Katz stated that on page 8, paragraphs 5.6 of our current contract, members are allowed to post any union/association news. Members need to ask the supervisors of each unit where the designated bulletin board for such information is located. Current MOU is still valid.	Information
3) Larry Katz	Members	The County is responsible for advising us on a monthly basis of the names and pertinent information of all current Registered Nurses employed by the County. This would include names of new hires as well as those who have left.	Information
4) Joni Hentges Larry Katz	SEIU	SEIU representatives have been notifying RNs in person or by phone that they still are part of SEIU. Mr. Katz advised us that this is NOT the case. RNs employed by the County (except per diems) now are represented by MCRNA. This information should be given to anyone approaching RNs.	Information
5) Joni Hentges	Unit representation	It is imperative that each unit pick, appoint and send a representative and an alternate to the MCRNA Board meetings. This is necessary so that in the immediate future we have consistent attendance at meetings and so that meetings are efficiently run with minimal interruptions. The Executive Board has 4 members. The Board will have about 16 members, one from each unit/area. Health Department RNs-----Unit H-H,                      NMC RNs----- Unit H-N	Information
6) Joni Hentges Larry Katz	Meetings	Meetings need to be run more professionally and according to standard meeting procedures. This will include an agenda, review of minutes, old and new business and committee reports. This will assist in keeping meetings short and concise.	Information

7) Larry Katz	Liaison	Mr. Katz would like to hire someone, preferably an RN who is retired or working part time, at \$25/hour to be a liaison between RNs and Mr. Katz.--“eyes and ears” for the association. The job would entail being available to all units and areas on a regular basis so that problems can be addressed in a timely fashion and before they become complicated—assess and find pulse of the organization. The plan would be for this person to work about 10 hours/week. Moneys would come out of Mr. Katz’ pocket. Names should be given to Mr. Katz. Our group is all about representation.	Information
8) Joni Hentges Larry Katz	Committees	<p>Formation of committees will be necessary so that work can be divided among the members. Anyone having skills or interests in a particular area need to sign up.</p> <p>Committees that need to be formed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Negotiation—needed immediately as current contract is up at the end of June, issues to take to the table, may not be monetary. New contract may be for 6 months-1 year</li> <li>• Web site----needed immediately for better communication</li> <li>• Membership—to keep an updated list of who the members are as RNs is hired or leave County employment. Track comings and goings.</li> <li>• Social—so the membership can interact outside of work and get to know each other (i.e. picnics, holidays, parties, etc.)</li> <li>• Government Affairs--- persons that would keep track of and be knowledgeable about and disperse information on legislation or candidates that will affect us and our jobs. (local politics i.e. Board of Supervisors) May also include writing letters to the editor.</li> </ul> <p>If the other County Departments choose to “extend” the current contract, this will not affect us.</p>	To be address at next meeting
9) ) Joni Hentges	Mass mailing	Another mass mailing will be done prior to the next meeting. Items to be included: Committee formation and need for volunteers—negotiating and website committees need to be formed immediately; stress that we are the exclusive bargaining unit for Monterey County RNs—Natividad and Health Department; need to find a representative and an alternate for each unit/area so we have a full complement of board members.	Information

Meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, June 10 from 5:30-7:30 in the Natividad Room behind the gift shop at Natividad Medical Center.  
Mr. Katz can be contacted by email or phone. He is available 24/7.

Submitted by Carole Swain, Secretary