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WCCFT Membership Meeting February 5, 2020 Minutes

1. The minutes of the December 4, 2019 meeting were approved.
2. The agenda was approved.
3. Frank Frisenda, President, Nassau Community College Federation of Teachers, gave a presentation on the importance of VOTE-COPE. Forms were available for faculty to complete.
4. Jim Werner gave an update on contract negotiations. At the last session the administration stated that the counseling issue was a lynchpin. Our negotiation team is working on a possible solution using suggestions from the Dec. 12th Advising Redesign. Questions followed.
After a break for lunch, Jim presented the results of the action survey.
5. Reports and Updates:
 - a. Jim attended the NYSUT Higher Ed Policy Council Meeting. He reported on the proposed Executive State Budget. SUNY funding is flat. NYSUT is asking for a permanent floor for the funding and an FTE increase.
 - b. Higher Education Lobby Day: Jim attended and circulated with the group from FIT. In the fall we will start making plans for a bigger WCCFT presence next year.
 - c. Election of NYSUT Representative Assembly (RA) Delegates: Richard Courage and Claudia Cardoso were elected unopposed.
 - d. New NYSUT dues policy: Some members who work at more than one institution may be overpaying. In future NYSUT will refund any amount over the full annual dues.
 - e. Rowan Lindley presented NYSUT's materials on the Census 2020 and encouraged everyone to encourage their students to apply for census jobs and to complete the census.
 - f. Rowan reported on the current TRS reporting situation. There is an issue regarding whether pensions would decrease for those who vest if we change to the new method. Deirdre and Rowan will be attending a seminar next week with TRS and the WCC administration. Teaching adjuncts who are members of TRS should watch their email as we may be asking for information from them.

- g. Raji Karve reported on the “First Fridays” adjunct gatherings. The next one is on February 7th.
- h. Scholarship Committee (Robin Graff): Ellen Zendman, reporting for Robin, said that the Scholarship Committee had received donations of \$735 making a total of \$1235. Please send donations to Robin.
- i. Solidarity Committee (Frank Maddalena): The committee’s goal is to foster better understanding between full-time and adjunct faculty. The committee has met. Some suggestions are a panel discussion at a member meeting, a monthly round table, and different venues for meetings. Frank is willing to attend department meetings,

6. Member Comments and Questions.
The reasons for low enrollment were discussed.
Bottle and cans should be recycled.

7. New Business: None

8. Adjournment at 12:45 pm.

Minutes recorded by Rowan Lindley