

Branch 56 8-4-22  
General Meeting Minutes August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Roll Call:** Excused – J. Adkins, T. Casey, M. Dekker

**Minutes from last meeting:** M - M. Schregardus to accept the minutes as written. M2 – D. Ryder. No discussion, Approved.

**Communications:** None

**Bills and Notifications:** M – Head Trustee J. Burns reviewed and recommended to pay the bills out of the appropriate funds. M2 – M. Schregardus. No discussion, Approved.

**New Members:** Read by A. Helsley, P Betts, C. <sup>Forzley</sup> Gorsly, T. <sup>Gillinen</sup> Gillian, J. <sup>Juras</sup> Jurask-M – C. Smith to accept new members into membership. M2 – M. Schregardus. No discussion, Approved.

**Unfinished Business:** J. Noel, Landscape company came out and replaced the plants that died. The window cleaning company cancelled due to a positive covid case and will contact to reschedule. Windows and carpets should be completed before the fall hopefully. Still waiting on timers for the sign out front. The electrician arrived but never gave us a notice he was coming so we could give him access.

**Committee Reports:** M. Schregardus - Golf Outing, need to contact Randy to verify the food costs, more prizes came in, sent out a bunch of letters but not much has come in. 17 paid teams, 27 confirmed teams, almost filled. C. Smith asked if the sign-up flyer for golf is posted on website? President Helsley did forward the flyer to webmaster D. Braska. The sign-up sheet was not in newsletter either, only the raffle tickets and the announcement of the golf outing. Newsletter – was bigger than usual and overdue for sure. Webmaster should use initiative and be proactive. He receives notification if anyone contacts the branch thru the website. Retiree dinner – Date Sept 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Discussion about why is it not Tuesday night instead of Sunday. Please fill out registration form for dinner – currently at about 40 coming. M. Schregardus still owes \$10.00 for his guest. Confirm J. Noel sent in his form and check. Member R. Lange showed – was informed he could stay as a silent observer but could not speak. C. Smith inquired about everything good with the picnic? R. McCoy is pulling the sign up sheets to get a count of those attending. Discussion about lack of participation but the branch is trying.

**New Business:** J. Noel asked the question about getting the hall thermostats controlled by our cellphones. About \$200.00 to get them set-up. That's to run another wire. 3 have a wire ran and 1 other does not. Would still need to buy new thermostats. J. Noel will look into the cost. R. Lange was informed again he must remain silent and can not make a motion.

**Improvement of the Service:** Discussion about the new route adjustment and if GR is included. President Helsley updated the board that 49534 and 49512 was selected by

Postal HQ to be included in the Fall Selection. Depends if the teams can get to them this Fall, may get pushed to the Spring. National Level Dispute for selecting routes already. Only doing 271Gs right now. Discussed some things the team reviews using the new process. M. Schregardus asked if there was any word about using the scanner for clocking in and out. Our district is not selected until next spring.

**Good of the Union:** Not announced yet but Kalamazoo has been selected for combining carriers into one big unit. General discussion, possibly ready by Jan 2023. Branch 794 out of Big Rapids wants to Merge with Branch 56. General discussion, mass mailing for Oct 6<sup>th</sup> vote. J. Noel asked what's the cost? Branch 794 informed President Helsley they have enough funds to cover any liability before merging. Discussion about Webex for them to attend meeting due to the distance. Would require a by-laws change. Question about supplies to complete the mailing. 30 members in Branch 794 which includes 9 retirees. Bobby Cardenas retired from Wyoming. J. Nink and J. Thorpe is next to retire next month.

**Health Benefits:** M Schregardus – Monkeypox has been declared an emergency. Discussion, wear sunscreen.

**Financial Report:** Read by A. Helsley July 2022 total funds \$19,847.08 M – M. Schregardus to accept the Financial Report as read, M2 – J. Burns, Approved.

**Treasurer Report:** Read by C. Smith July 2022 total funds \$415,254.37 M – J. Noel to accept the Treasures Report as read, M2 – J. Burns, Discussion, Approved.

M – J. Noel to pay the building Summer taxes out of the Checkbook fund instead of the Building Fund, M2 – M. Schregardus, Approved.

M – D. Ryder to Adjourn, M2 – A. Helsley, Approved.

Meeting lasted 47:52