

Conference Call Minutes April 21, 2011

Present: Al L. 909, Brett L. 1700, Dianne L. 22, Frank L. 909, Irv, Judy, L. 600, Martha L. 876, Nick, Ron, L. 600, and Wendy L. 22

1) Strategy for Negotiations – discussion about article in press saying UAW wants early negotiations and wants GM as the target. Decision to put out leaflet commenting – union leadership has decided to maintain two-tier and this is wrong. Ford should be the target and not GM if the union leadership really wants to win back concessions made. Some temps will be made permanent but companies will be allowed to continue policy of new temps in the future. If GM is target, workers should vote no to force union leadership to go to Ford. Utilize website to promote leaflet ideas and vote no. Committee for a draft leaflet: Dianne, Frank, and Nick. Retirees should do plant gate distribution where we don't have people on the inside. Circulate over internet to get broader in-plant distribution. Organize a picket 1st day of negotiations.

2) Martha's proposal - For a "peoples tribunal" on the effect of two-tier and multi-tier. At the meeting during the convention, heard moving descriptions of the horrors of unequal pay. An all-day event with a wide range of testimony on the effects of two-tier. A "prosecutor" could develop the case and a panel of "judges" could render a verdict. Discussion – Nick gave an example of testimony. Al – would be good if Jobs w Justice would do it but they won't. Frank – scale it down, have written testimony, put up on website, have press conference. Judy – do petition against two-tier. Ron – have picket and judge from there whether interest in speak-out. Frank – interviews could be videos. Strategy committee to discuss further – Al, Frank, Martha and Wendy. Report to next conference call Thurs., May 7th, 7 pm.

3) Frank's project – Plan for demo May 1st, 2012, community labor alliance promoting light rail, and plant conversion to green products to deal with climate change with Michigan Peace Action Council and Detroit Peace and Justice, town hall in the fall. Will keep us informed – general support

4) Martha – buttons, T-shirts and bumper sticker sales going well in the plant, campaign to work less than 40 hours so that no one would be laid off by janitors working for caravan knight for about \$15 an hour was possibly influenced by the distribution.

5) Wendy - UAW truck drivers who have been picketing Poletown see possible progress in negotiations to return lay-off workers to work.

Wendy