

# Minutes of the Autoworker conference call of December 18, 2011

Present on the call: Ron Lare 600 Wendy Thompson 22 Frank Hammer 909 Peggy Cicinelli 1112 Nick Waun 1112 Scott Houldieson 551 Judy Wraight 600 Dianne Feeley 235 Martha Grevatt 869 George Windau 12 Brett Ward 1700 Reggie Kendrick 600

**Auto show demonstration:** Will be Sunday, January 8, 1:30-3:00 PM. Positive feedback on leaflet, concern about length, Frank and Martha will work on cutting about 100 words. We won't solicit endorsers due to the time factor but will reach out to groups whose issues we are addressing. We will discuss plans for the meeting after the rally at the Anchor Bar at our next meeting. A news release will be drafted. Next year is the 75th anniversary of the Flint sit-down and the 80th anniversary of the Ford Hunger March.

**The rally for the Cooper Tire workers,** who are members of the Steelworkers, drew several hundred. The determination of the workers was inspiring but it will take a lot to win. There are replacements inside the plant. They mainly make truck tires so it's uncertain how much we would be able to do at the auto show to build a boycott. A delegation from Michigan left from the Steelworkers hall in Taylor.

**One member, one vote campaign.** Scott is preparing a leaflet which he will send out to the list, and is working on language for an amendment based on the Steelworkers model. This will be compared to the amendment proposed by Jerry Tucker in 1992. It is not too early to begin building this campaign, including setting up committees in locals. Also we can think about other convention issues we want to build for.

There will be time to discuss these issues at the autoworker meeting at the Labor Notes conference.

**Chrysler skilled trades appeal.** Appellants had a phone conference with Attorney Ellis Boal. Will confirm denial of request to view minutes of the conference call that led to decision to ratify the contract over trades objections. Will try to finalize the Statement of Reasons for appeal and submit it this week, before holidays. George describe the harassment of him by management at Jeep in Toledo, and need to fight back. There is a hostile atmosphere at Chrysler with workers being disciplined on false charges.

**Next call:** Monday, January 2, 7:30 PM.

**Workers will be losing legal services the end of 2013** and there will be no new cases after 2012. We can advise members to wrap up their legal business while they still have the service and closer to the cutoff we can advise them of an alternative, which is called Legal Shield, formely Prepaid Legal Services.

Meeting Adjourned.

Martha Grevatt

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