



**New York City DC 37 Retirees Association  
General Membership Meeting Minutes  
July 25, 2024, at 10AM (held virtually via Zoom)**

The moderator began the meeting at 10AM and introduced Administrator, Ann Widger began the meeting. Widger gave welcome remarks and called the meeting to order. Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence and reflection for those we have lost was led by Administrator Widger.

**REMARKS from Letitia James**

Ann Widger introduced Letitia James, New York State Attorney General, who spoke of the importance of protecting your rights as union members by electing Kamala Harris for President of the United States and other New York state candidates this fall.

**REMARKS from Henry Garrido**

Ann Widger introduced Henry Garrido, Executive Director of District Council 37, who seconded Attorney General James' remarks about the importance of electing Vice President Kamala Harris as President of the United States this fall. He then went on to discuss the opening of the official DC 37 office at 125 Barclay Street, which will open hopefully in October. There will be a ribbon cutting celebration at the end of October.

**REMARKS from Brian McDonnell**

Ann Widger introduced Brian McDonnell, New York State Political Director for AFSCME, who gave a presentation about the New York State House races that must be won to flip the house.

AFSCME is working to put a New Yorker in the Speaker's Chair with Hakeem Jeffries. Through AFSCME's five New York State affiliates, there is a lot of density in the following five house races that are being focused on: Congressional District 1 (John Avlon D), Congressional District 3 (Tom Suozzi D), Congressional District 17 (Mondaire Jones D), Congressional District 18 (Pat Ryan D), Congressional District 22 (John Mannion D). There will be a lot of activity that we are doing to flip the house, so please stay tuned for more information about them. McDonnell took a few questions about these races.

### **REMARKS from Norman Isaacs**

Ann introduced Norman Isaacs, the Benefit Coordinator, who works at the DC 37 Health and Security Fund. First, he reminded the change of office if you need Health and Security Services is in person at 420 West 45<sup>th</sup> Street and taking new people in person that this address. Please update Health and Security with your current information: marital status, new address, update them with beneficiary information. More information can be found at [https://www.dc37.net/benefits/benefits\\_all](https://www.dc37.net/benefits/benefits_all). Please be sure to update your Beneficiary Information if you are looking to change your Beneficiary at dc37.net and fill out the Change of Beneficiary form [here](#). The Audiology Department operates out of 115 Chambers Street. 212-791-2126 with Audiology help. Norman did a reminder about the enhancement made by the fund to the optical and dental benefits.

*Optical Benefit Increase:* Effective February 1, 2024, all participants will now have a \$250 optical benefit to be utilized every 24 months based on your last date of service for all optical services. There are three ways to use your Optical Benefit: request an Optical Voucher, Optical Direct Reimbursement or a combination of both. Sunglasses fall under optical benefits. More information can be found [here](#) or by calling 212-815-1234.

*Enhanced Dental Benefits:* Beginning February 1, 2024, dental coverage was expanded to cover 105 additional dental procedures with cost sharing and price protection as well as

enhancing the coverage of five existing dental services – periapical X-rays, periodontal cleanings (up to 4 per year), occlusal guard, posterior composites and root canals – at 100% (up to the \$1,700 annual maximum) when you visit a Delta Dental dentist within the preferred Delta Dental network.

Any inquiries about DC 37 Health and Security Fund benefits should be directed to them by calling 212-815 -1234. Isaacs took a few questions about these benefits.

### **REMARKS from Rhonna Bonsu**

Ann introduced Rhonna Bonsu, DC 37 liaison to the Central Labor Council for the DC 37 Retirees Association. The official New York City Labor Day Parade will be held on September 7<sup>th</sup>. If you are coming to the Grandstand you must have a ticket, so please contact Rhonna via. First there is a labor service in the morning at Saint Patrick’s Cathedral on 5<sup>th</sup> Ave (between 50<sup>th</sup> and 51<sup>st</sup> streets) at 8:30AM. The parade steps off from 44th Street & Fifth Avenue at 10:00AM, marching North to the Grandstand at 64th Street.

### **Administratorship Update from Ann Widger**

Ann Widger gave an update on the Retirees Association Administratorship. She said the dates for future meetings have been scheduled out to the year's end and are available on the website.

The AFSCME International Convention is taking place August 10<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>. There will be DC 37 Retirees Association members at this meeting representing the association.

There have been a record number of Retirees (almost 400) sign up for Education classes and we are creating additional sections so those who sign up can participate. A reminder that these classes will be virtual this fall but will hopefully be in person this next year. There is more information about signing up on our website.

Please remember to go to [AFSCME.org/vote](https://AFSCME.org/vote) to get more information on how to get involved with the elections mentioned earlier and to check your voter registration status!

### **Financial Update from Terri Brady**

Terri Brady, Deputy Administrator of the DC 37 Retirees Association gave the financial report.

The financial statements mentioned will be available on the Associations website. The statements are unaudited at this time. She gave a report from January 2024-June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 stating that the association's total revenue is \$496,756.13 which accounts for \$457,169.32 in dues income. For 2024, we spent \$470,190.68 in expenses, leaving the Association with a surplus of \$26,565.45. Statement of Financial Position as of June 30<sup>th</sup> which states the total assets are \$3,808,572.58. The Association's Liabilities are \$22,503.76 leaving the Association with equity of \$3,786,016.60.

### **CLOSING REMARKS**

Widger noted that we would follow up on any unanswered questions after the call. Anyone with further questions can call the Retirees Association office from 9:00AM - 5:00PM at 212-815-1781 or email [retassn@dc37.net](mailto:retassn@dc37.net). The meeting was adjourned.