

**London Ambulance Service Unison Branch
Committee Meeting**

18th March 2009 1400hrs Union Jack Club

Present: Eric Roberts –Branch Secretary
Eddie Brand – Chair
Sarah Hardy – Vice Chair
George Achilles – Treasurer
Fred Phillips – Membership Assistant
Dave Smith - Membership Officer
Mark Belkin – Education Officer
Rob Sydney - Communications
Peter Hannell – Diversity/Equality Officer
Mark Lione – East Central Sector
Gary Edwards – West Sector
David Lamey – South West Sector
Nadine Poonawala – North West Sector
Karen Walling – West Sector
Richard Chow – EOC
Andrea Gibbs - Welfare
John Winnister – Health and Safety (for Ian Lee)
Clive Tombs – South East Sector
Julie Shirt – North East Sector
Tim Stephens – Central Sector

Apologies: Michael Apps
Claudette McNaughton
Paul O’Neill
Ian Lee
John Gough
Harry Day
Rob Mathews
Phil Thompson

Introductions and Welcome:

Previous Minutes:

- Minutes from 10th February 2009 agreed as a true record.

Matters arising:

- None

Branch Secretary’s Report (ER)

- Legal report and running total of compensation distributed. Compensation totalling £121,967.94 has been awarded to LAS Unison Branch members since March 2008. £1,348,317.06 of compensation has been obtained by the branch on behalf of its members since 1999.
- The result of the Branch Secretary election was reported to the Committee. Eric Roberts re-elected. The Branch Committee congratulated ER and agreed the result is good news for all union members in the LAS.

- Branch assessment report was distributed to everyone.
- Thanks received for donations to the Magical Tour Taxi.
- Retirement grant request received on behalf of Paul Leggett from EOC, for retirement function.
- (ER) reminded branch that the chief of the Cuban Ambulance Service is going to be visiting the LAS next week. **(Since this meeting the visit has been cancelled).**
- AGM is this evening at the Union Jack Club 1800hrs
- National conference delegates were elected, female delegate is Claudette McNaughton, the male delegate is Peter Hannell.

Partnership Forum/Constitution (ER)

- Station Elections are now taking place. EB is overseeing all elections and will arrange Sector meetings in April/May. ER & EB as Secretary and Chair of Staff Council will attend all Sector meetings.

Foundation Trust Update

- (ER) attended program board meeting about the trusts application to become a foundation trust as per agreement at Staff Council.

Branch Officers Reports

Staff Council (EB)

- **(EB)** still waiting for last staff council minutes.

Labour Link (JG)

- The Branch Committee sent their good wishes to John Gough and hoped he makes a swift recovery. ER told the Committee that he had spoken to John and passed on the union's thoughts.

Diversity/Equalities (PH)

- Verbal report.

Membership (ML/DS)

- List of new members agreed into the branch. Recruitment is high and new members of staff are seeing the true benefits of belonging to UNISON as the foremost dedicated Health Union within the LAS.

Education (MB)

- (MB) thanked (ER) for all his support this year and informed the Committee of his plans for this coming year.

Treasurer Report (GA)

- Financial returns have now been sent off

EOC (RC)

- Elections taking place.

Health and Safety (IL)

- (JW) reported that new dress code policy is still under discussion.
- (JW) new infection control procedures are being discussed.

Regional Officer (PT)

- PT unable to attend meeting.

Welfare (AG)

Verbal report

Retired Members (MA)

Verbal report

Communications (RS)

Verbal report

AOB

- (MB) members of staff have complained about the individual performance bonus, and how it was monitored.
- (CT) Everyone has to challenge their own bonus.
- ER explained the Union's position regarding bonus schemes.

Date of next meeting 14th April 2009 (Branch Officers Meeting)