



OPEIU LOCAL #9

Newsletter



For Bulletin Board Posting

MARCH 2010

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**PLEASE NOTE
MEETING LOCATION**

**General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, March 16, 2010
5:00 p.m.**

(please note new time)

**Iron Workers Local 8
12034 West Adler Lane
Milwaukee, WI**

Note New Time For General Membership Meeting

At the February Executive Board meeting it was voted on to move the time of the March General Membership meeting to 5:00 p.m. There was discussion that by holding the meeting at 5:00 p.m. more members would hopefully be able to come from their work site to the meeting and participate. We will be looking for feedback from members about this change.

Date Changed For Election Of Delegates To The OPEIU International Convention

Delegates to the OPEIU International convention will be elected at the April 20th general membership meeting. This change was made because of the uncertainty of the dates and location of the convention. Local 9 has now learned that the convention will be held in Washington, DC at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, commencing on June 21, 2010.

The Local 9 Executive Board has authorized that 5 delegates be elected at this meeting. (5 is the maximum number of delegates allowed per Local under the International's constitution.) A delegate must be a member in good standing for twelve months prior to the convention.

Delegates will be expected to arrive in DC on Saturday, June 19th with departure on Friday, June 25th. While the actual convention will not convene until June 21st, there will be an Educational Conference on Sunday, the 20th.

Always Remember Your Weingarten Rights

It is important for union members to remember that they have the right to representation by their steward or Business Agent during conversations with their employer which could lead to discipline or termination. If you believe the conversation is disciplinary in nature, follow these steps as outlined by Weingarten Rights:

Demand Union Representation

You must ask for representation before or during the interview. Management does not have to inform you of this important right.

Refuse To Proceed Without Union Representation

The questioner must be told of your desire for representation so your refusal to cooperate is not seen as insubordination. If management refuses to allow you representation, stay in the room but remain silent.

Don't Make Any Written/Verbal Statement Of Guilt Or Innocence

You cannot be forced to make a statement. The best response is NO statement—claiming innocence is considered to be a statement.

Do Not Waive Your Right To Representation

If you begin questioning without representation, you have waived your rights and any statements can be used against you.

INTERROGATION STATEMENT OF RIGHTS

“If this discussion could in any way lead to my being disciplined or terminated, or affect my personal working conditions, I respectfully request that my Union Steward or Business Agent be present at this meeting. Without representation, I choose not to answer any questions.”

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS APPROVED

The Proposed Amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws, dated, January 19, 2010 , was voted on and approved at the February 16, 2010 , Membership Meeting. The Approved Bylaw Proposal is available on our website at www.opeiu9.org . As soon as we receive International approval of these changes, the current Constitution & Bylaws (also available on the website) will be updated.

Lori Schmidt, Chair

Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Milwaukee Area Labor Council Delegate Spots Open

There are five open spots for an OPEIU Local 9 member to fill on the Milwaukee Area Labor Council. Anyone interested in serving in this capacity should contact the Local office so the Executive Board can appoint you.

Member Death Benefit

In the event of the death of an active member of Local 9 who was in good standing at the time of death, a death benefit shall be given to the eligible person designated by the member. The death benefit shall be as follows:

New member up to five years of membership--\$500; Member for five years up to ten years--\$1,000; Member for ten years up to fifteen years--\$1,500 and Member for fifteen or more years--\$2,000.

Only active members under a Local 9 contract are eligible for this benefit, so long as their dues are current. The member must have a designated recipient of the benefit on file at the Local 9 office. Forms are available on the Local 9 website.

As always if you have any problems do not hesitate to call or email the office.

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