

SEIU Local 517M Notice of Election

Please be advised that SEIU Local 517M will be holding elections for officers and board members this year. If you are interested in running for a union office, Candidate Petition Forms and available leadership positions will be listed on the SEIU Local 517M website. Petition Forms will be accepted between July 6 and July 27, 2009. You will receive a postcard in the mail the week of August 17th with your voting ID and the procedures for electronic voting over the Internet. **SAVE THIS CARD.** For those wishing to vote using a paper ballot, please follow the instructions on the postcard for requesting one. Electronic Voting begins August 19, 2009 and ends at Noon on October 5th. For election information and to get a copy of the Candidate Petition Form, go to: <http://www.seiu517m.org>

Union Meets With Lt. Governor on State Government Initiative

Executive Vice President Phil Thompson along with representatives from each of the other state employee unions met with Michigan's Lt. Governor John Cherry on Tuesday, June 30th to discuss the "STREAMLINING STATE GOVERNMENT" initiative that was referenced in his email to all state employees and their unions on May 26th. There were a series of questions about the "Seven Core Functions" of government as described in his communication to the employees as well as an opportunity for Union representatives to discuss concerns and issues that should be addressed at future meetings.

Local 517M encourages all of our state employee members to submit comments, ideas and responses back to Lt. Governor Cherry at <http://connect.michigan.gov> or ltgovcherry@michigan.gov for a response.

Please watch our SEIU website for important updates regarding future meetings.

Change That Works Campaign in Full Swing

SEIU Local 517M has 4 members out on leave with the International to help gain support for National Health Care Reform and the Employee Free Choice Act. One of these members is Jeanette Barnett from Saginaw Public Schools. She is located in Evansville, Indiana. Below is an update from her describing what she did the day of June 11th.

My day started with a conference call. I am at the office by 10:00 a.m. Today, I am training 2 new staffers for Evansville. They are not comfortable with their knowledge of facts concerning the Employee Free Choice Act. So we are role playing and I am answering any questions they have.

Read the rest of the story at:

http://www.seiu517m.org/Change_That_Works_Campaign_in_Full_Swing.aspx

SEIU Members Shine as Department Wins Telly Awards

The Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth's Division of Media Technology just won 4 Telly Awards for their 2008 cable television shows. Sue Willers, a Technical Unit member, is the Director and editor of the shows. Alison Rodgers, a Technical Unit member, designed the sets. The shows that won were Consumer's Corner, The Job Show, The Job Show for Teens and House Michigan. The Telly Award is a prestigious, national video production award. The Telly Awards honor the very best local, regional, and cable television commercials and programs, as well as the finest video and film productions, and work created for the Web. The mission of the Telly Awards has been to strengthen the visual arts community by inspiring, promoting, and supporting creativity. Congratulations on the awards and showcasing the skills that public employees have to offer the citizens of Michigan.

Scientific and Engineering Unit Goes to Arbitration Over Meal Reimbursements

The Union is fighting many of the meal receipt requirement issues and went to arbitration on June 23, 2009 over the "brown bag" denial. We believed we were clear at the bargaining table to make sure that when an employee purchased food prior to the day of travel they could still be reimbursed if they provided grocery receipts. The Department of Management and Budget came out with an answer on their Question and Answer Sheet to the contrary. The Department of Natural Resources and State Police are both permitting some form of this practice. Additionally, we have grievances filed over denying using a credit

card receipt and bulk purchases. Updates can be found on the websites on the outcome of these grievances. Contact Cindy Mason at cmason@seiu517m.org for more information.

Registration for the SEIU Local 517M Golf Outing Ends July 24th

The SEIU Local 517M Golf Outing is being held on Thursday, August 6, 2009 at the Wheatfield Valley Golf Course in Williamston. Cost per foursome is \$280. Contact Dave Corrie for more information at corried@seiu517m.org. You can get the registration form on our website at: http://www.seiu517m.org/SEIU_517M_Golf_Outing.aspx

SEIU Local 517M Annual Meeting

The SEIU Local 517M Annual Meeting will be a "backyard picnic" theme and will be held on Thursday, July 23, 2009 at the Local 517M Lansing Office on Michigan Avenue. There will be an abbreviated Executive Board meeting, special guests and great food and fellowship. The Board meeting starts at 11:00 a.m. with the afternoon program starting at around 1:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Cindy Wilson at 517.482.1737 / 866-517.SEIU or cwilson@seiu517m.org by **July 8th**.

2009 Labor Night at the Lansing Lugnuts

The Greater Lansing Labor Council is sponsoring a Labor Night at the August 15th Lansing Lugnut baseball game. Deadline for registration is July 31st. For more information visit: <http://www.seiu517m.org/admin/Assets/AssetContent/87657323-d468-4ff7-a068-4d93028fed5f/546bfa9e-94e2-495f-9d30-54cc81f55e47/ae5876b4-ef53-4f70-9ae4-4c29d85a46bb/1/lugnuts09.pdf>