

# **DCSMEC UPDATE/NEWSLETTER**

Dear Members:

Greetings from the Officers, staff and myself, Joe Cortese your Assistant Business Agent. Things around DCSMEC have been very busy and there is a lot of information I need to pass on to you, the members.

First a reminder that there is a regular Membership meeting scheduled for March 1, 2012 at 4:30pm at the ***Firefighters Hall, 8000 NW 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Miami, FL 33122***. Along with the regular agenda items there will be (under a special order of business) a second vote of 2 By-Law Resolution which pass the first reading along with four (4) new Resolutions. These four (4) new Resolutions were written and prepared by myself and are in conjunction with the final recommendations of the Policy and Procedure Committee and also what I believe was clearly indicated at the last regular Membership meeting on how you would like to elect vacant officer positions. A short overview of these Resolutions is as follows:

- The 1<sup>st</sup> Resolution is to “create a nomination and election system to allow the membership to choose their top Officers’ “.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Resolution will be voted on as a package and will alter the job descriptions of the Business Agent and Assistant Business Agent to create a better balance of responsibilities and accountability. These resolutions along with the 4<sup>th</sup> Resolution are in-line with the recommendations of the Polity and Procedure Committee.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> Resolution is to create a permanent “Trustee Review and Oversight Committee.

All of the Resolutions, a copy of the By-Laws and a copy of the final draft of the Policy and Procedure Committee recommendations are attached to this newsletter.

The next item is that last night, February 15, 2012 the DCSMEC Executive Board Officers’ unanimously called for a Special Executive Board meeting to “discuss and/or adopt the final recommendations from the Policy and Procedure Committee” and to review the newly submitted By-Laws. A motion was made by me, Joe Cortese and seconded by Luis Pla, Jr., to adopt

all the recommendations without any changes. The seven (7) elected DCSMEC Executive Board Officers voted unanimously to adopt the recommendations however the eleven outside Business Agent Executive Board members voted unanimously to “**NOT**” accept these recommendations; I will (regardless of the vote) adhere to the recommendations.

Moving on to the next item, as you should know by now we have (by a 70% + Ratification Vote) accepted the new health insurance plan which will go into effect on April 2012. Unlike other years everyone must enroll, (even if you are not going to change anything). As soon as we get more information on the time and dates of the open enrollment and schedules and locations of the Representative from Risk Management, we will forward that information on.

Next I want to remind DCSMEC members that the Union will again be offering (***to members only***) three different supplemental Insurance options. A separate flyer is attached and we will have representatives available during open enrollment.

Last I would like to announce that 24 unit members were reinstated to 100% pay this month. We are posting an updated list on this site.

I would like to thank you for reading this rather long Newsletter and encourage you to please come to the March 1, 2012 regular Membership meeting.

Fraternally,

  
Joe Cortese

*February 16, 2012*