**PEF Region 8 PAC Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, August 9 2022**

**6:00 PM Zoom Meeting**

**Attendees:** Danielle Bridger, Martin Robinson, Mike Kuzia-Carmel, Carmela Triolo, Margaret Ann, Mario Chiarello, Daniel McCormack, Leah Golby, Chris O’Neill, Lai-Yee Yau, Kelly Nadeau, Yvonne Ficke, Catherine DellAngelo, Kate Richardson, Gustavo Rivera, Ray Moroz, Mickey Dobbin, Herb, Josh, Michael, MParish, Josephine, Ken Ferro, Jeanetter Santos, Diane, Jill H

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

* Danielle Bridger called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

1. **ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

* Danielle Bridger shared the meeting agenda with the group and made a motion to accept the agenda as written. Catherine DellAngelo and Jeanette Santos seconded the motion. The motion to accept the agenda as written was carried by unanimous consent.

1. **APPROVAL OF REVISED MAY MINUTES**

* The acceptance of the revised minutes from the May 2022 meeting was discussed. Chris O’Neill had provided suggested edits earlier today. Danielle Bridger stated that the acceptance of the May 2022 meeting minutes will be tabled until the September meeting.

1. **CANDIDATE ENDORSEMENTS**

* Danielle stated that the purpose of this meeting is to vote on candidate endorsement for two local primaries within Region 8. The upcoming primaries were made necessary due to the recent redistricting. The two races for which the committee will be voting to make endorsements are the 20th U.S. Congressional District Democratic Primary and the 46th NYS Senate District. These primaries are scheduled for Tuesday, August 23.

***20th U.S. Congressional District (Democratic Primary)***

* In the 20th U.S. Congressional District Democratic Primary, the candidates are Paul Tonko and Rostislav Rar. Paul Tonko is the incumbent, and provided answers to the PEF Legislative Questionnaire. Mr. Rar did not provide answers to the PEF Legislative Questionnaire, but completed a profile on ballotpedia. Jeanette Santos made a motion to endorse Paul Tonko and Margaret Ann seconded the motion. Chris O’Neill asked if there was a quorum present? Yes, Danielle indicated that a quorum is at least one member from five different agencies. Chris asked if Mr. Tonko is being challenged from the left (Yes). Mickey Dobbin gave a brief overview of Mr. Rars’ platform. Mario Chiarello also seconded the motion to endorse Mr. Tonko.
* The committee voted virtually on the motion to endorse Paul Tonko in the 20th U.S. Congressional Primary as follows:
  + Aye for Paul Tonko: 15 votes
  + Abstain: 4 votes
* The motion to endorse Paul Tonko in the 20th U.S. Congressional Democratic Primary was carried with 15 members voting aye and 4 abstentions.

***46th NYS Senate District (General Election)***

* In the 46th NYS Senate District Race, the two candidates are Michele Hinchey and Sue Serino. Danielle Bridger clarified that this endorsement is for the general election and not a primary. Danielle shared the responses to the PEF Legislative Questionnaire provided by both candidates. Margaret Ann made a motion to endorse Michele Hinchey and Diane seconded the motion. Martin Robinson stated that Ms. Serino had expressed support for ceding some hiring authority to management. Chris O’Neill stated that he would like to hear from some PEF Region 9 staff. Dan McCormick from PEF Region 9 expressed support for Ms. Hinchey.
* The committee voted virtually on a motion to endorse Michele Hinchey in the 46th NYS Senate Race as follows:
  + Aye: 13 votes
  + Abstain: 4 votes
* The motion to endorse Michele Hinchey in the 46th NYS Senate District Race was carried with 13 members voting aye and 4 abstentions.

1. **QUESTIONS**

* No additional questions were discussed following the endorsement motions.

1. **ADJOURN**

* Danielle Bridger made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Margaret Ann seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 PM.