

Meeting Minutes for Virtual Union Synergy Meeting (02/20/2025)

Quick recap

The team discussed the impact of the Federal Government's anti-DEI movement on employee associations, and the potential for layoffs and privatization. They also discussed the potential relocation of their in-person meeting, the need to revise certain aspects of their operations, and a proposal to change the committee charter. Lastly, they announced a change in the meeting schedule, the addition of new members to the committee, and expressed concern and solidarity for Region X members.

Attendance

- Alex Navarro/Chair
- Karena Marinas
- Cassidy Roensch
- Brittan Smith
- Maurice Franklin
- Kym Towns

Next steps

- All members to provide date suggestions for the rescheduled in-person meeting (April, May, or June) by Monday.
- Alex to propose charter changes to increase mentees from 2 to 4 and remove unnecessary committee member requirements.
- Alex to contact Sarah Gramp/CISM Chair about the process for addressing the NEB directly.
- Alex to coordinate sending a couple of committee members to staff the booth at the PWC event.

Summary

Federal Government's Anti-DEI Movement Impact

Alex discussed the current situation with the Federal Government's anti-DEI movement and the impact on employee associations. He mentioned that the Federal Government has ceased support for these organizations, including the withdrawal of logos and official time, and the cessation of dues withdrawal via form 1187. Alex suggested that those who want to continue supporting these coalitions should find a way to send their dues to them.

Addressing Layoffs and Safety Concerns

In the meeting, the team discussed their concerns about potential layoffs and the strategic approach of their opponents. They also discussed the recent visit of SpaceX engineers to

PCT. The team agreed to focus on highlighting the impact of layoffs on individual employees and their families.

Event Relocation and PWC Coordination

In the meeting, Alex, Karena, and Cassidy discussed the potential relocation of their event due to scheduling conflicts and considerations for the PWC event. They decided to postpone their meeting and instead send a few representatives to the PWC event. They will work on coordinating these efforts and consider setting up a potential in-person meeting in DC in the future.

Mentee Increase and Charter Adjustments

Alex proposed pursuing a charter change to increase the number of mentees from two to four, aiming to align with other charters. Cassidy requested access to the charter, which Alex directed him to on the natca.org website under the “committees” section.

Revised Meeting Schedule and Communication

The team discussed the possibility of changing their meeting schedule and the structure of their communication. Alex proposed pushing the meeting date to April, May, or June, and asked the team to provide suggestions by Monday 2/24/2025. Karena suggested a more fiscally responsible approach, considering the budget implications of adding new members. The team agreed to change the meeting schedule.

Proposal for Committee Communication Structure

Karena briefed the team on a proposal to change the communication structure within the committee. The proposal, put forth by Nick Daniels/NATCA President, involves eliminating liaisons to committees and instead creating councils of committees with designated communication resources. This change aims to improve direct communication between committee chairs and the NEB, allowing for more efficient issue resolution and better understanding of committee needs. The proposal is still being ironed out, but the goal is to create a more streamlined and effective communication system.

PWC Event and Charter Changes

The committee will send a few members to staff a booth at the PWC event.

Closing Remarks

Karena offers support to the group, and Alex expresses concern and solidarity for Region X members, emphasizing that the negative voices do not represent the majority opinion. Brittan Smith requests prayers and support for Region X.