**Meeting Minutes of the Veterans Committee**

UUP Delegate Assembly, Buffalo, NY

 2 October 2015

The Meeting was called to order at 8:18 by William Borgstede: (The large glass doors to our meeting room had to be fixed due to noise from the registration area. Thus the delay in the start.)

**Present:** William Borgstede, Justin Culkowski, Clifford DaVis, John Oldfield, David Scholl, Kathy Southerton, Roosevelt Wardlaw, and Kevin Moriarty from Stony Brook who wishes to join the Committee.

Rob Trimarchi from the UUP Legislative Office spoke first. He noted the Larkin /Paulin bill has been passed by the legislature to give all veterans the same “buy in” as those who served during specific periods of time. This applies only to State Retirement Programs. The governor has not signed it into law. He suggested we keep the pressure on the governor to pass this bill and he will communicate that with the membership.

A discussion followed concerning the current list of members on the email list. We feel it is not correct/current noting the membership sign-ups have just been mailed. Action item for Gina Doty.

J. Culkowski led a discussion of his proposed resolution to give veteran ORP retirees some mechanism for a “Buy In” like those in the State retirement systems. The Resolution ,with some edits-see attached, will go forward to Gina Doty for an email vote and then move forward for a floor vote at the winter DA 31 January -1 February in Albany. Action needed by Gina Doty. Action by J.Culkowski to edit and forward to Gina.

Kathleen Southerton further suggested having a member of the State Teachers Retirement System speak to our committee at the next meeting about the mechanisms involved in getting retirement benefits for time served in the military. This person should have the information needed to suggest an equitable mechanism for the ORP retirees. Action required by Bill Borgstede to contact UUP to get such a person at the next meeting.

A new member showed up, can we get him on the committee? It is Kevin Moriarty from Stony Brook.

 Discussion followed that this committee meeting is too early. It is normally on Friday afternoon. If it must be early in the day, publish the schedule earlier so we can make arrangements to attend. Attendance at this meeting does not constitute a quorum. Action item for Kathy Southerton who will comment on this at the plenary meeting of UUP.

Kathy noted we have a table at the registration area and we need to staff it for Wounded Warrior etc.

Move to adjourn at 9 a.m. by J. Culkowski and seconded by David Scholl, meeting adjourned at 9 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by J. Culkowski