

# **General Chairman Report**

**March 2020**

## **Sleep Apnea**

*The Carrier has implemented a more stringent sleep apnea protocol. The Organizations has expressed it's opinion on this new policy and meetings will be had with both parties to further discuss.*

## **Hoboken Crew Facility**

*This month myself, Local Chairman of LCA Scott Spratt, Legislative Representative Dave Rasmussen, along with the Deputy General Manager of Rail Ops James Sincaglia, General Superintendent, and Chief Trainmaster of the Hoboken Division met in Hoboken to address the facilities. A new sink will be placed in the men's area, along with expansion of the bathroom. Kitchen area will be expanded as well. Water will be made available to everyone, and daily cleaning of the facilities will be more detailed.*

## **Dependent Eligibility**

*Member's that have any issues with your dependent being verified as an eligible dependent in regards to your medical benefits, please call the General*

***Chairman. Member's benefits will not be canceled if his/her dependent has not been verified by March 1<sup>st</sup>.***

### **Uniforms**

***New fleeces have been made available for all members. The new fleeces have your name, or employee # with a NJ Transit logo. These fleeces are to replace the coat liner members used to wear. These fleeces are offered to all New Hires, originally they weren't.***

***Brothers and Sisters please wear your uniform properly. If your not 6ft or have a medical note stating you can't wear your hat, you must wear your hat on the double decker equipment. We must wear our hat regardless of height on all other equipment. Our appearance is of the utmost importance to our craft. Do-Rags, Head Scarfs, skullies, and no hats are just unacceptable.***

### **Revenue**

***The Working Fund has been reduced to \$50 dollars from \$100. The Stock will be reduced to 25 pcs from 50 pcs. This was requested by the Union to the Carrier. This limits a member's liability when it comes to Lost Stock and multiple other reasons we believe benefits the member. It's my understanding some members misunderstood where this came from via Social Media. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions. Thursday I was in NYPS for several hours available for any and all questions.***

### **Board of Directors Seat**

***This past February brother Dave Rasmussen officially assumed his governor appointed position on NJ Transit Board of Directors. Congratulations Brother Rasmussen. Brother Rasmussen is the best person for the position, and will represent all of Labor in the proper fashion.***

### **Contract Negotiations**

***This past month your contract committee met with the Carrier for the second time to discuss contractual issues. We met with Labor Relations as well with the attorney's representing NJ Transit. Negotiations are ongoing. I would also like to thank the brothers and sisters that participated in the survey. The idea of the survey was to see what was of the most importance to the member regarding the upcoming agreement.***

### **Coronavirus**

***The Carrier has provided all employees weekly CDC updates on the Coronavirus. Your Union has supplied the Carrier with additional ideas, and requested that all parties involved to be proactive and not reactive regarding this epidemic. A meeting is being held this upcoming Wednesday with all of labor and the Carrier. We will constantly update members on any and all information regarding the Coronavirus via our website.***

### General Committee Account

*I received a communication from the International President stating funds due to the past General Chairman must be released because of the surplus in the General Committee Account. This payment is for the 5% due to the past General Chairman for losses from the 401A while serving as General Chairman. February 2019 the General Committee Fund did not have the balance to pay the amount once released from office. February 2020 the General Committee Fund has \$72,000.00 dollars. The pay out will be roughly 38,000.00 dollars over a period of six months. This payment is permissible per the prior General Committee Bylaws. I made a request to the International President to have the funds put in a annuity account provided by the International or into some type of retirement account.*

### Accountability

*Members once again our officers are a big proponent of policing one another. I like to thank those brothers and sisters that share the same vision. These actions are paramount to restoring our respectability as a craft.*

### Governor Budget

*This Tuesday I attended the Governors budget address in the Assembly. The Governors budget calls*

***for 132 million dollar added to NJ Transits budget this year. The total contributed to NJ Transit through the Governor budget since taken office will be close to 600 million dollars.***

***Fraternally,***

***Jerome C. Johnson  
General Chairman***