



DC 37 Retirees Association April Membership Meeting Q & A Follow Up

Thanks to all who attended the recent membership meeting. We had a great turnout. Unfortunately, out of respect for everyone's time, we couldn't answer all the questions. Please find below answers to some of these questions.

Questions about the monthly membership meeting?

Are you reaching retirees who can't join via Zoom?

Yes! To make the meeting as accessible as possible, members could also call in without going online. In addition to dial in and Zoom option, we also dialed out to ALL our members we have phone numbers for at the time of the meeting and asked them to join. A Spanish simulcast was also available.

Why can't I see other members' comments and questions during the meeting?

We have a big agenda to get through, so to run a meeting of this size (nearly 5,000 participants!) in a focused and efficient manner – including having time to answer questions – we are not able to open the chat or the phone lines. We will continue to send out a follow-up Q & A to make sure key questions are answered and information is provided after each meeting.

Will membership meetings return in person?

At this point we'll continue meeting via zoom and on the phone, which is our best way to reach as many members as possible.

Administration Questions:

What progress has been made since the Administration began?

As Administrator Widger stated on the call, much progress has been made. This includes beginning the process of auditing six years of financials and modernizing the Association's financial systems; filing paperwork with the IRS to get the Association's nonprofit status reinstated; fully staffing office hours so member calls are answered 9am-5pm Monday through Friday; a robust offering of educational programs this spring in partnership with the DC 37 Education Department; and more regular communications to members. Check out the Retirees website for the latest updates at <https://www.dc37retireesassociation.org>.

Why did it take so long to find out about the tax exemption status of the chapter?

The Association nonprofit tax-exempt status was revoked in 2021 because it failed to file IRS form 990s for 3 years. The Association's former Secretary-Treasurer was aware of the situation, unfortunately it is unclear whether he ever informed his fellow officers or the former executive board after it was revoked. Unfortunately, the IRS does not notify the International Union if an affiliate's 990's are not filed or if their tax status is revoked – the IRS communicates, by mail, directly with the affiliate. We were informed about the tax-exempt status revocation, failure to

file 990s and failure to conduct annual audits by the Association's former leadership in January of this year.

What is happening with the Florida subchapters? Are they still up and running?

The Florida subchapters are not separately chartered affiliates within AFSCME. They fall under the jurisdiction and constitution of the DC 37 Retirees Association, so they are part of the administratorship. We're making sure we are communicating with retirees all over the country, including Florida. As the administratorship moves forward, we will be looking for ways for retirees to convene close to where they live.

How long will the Administratorship continue?

The decision to terminate the administratorship rests solely with the International President and occurs after the concerns that led to the administratorship have been rectified. We want to make sure systems are set up to ensure this never happens again and the association is on strong footing for the future.

When will we be electing officers?

Elections for officers will be held when the administratorship is lifted.

Operational Questions:

Will the office be moving to 125 Barclay Street?

Our intention is to move the Association to 125 Barclay along with DC 37. We don't have an exact timeline yet, but we'll make sure members are informed.

Will you be mailing out renewal letters for cash dues payers?

We will be mailing out renewal letters to cash paying members at the end of 2024, just like in past years.

Benefit Questions:

What is the status of the changes in NYC Retirees Health Care?

As of now, there are no changes to your city provided retiree health care. The city, with the support of the majority of the municipal labor unions, has proposed moving city retirees into a Medicare Advantage program. A group of city retirees has challenged this change to retiree health care in the courts. There are currently two legal challenges pending. The first case has been appealed by the city to NY's highest court, the Court of Appeals – arguments have not been scheduled for this case. The second case was recently heard in the Appellate Division of the State Supreme Court, and we are awaiting a decision. Once that decision comes down, it is likely that it will be appealed by either party to the Court of Appeals. At this point, the decision is in the court's hands. We will be monitoring the actions of courts, and we will ensure you are kept up to date and informed if and when the courts make their decision that impacts your city provided health care.

I have a question about my specific benefits, who should I reach out to?

As always you can contact the DC 37 Health and Security Fund with any questions or concerns regarding benefits at (212) 815-1234 or toll-free at 1-877- 323-7738 (from outside the NY-NJ-CT area). Even if they are not benefits provided directly by Health and Security, they will make sure you get to the right place.