



TIME TO ORGANIZE!

PSC RF-CUNY Central Office Chapter

Issue 7

September 21, 2009

Contract Negotiations Update

After our “rally in the rain” on June 5, RF management increased their wage offer to 2, 2, and 2.25%. PSC countered with a modified proposal on 6/16/09 with wage increases of 4.5% per year. Management refused to increase their wage offer for nearly 3 months at which point they proposed an increase of ¼% in the second year. On 9/15/09 PSC countered with 4.5, 4.25, and 4.25%. Management has refused to give the PSC a bargaining date for next week. The only bargaining session currently scheduled is Wednesday, September 30 at the PSC.

On Monday, September 14, RF Central Office employees took a bold step to show management that we are serious in our fight for fairness. We exercised our right under federal law to withhold our labor and engage in concerted activity. PSC members went to President Rothbard’s office to ask why he is only offering us salary increases of 2-2.25% per year, and he refused to acknowledge us despite his “open door policy.” Jerry Steele, Chief Operating Officer, did make an appearance and listened to our question, but did not provide a satisfactory answer.

RF management has never claimed they don’t have the money. Their bottom line is healthy, they have hired half a dozen new employees over the past several months, and their website announces that they have so far received \$17 million in federal stimulus funding. Management’s response to the question of “Why 2%?” is that we did not accept lower benefits for new hires or increases in the employee contribution to the health insurance premiums. They are demanding that we pay for our salary increases through givebacks.

Why are we fighting? Because we will receive only as much respect as we demand.

Management will not move unless we give them a reason to do so. In the words of Frederick Douglass, “find out just what any people will quietly submit to and you have the exact measure of the injustice and wrong which will be imposed on them.”

Nine months without a contract is enough!

General Membership Meeting

Thursday, September 24

12:00-1:00pm and 1:00-2:00pm

Vote to authorize the PSC to call a strike!