

# **Special Meeting, July 2, 2020**

## **Videoconference**

### **FIRST SESSION**

The meeting was convened at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time on Thursday, July 2, 2020. General Executive Board members present were Richard M. Murphy, Janis M. Borchardt, Paul Bowen, Marcellus Barnes, Rafael Rivera, Yvette Trujillo, Gary Johnson, Sr., Robin West, Chuck Watson, Bruce Hamilton, Michelle Sommers, James Lindsay, Emanuele Sforza, John Callahan, Natalie Cruz, Anthony Garland and Raymond Greaves. International President John A. Costa presided. Also, in attendance were International Secretary-Treasurer Kenneth Ray Kirk, International Executive Vice President Javier M. Perez, Jr., Chief of Staff Jessica Chu, General Counsel Robert Molofsky, Assistant General Counsel Dan Smith, and Director of Government Affairs Jeff Rosenberg.

International Vice President Curtis Howard was excused from the meeting.

### **DISCUSSION OF THE 2020 PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN**

International President John A. Costa convened the meeting. President Costa discussed the historic importance of the 2020 Presidential election and the necessity to elect a candidate who stands with working people, supports major investment in transit and represents our values and aspirations. He reviewed the significant impact that the ATU has had to date, in support of Vice President Joe Biden. He also, cited the significance of ATU's early February 2020 endorsement of Joe Biden. As only the second Union to then endorse his candidacy, he noted the press and momentum that our "Ridin' with Biden" campaign generated, during a critical time in the democratic primaries, spurring him on to victory. President Costa then discussed the ongoing campaign to defeat President Trump, including the critical role the ATU will play in key battleground states, by mobilizing our members and locals throughout the U.S.

President Costa and Government Affairs' Director Jeff Rosenberg then discussed the need to provide additional financial support to ensure Biden's election. They explained the role of "Unite the Country", a super PAC formed to communicate to voters and advocate for his election, and how such could be funded by the ATU. Costa explained the benefits that the ATU would gain with a major contribution to the PAC, and the requirement to do so through a specially created segregated account, separate from our current ATU-COPE accounts, used for contributions to federal, state and local candidates.

Members of the Board then discussed the necessity to defeat President Trump and the extraordinary opportunity to play a significant role in Biden's election. President Costa then discussed ongoing plans to educate and activate our members and locals in key races.

**MOTION TO AUTHORIZE A \$500,000 INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE TO “UNITE THE COUNTRY” THROUGH NEWLY FORMED SEPARATE SEGREGATED FUND**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the members of the General Executive Board approved a motion to contribute \$500,000 to the “Unite the County” super PAC, as an independent expenditure, through a newly formed separate segregated account established for such expenditures.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION**

The remainder of the session was devoted to discussion among the International Executive Officers and members of the Board

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m. *sine die*.