

General Rabble Rouser Information

Contact: info@696rabblerrousers.com

Presidential Candidate **Sharon Thorpe**: Pension Counselor 3. 23 years' experience with the City, and former Steward/Delegate for Local 696. Specialized knowledge of

- Pensions
- Health, vision, dental benefits
- City policy and procedure
- Union policy and procedure

Contact: sharon@696rabblerrousers.com

Business Agent Candidate **J. Matthew Catron** (pronounced CAT-rin): Library Assistant 3. 9 years' experience with the City. Specialized knowledge of

- Organization
- Large-scale project management
- Media (Photo, video, website creation)
- Community management & moderation

Contact: matt@696rabblerrousers.com

All 12 Rabble Rouser candidates were vetted & invited by Sharon & Matt. Standout candidates include but are not limited to:

Treasurer Candidate **Vanyell Stith** (Pronounced STY-th): Clerk 3 at the Finance Department. Adept with finances.

Executive Board Candidate **Evelyn Flint**: Communications/Audio-Visual Technician at Free Library of Philadelphia. Adept with Local & International Constitutions, Robert's Rules of Order. Evelyn was the main contributor to the protests that overturned the Local 696 election.

Steward/Delegate Candidate **Sterling Davis**: Municipal Guard Supervisor at Free Library of Philadelphia. As a component part of his job, Sterling travels to nearly all Free Library locations, making him ideally placed to hear & address member grievances. Sterling was excluded from the March election results in a massive oversight by the Local 696 Election Committee.

THE RABBLE ROUSERS 4-PART PLAN

1. Increase transparency
 1. Make meeting minutes & treasurer's reports available to the membership
 2. Audit Local 696 & publish the results
 3. Conduct all union business in writing to ensure accountability
 4. Publish newsletter
2. Build an educated membership
 1. Host new orientations for existing members
 2. Host trainings and seminars on union & city policy
 3. Provide contracts and constitutions, and host readings so members understand what they mean

3. Modernize Local 696
 1. Website website website
 2. Downloadable documents- meeting minutes, treasurer's reports, benefits information, etc. available to the membership
 3. Videos from the President & Business Agent, regularly giving news updates
 4. Host General Membership Meetings virtually (Zoom or other platform)
4. Advocate for all workers
 1. Part-time, seasonal employees deserve representation too
 2. Our opposition on the SBU will receive the same quality of representation and care as our most enthusiastic supporters
 3. Workers in other AFSCME Locals, other unions, and non-represented: To the degree we are constitutionally allowed, we share solidarity with ALL WORKERS.

Election Information

The June Local 696 Election is the second run of the original March election. The March election was overturned by AFSCME International. The Rabble Rousers' protests against unfair election practices are why the election was overturned.

The Rabble Rousers have a proven track record of accountability and accessibility. The SBU and the Election Committee tried to suppress voting rights. The Rabble Rousers got hundreds of Local 696 members the opportunity to vote.

There are two ballots: Officers and Steward/Delegates. Ballots were mailed on 29 June 2023. Check the "Rabble Rousers" box on both ballots to support the Rabble Rousers.

**BALLOTS MUST BE IN THE HANDS OF AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOCIATION BY
5:00 PM ON 19 JULY 2023. MAIL YOUR BALLOTS ASAP!**

Place the completed ballots in the blue secrecy envelope. Place the blue secrecy envelope into the white return envelope, and then bring the return envelope to a post office or USPS drop box.

There is no ballot drop-off at American Arbitration Association. **ONLY BALLOTS RECEIVED
THROUGH THE US POSTAL SERVICE WILL BE COUNTED.**

If a member does not receive their ballots by 7 July 2023, call American Arbitration Association at 215-731-2280.

Local 696 Information

President: Chairs all meetings, appoints all committees, countersigns all checks, sits on DC33 Executive Board and DC33 Health & Welfare board

Business Agent: Leader of Steward/Delegates. Strategizes, organizes, and assists with worker grievances. Appoints Chief Steward. Sits on DC33 Executive Board

Vice President: Trained in Presidential duties in the event of the President's absence

Secretary: Records all meetings & circulates meeting minutes.

Treasurer: Handles all money- receives all dues & establishes annual budget for the Local. Annually audits the Local's money.

All 5 of the above offices are also Executive Board members.

Executive Board (7 offices, plus the other 5 making a total of 12 executive board members): Gathers monthly to vote on all issues pertaining to the Local. Examples including budget, special projects, etc. Vague and nebulous- the official definition of the role is that the E-Board handles any issue not addressed in the Local 696 Constitution.

The below roles are *not* on the Executive Board.

Trustee: Assist the Treasurer with the management of Local 696 finances. There is no 2023 election for Local 696 trustees. They are already decided.

Sergeant-At-Arms: Keeps order at General Membership Meetings. Executes the orders of the President.

Steward/Delegate: Perhaps the most important role, the Steward/Delegates are a team of 23 rank-and-file workers who are the direct representatives of Local 696. They work their regular jobs, and receive grievances and questions from the membership, which they are tasked to resolve. All steward/delegates report directly to the Business Agent.

The "Delegate" portion of Steward/Delegate means that they also attend AFSCME International conventions on even-numbered years (2020, 2022, 2024, etc).

AFSCME Locals band together to form District Councils. Local 696 is a part of District Council 33. All AFSCME Locals report directly to AFSCME International. District Council 33 is not an intermediary step between Local and International.