

Over 100 delegates attend convention

Delegates at the Local 888 Membership Convention on September 24 reviewed the union's finances and set goals for the future. Members unanimously approved three resolutions: **1)** Urging "No on Question 2" – to lift the cap on charter schools. **2)** In support of a new "Millionaires tax" to raise money for education and infrastructure, and **3)** To "Fix Massachusetts Schools."

"By all accounts we had a great meeting!" said Local 888 President **Mark DelloRusso**. "Members had an opportunity to meet their officers and staff and hear from State Treasurer **Deb Goldberg**."

The other convention guest speaker was award-winning author and commentator, **David Cay Johnston**.

"Our financial report showed considerable progress on managing Local 888's resources and very positive projections for 2017 and 2018," said Secretary-Treasurer **Brenda Rodrigues**.

For copies of the finance report email brodrigues@seiu888.org.

To see more pictures from the convention, visit <https://flic.kr/s/aHskEoh254>.

For copies of the convention program with department reports and the resolutions adopted by the delegates, email rwilson@seiu888.org or call 617 241-3300.

Members head to NH on Oct. 15 & 22 for HRC campaign

Local 888's Committee on Political Action (COPA) is looking for volunteers to come to New Hampshire for a special training on political issues and to canvass for SEIU's endorsed candidates.

New Hampshire will be a decisive state in the upcoming presidential election and could determine which party gains a majority in the Senate.

"I hope members will consider coming to campaign with SEIU," said Mark DelloRusso. "Together we really can make a difference."

SEIU will provide transportation and meals for members who want to work on the campaign.

To sign up for either weekend or for the final

GOTV push on Nov 5, please visit <https://888.seiu.org/page/s/Hillary-NH> or contact Local 888 Political Organizer Joe Lazzarini at (617) 241-3369.



President Mark DelloRusso introduced State Treasurer Deb Goldberg at the convention.



Randolph school cafeteria members attended the Local 888 convention on Sept. 24.

Boston Housing Trust could benefit you!

More than 20 members attended a Housing Trust Fund (HTF) outreach session in Sept. at Boston City Hall. "Several members stated they were unaware of the programs and expressed interest in benefits like the Emergency Assistance and Home Improvement programs," said **Rachel Idowu** a former Local 888 member who helps staff the Housing Trust.



City of Boston members attended an educational briefing on Sept. 21 about the many benefits available to city residents from the Housing Trust! The next briefings for BPHC are set for Oct. 18 and Oct. 20

"The meeting helped spread the word about a truly unique benefit," said Trust Administrator **Ashana Ward**. "The HTF was negotiated through the perseverance of union leaders determined to raise the quality of life for members who work for and reside in the City of Boston."

Informational sessions for BPHC members are planned for Oct. 18 from 12-3 PM at 1010 Mass Ave, 2nd Floor Hayes Room and Oct. 20 from 2-4 PM at 112 Southampton St. in the Staff Lounge.

Fuel Assistance Program



The **Fuel Assistance Program** has expanded its eligibility. Applications for the program are now available on the website. It begins on Nov. 1.

Please visit www.seiu888.org/htf for additional information on all of the benefits available to you through the Housing Trust Fund.

Here's why SEIU supports Hillary Clinton



"We need to support new organizing strategies for employees that have never had the benefit of collective bargaining. And we have to resist the assault on workers rights — right-to-work is wrong for workers and wrong for America. **Let's also raise the minimum wage and support the Fight for \$15**, so you don't live in poverty."

- Hillary Clinton



Officers and staff gathered with long-time Field Rep. Sue Chase on the occasion of her recent retirement. Congratulations Sue -- and thank you for your many years of service to SEIU Local 888!



Convention prize winner! Congratulations to **Enio Lopez** who works at the Chelsea Soldiers Home for winning the flat screen TV door prize at the Local 888 convention.

New Just Cause Eviction law being considered for Boston

Boston is one of the most rapidly gentrifying cities in the US. Though wages remain stagnant, housing costs are skyrocketing. This puts thousands of families, especially working class communities of color, at risk of being displaced.

Landlords and tenants have come together to introduce a *Just Cause Eviction* ordinance to put the brakes on displacement by protecting vulnerable renters. If passed by the Boston City Council and signed by the mayor, a Just Cause Eviction law would:

- Require landlords to provide a good cause reason when seeking to evict a tenant, like failure to pay rent, damaging property, or breaking a lease. Boston residents who own six or less units would be exempt.
- Owners attempting to evict tenants or not renew leases would be required to notify the new *Office of Housing Stability* which would notify the tenant of their rights under current state law.
- Outlaw no-fault building clear-outs and provide an opportunity for eviction defense.

For more information, visit www.justcauseboston.org

Watch for Question 5 on Nov. 8 Boston Ballot

The Community Preservation Act (CPA) is designed to help Massachusetts cities and towns create affordable housing, preserve open space and historic sites, and develop outdoor recreational opportunities.

CPA funds are generated by a small surcharge on local property tax bills matched by a statewide trust fund to maximize their impact. Over 160 cities and towns have already used the CPA to unlock hundreds of millions of dollars in matching funds from the state.

If adopted, Boston could unlock tens of millions of dollars in state funds. These funds will be used to fund the three following areas:

- Increase affordable housing
- Invest in parks & recreation
- Create new jobs by expanding historic preservation

The **Yes for a Better Boston Committee**, recommends a 1% property tax surcharge, with exemptions for low-income homeowners, low-and-moderate-income senior homeowners, and for the first \$100,000 of residential and business' property

value. The average single family homeowner would pay an average of \$24 per year, and in turn, the city would generate up to \$20 million every year for CPA projects. These dedicated funds would:

- Create thousands of new, affordable homes for seniors, families, and veterans
- Restore and preserve historic buildings, and rehabilitate underutilized resources
- Develop and improve parks, playgrounds, trails, and gardens
- Acquire land to protect water quality and reduce climate change impacts

For more info, visit www.yesbetterboston.com

Tell us what you think!

Do you have an opinion about Just Cause Eviction or the Community Preservation Act? Send comments to rwilson@seiu888.org



UMass Lowell member **Darcie Boyer**, who is the parent of a child in public school, spoke passionately at the Local 888 convention in favor of adopting the resolution urging members to vote no on Question 2.



Members at the convention voted in favor three resolutions and heard reports on Local 888's finances, field services, communications, organizing and politics.

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Coming Attractions

Movie: "Food Fight: Inside the Battle for Market Basket"



Thursday, Oct. 13, 4-7 pm, UMass Lowell, O'Leary 222, 61 Wilder St., Lowell. Free and open to the public followed by a panel discussion with UMass Lowell history Prof. Bob Farrant.

SEIU training and campaign canvass

Saturday, Oct. 15, Canvass in New Hampshire for SEIU candidates (Bus Transportation Provided)



Want to sing? Kick Off Rehearsal & Founding Meeting

For Boston Voices of Community and Labor (B VOCAL). Sunday, October 16, 2-6 pm, Plumbers Local 12, 1240 Mass Ave., Dorchester. For more info call Lisa Gallatin at 617-877-9115.

Last day to register to vote

Wednesday, Oct. 19, for the Nov. 8 general election.

UMass Dartmouth Labor Education Center Awards Banquet

Thursday, Oct. 20, 6:00 pm Reception, 6:30 Dinner. Venus de Milo, 75 Grand Army Hwy, Swansea, MA.

SEIU training and campaign canvass

Saturday, Oct. 22, Canvass in New Hampshire for SEIU candidates (Bus Transportation Provided)

Final GOTV Push

Saturday, Nov. 5: Volunteer opportunities with labor endorsed campaigns all over Massachusetts and GOTV in the New Hampshire.

Local 888 Hockey Night

Save the date: Saturday, Nov. 5 UMass Lowell



State General Election

Don't forget to vote! Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2016

