



# THE B6 FLYER

A Transport Workers Union news bulletin for Inflight Crewmembers at JetBlue | Sept 2019 | Issue No.4

## CONTINUED PROGRESS IN CONTRACT TALKS



Your elected representatives on the Negotiating Team: Brendan Moriarty, Sonya Payne, Stacy Bassford, Ernesto Gomez and Dee Lozito after a recent session at the bargaining table.

The Negotiating Team has now reached 19 individual Tentative Agreements with JetBlue management as it continues to make progress on the first-ever contract for Inflight Crewmembers.

The latest Tentative Agreement, or provision, details a Commuter Policy with improvements to the existing company policy.

There currently are a dozen other open items on the table that are the subject of discussions. The NT anticipates a total of 35 Tentative Agreements will be incorporated into the final contract proposal that will then be the subject of a ratification vote by IFCs.

“As a negotiating team, we have strategic goals that we adhere to,” Negotiating Team Member Brendan Moriarty, said. “We’ve successfully maintained our strategic approach from the start of our bargaining with JetBlue management. Our team has worked tirelessly to make progress toward a full tentative agreement that our members will be proud of.”

That’s not to say this is an easy process, Moriarty said. **“We are in a fight and people need to recognize it’s a fight,”** he said. **“We’re not going to win unless we fight and fight together. We know how much support we have from the membership. The company knows we have the backing of the work group. We need to maintain that.”**

There was a lull in the talks in July because JetBlue was in the process of changing its lead negotiator. Things picked up at the three-day session held in New York City Aug. 12-14.

Team members said they are now optimistic they can finalize with management a Memorandum of Understanding allowing union-trained IFCs to attend investigatory meetings that could result in discipline for a crewmember. This would enable union-trained IFCs to offer advice and information to co-workers in jeopardy of being punished by the company during the transition period encompassing contract negotiations and ratification.

“Our IFCs will benefit from the support a TWU-trained IFC will be able to provide during these often intimidating meetings,” Moriarty said.

The trained IFCs will not be permitted to argue or challenge management directly, but they will be able to take notes and preserve a record of what transpires, which would be a major development.

“One of the reasons we got a union is because the company treats people differently and doesn’t follow the policies and procedures currently in place,” NT Member Dee Lozito said. “They don’t apply the rules equally.”

There are five IFCs on the Negotiating Team that were elected from his or her base: Moriarty, Lozito, Sonya Payne, Stacy Bassford and Ernesto Gomez. The unit is led by TWU International Administrative Vice President Mike Mayes, and it includes two International Vice Presidents: Gary Peterson and Thom McDaniel.

The NT can’t discuss specifics of the developing contract proposal because items are not considered final until a full package is reached and released for the ratification vote.



*TWU International Administrative Vice President Mike Mayes. Mike is leading our Negotiating Team.*