

Delegate Meeting Minutes

DRAFT

Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

December 12, 2011

Called to order by President Jos Williams at 6:43p.

President Williams swore in new delegates Marry Battle (Cement Masons 891) and Katrina Dizon (OPEIU 2).

Minutes: November minutes were received.

Financial Report: Moved, seconded and approved to receive the November financial report.

Executive Board Actions/Recommendations:

Delegates unanimously approved the following recommendations by the Executive Board:

- \$100 recommended for the 21st annual Covenant House Christmas Party held by Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton on December 21.

- \$100 recommended for the ANC 4D Holiday Gift Drive, to be distributed via the Community Services Agency.

- Motion that the Council support PG and Montgomery County public sector locals, all of whom are now in negotiations with their County administrations.

- Motion to raise the Evening with Labor ticket cost to \$150 – the first increase in many years – and also to increase program ad costs and seek additional sponsors.

- Motion that the Council go on record as opposing the

Caffritz project, which includes the proposed College Park Whole Foods.

Community Services Agency (*Kathleen McKirchy*)

- Holiday baskets: gift cards are best (Shoppers, Safeway or Giant)
- Bowling: January 29; still time for teams to register for this fun event!
- Building Futures Update: DOL 3-year contract; grants for \$30,000 & \$25,000 from Marpat Foundation.

Union Cities (*Chris Garlock/Julia Kann*)

- 2012 Council Directory in production: be sure to check and update your local's listing, especially for the Union Shop!
- Upcoming events:
 - 12/14: Joseph McCartin: "Collision Course" Luncheon and Lecture
 - 12/15: DC Labor Walk: Teamsters History Tour (benefits CSA)
- Occupy DC update: DC now probably only major city where occupiers haven't been removed; re-resources running low and help needed. Watch Union City for updates on current needs and how to help. This movement is raising issues about wealth disparities and jobs that have been the focus of the labor movement for years and deserves our strong support. Introduced new Assistant Mobilizer Julia Kann, the Council's liaison with

Occupy DC, who introduced a delegation of occupiers from McPherson Square's labor delegation. The delegation included a range of occupiers, from a local Iron Worker and Teamster staffer to as far away as New Mexico and Alaska. They said that the struggles by the Occupy and labor movements "are the same struggles" and that "We're all fighting for rights for American workers, and against corporate greed." They shared their "mission statement," needs list and outlined the availability of the new Labor Tent donated by the Metro Council, but which needs staffing. With the onset of winter, they stressed that they face "serious challenges" and appreciate any and all support. They're looking to the future and following Noam Chomsky's dictum to "Build, Educate and Strike Later." The Occupy DC Labor Committee meets every Sunday at 2p at McPherson Square, but may well move inside to the Metro Council offices because of the weather.

□ Following the suggestion of Rick Ehrmann, Newspaper Guild 32035 it was moved, seconded and unanimously approved that the Council notify the federal government, DC Mayor and City Council that the Metro Council urges them not to dislodge the Occupy DC encampments and to

uphold their rights to continue their peaceful occupations. Further, in the event that an effort is made to clear the encampments, the Metro Council will issue an alert so that the metro area labor community can turn out in solidarity with Occupy DC.

COPE Report (*Rick Powell*)

- D.C. COPE Report – Respect Wal-Mart Update: very disappointed that labor did not get a chance to comment on the Mayor's CBA with Walmart, but this issue is far from over.
- Pending Legislation, 1st Source passed Final Reading in DC Council; Workplace Fraud
- P.G./Mont. COPE Report – 1st meeting of merged COPE, chaired by Doris Reed. Major issue was question of how to score elected officials. Jim Lowery gave Tri-County update.
- Legislative Update, Labor Peace
- Congresswoman Donna Edwards Endorsement & Labor Campaign Plan
- Tri-County COPE Report – formation of Arundel County COPE is making progress

Reports (see next page)



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Reports

- Gwend Johnson, CBTU, thanked everyone for their donations to CBTU's Shoe-box project, noted that 2012 membership applications are available and said that CBTU had raised \$1,000 worth of gift cards for CSA.

- Ann Hoffman, National Writers Union, reported that the NWU recently celebrated its 30th anniversary and has embarked on a "Pay the writer" campaign opposing the move to get writers to work for free.

- Katrina Dizon, APALA DC, reported on a karaoke fundraiser scheduled for this Thursday, details to be posted on the Council's website and in Union City. President Williams invited all delegates to enjoy the post-meeting reception, an annual tradition sponsored by DC CBTU.

Attendance:

Mary Battle, Plasterers' & Cement Masons 891
Dan Blumenthal, AFSCME 3870
Donna Brockington CLUW, Metro DC Chapter
Avis Buchanan, AFGE 2782
Carl Carson, Cement Mason 891
Stephen Courtien, PAINTERS
Katrina Dizon, APALA-DC
Rick Ehrmann, NEWSPAPER GUILD 35
Sandra Falwell, DCNA/NNU
Liam Fox, Occupy DC
Ann Hoffman, NWU/UAW 1981
Gwend Johnson, CBTU DC
William Linehan, IUEC 10
James Lowery, IUEC 10
Jim Lowery, IUEC Local 10
Calvin Lucas, SEIU 1199
Kendall Martin, Ironworkers 5
Yvette Martin-Gross, AFGE 631
Elaine Newman, NCAUR
Michael Patterson, Occupy DC
Tony Perez, UFCW 400
Lourdes Rivera, SEIU 32BJ
Jason Rosvold, Sheet Metal 100/ Occupy DC
Jimmy Tarlau, CWA District 2
Katherine Taylor, 1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers-East
Brian Tierney, Teamsters/Occupy DC
John Walker, AFGE 383
Lisa Wallace, 1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers-East

The meeting adjourned at 7:37; instead of a COPE 50/50, all \$44 was donated to Occupy DC and gratefully accepted; the funds were used right away for medical supplies for the camp.