

Delegate Meeting Minutes

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Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

February 27, 2012

Meeting called to order by President Williams at 6:42pm

President Williams swore in new delegates: Kevin Burton, DC Young Trade Unionists; Daryl Graham, UFCW 400; Tiffany Flowers, UFCW 400.

Minutes: (January) accepted as distributed with the following correction: list Dave Richardson as AFGE Council 1

Financial Report: January 2012; received.

Correspondence: Moved to accept the recommendations of the Executive Board totaling \$600. The following contributions were approved: \$350 to IBEW 26 (poker run); \$250 Jews United for Justice (Labor Seder).

Community Services Agency

Executive Director Kathleen McKirchy reported that the Community Services Agency (CSA) received funding from the Marpat Foundation to help with strategic planning for the Agency. A CSA board retreat will be held in July and the goal is to take a new look at CSA's mission, ensure that fundraising and program activities align with the mission, and that CSA is providing services that affiliates and working people find useful. McKirchy will reach out to affiliates for their feedback and ideas for improving CSA. CSA raised an estimated \$12,000 for their Emergency Assistance Fund from locals, including \$10,000 from ATU 689, which was the proceeds from their annual holiday party, and \$2,500 from AFSCME Council 26, which pays for all its locals. The fund has about \$7,000 in it now. President Williams encouraged affiliates

to make at least an annual contribution of \$300 to CSA as the Emergency Assistance Fund is an invaluable asset to help their members.

Union Cities

Union Cities Coordinator Chris Garlock thanked everyone who turned out for the Feb. 10 Conservative Political Action Committee (CPAC) rally and showed a preview of the slide show of photos that will be on display at the Evening with Labor, highlighting the multitude of local labor movement activities in 2011. Garlock also reported that the last chance to make corrections to the Union Cities directory before it goes to press will be Wednesday, 2/29. Julia Kann, Union Cities Assistant Coordinator, made several announcements on upcoming events and rallies including a Tax Day action on April 17. Kann also gave an update on Occupy DC, including a rally on 2/27 held outside Freddie Mac headquarters to prevent the foreclosure on the home of Bertina Jones, a Prince George's County resident. As a result, Freddie Mac committed to modify her mortgage loan.

Election Committee Report

Ann Hoffman NWU/UAW 1981, Election Committee Chair reported that the elections for the Metro Council officers and executive board members will take place on March 19, 2012 after nominations have been made this evening. Hoffman introduced the other members of the committee; Saul Schniderman, AFSCME 2910; Avis Buchanan, AFGE Council 1; Dan Fields, SEIU 722 and Dario Ferruffino, LIUNA 657 asked if there were any nominations for the office of President. Steve Courtien, WBCTC,

was recognized and nominated an entire slate of candidates, which was seconded by Roland Jeter of ATU 689. Hoffman and the committee members then read each slate name and asked if there were other nominations for each position. Hearing none, the nominations were closed and the following individuals will be on the election agenda for the March 19 meeting. The nominees are as follows: Joslyn Williams, AFSCME 2477, President; Gino Renne, UFCW 1994, 1st VP; Doris Reed, ASASP, 2nd VP; Sandra Falwell, DCNA, 3rd VP; Dena Briscoe, APWU, Secretary; Linda Bridges, OPEIU 2, Treasurer. Executive Board member nominees are: Vance Ayres, WBCTC; John Boardman, Unite Here 25; Dwight Bowman, AFGE District 14; Jamie Contreras, SEIU 32BJ; Dan Dyer OPEIU 2; Anthony Frederick, LIUNA 657; Carl Goldman, AFSCME Council 26; Jackie Jeter, ATU 689; George Johnson, AFSCME Council 20; Kendall Martin, Iron Workers 5; Michael Murphy, IUOE 99; Tony Perez, UFCW 400; Thomas Ratliff, IBT 639; Carnell Reed, SEIU 400; Jimmy Tarlau, CWA District 2; Vacant; Constituency Group Representative (and a Board seat); When asked by Robert Mayfield of AFGE 2978 why there was no nominee for the vacant seat, President Williams responded that he would like the seat to be filled by a representative from AFSCME 2250 and that there will be a nominee brought forward by May 2012. Trustee nominees are Fred Allen, GCIU/IBT 538C; Nathan Saunders, WTU 6; Katherine Taylor, SEIU 1199. Nominee for Sergeant at Arms is Riley Gaines, IBEW 26. Motion was made to ac-

cept nominees. Seconded. Approved.

MD COPE Report

Rick Powell, Political/Legislative Coordinator, reported that the Executive Board voted to support the following candidates for PG School Board: District 1: David Murray; District 4: Sandy Vaughns; District 5: Deidre Jackson; District 7: Carletta Fellows; District 8: Edward Burroughs.

DC COPE

Alya Solomon, Legislative/Political Assistant, reported that the Executive Board voted to endorse the following candidates for DC City Council: Ward 2: Jack Evans; At-Large: Vincent Orange; and to delay action on Wards 4, 7, and 8 pending the results of a poll. Discussion ensued on the nomination of Jack Evans. When asked by Robert Mayfield of AFGE 2978 why we should endorse Jack Evans who has a terrible voting record on labor issues, President Williams reported that Jack Evans supported labor on the PERB nominations and resisted efforts of former Mayor Fenty to emasculate the PERB and he has made some recent commitments, i.e. Evans will introduce legislation to allow union organizing of Public Charter Schools and Evans supports the Machinists' actions to organize Downtown Business Improvement District (BID) employees. Discussion ensued on the nomination of Vincent Orange. A motion was moved to endorse Jack Evans and Vincent Orange. Seconded. Approved. A motion was made to delay action on Wards 4, 7, and 8 pending the results

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of a poll. Discussion ensued. Eartha Isaac of AFGE 2978 asked if the recommendations for endorsement on the remaining candidates would come back to the delegates for approval. President Williams said yes. Moved and Seconded. Approved.

Delegate Updates

Ann Hoffman, NWU/UAW 1981 reported that Timothy Ryan, a member of NWU wrote a book, "The Sisters: A Fable of Globalization" and will do a book signing at the AFL-CIO on Wednesday, 2/29.

Vanessa Dixon of the Doctors Council DC reported that Emily Junge, formerly of Unite Here 25, has a nephew who won an Emmy award for a documentary on a program to help Pakistani women with plastic surgery for facial burns and other injuries.

Tony Perez of UFCW 400 reported on the UFCW 400 contract negotiations at Giant and Safeway-the employer asked for 36 concessions including a new wage tier starting below their current wage. UFCW 400 members will vote on their contract on April 3rd. Perez thanked all the unions that sent letters to Giant and Safeway in support of their contract. MD State Delegates Brian Feldman and John Bohanan and MD Comptroller Peter Franchot refused to send a letter of support. Perez urged unions that have not sent letters of support to do so. Vanessa Dixon of the Doctors Council asked if Chris Garlock could send an email to affiliates reminding them to send a letter of support to Giant and Safeway.

Robert Mayfield, AFGE 2978, asked if the President would recognize a speaker from the DC Injured Workers group. Gaynell Nixon, DC Injured Workers, reported that the DC City Council changed the DC Disability compensation law for DC government workers by slipping in an amendment to the Budget Support Act of 2011; the Council repealed provisions that ensured low-income claimants fair access to disability compensation. Nixon would like the assistance of the Metro Council to introduce legislation that would provide the same disability benefits as the previous law required. Motion was made. Seconded. Approved.

President Williams recognized Jim McGrath of TENAC, who introduced Jai Shankur, an illegal immigrant going through deportation proceedings and urged the Metro Council to sign on to a petition to stop his deportation. Jai Shankur reported that he has been in the United States for 20 years and has made DC his home. He called the police to report a crime but instead was arrested and taken into custody for not showing proof of his residency in the United States. Since then, he has been placed in deportation proceedings. Shankur thanked everyone who signed his petition. As a result of the petition, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has removed his ankle bracelet but he still remains in deportation proceedings. President Williams expressed his sympathy and reported that he would bring this issue to the attention of the Executive Board. The Executive Board will determine next steps.

Dan Fields of SEIU 722 reported that Maryland State Delegate Veronica Turner was admitted to the hospital and asked delegates to "keep her in your thoughts and prayers."

Gwend Johnson of the DC Chapter of CBTU reported that membership renewals are due. The next chapter meeting is March 17 at CWA and will be celebrating Women's History month. CBTU convention is coming up on May 29 in St. Louis. Individuals attending the convention must register online.

Chuck Clay, IATSE 22 IATSE is organizing non-union theaters throughout DC, MD and VA.

Roland Jeter of ATU 689 reported that WMATA has over 1,000 job openings and urged people to apply and spread the word.

Eric Starin of OPEIU 2 reported that they are in contract negotiations with WMATA and that they received an arbitration award that would require the establishment of a labor committee to review contracts before privatizing services at WMATA.

Herb Harris, BLE, reported that there is a \$500 million economic development project to expand the railroad system in Maryland. Amtrak has been selected for employment on this project and are expected to create many union jobs.

Adjourned: 8:50pm

Attendance:

Delegates

Allen, Fred; GCC 538-C
Ayres, Vance; Washington DC Building Trades Council (WBCTC)
Blumenthal, Dan; AFSCME 3870
Bowman, Dwight; AFGE District 14
Bridges, Linda; OPEIU 2
Briscoe, Dena; APWU, Nation's Capital and Southern MD Local
Buchanan, Avis; AFGE Council 1
Childs, Barbara; AFSA 4
Clay, Chuck; IATSE 22
Clifford, Eamon; IUOE 99
Collins, Cynthia; SEIU Local 400 PG
Courtien, Stephen; WBCTC
Dixon, Vanessa; Doctors Council DC / AFSCME NUHCE
Dizon, Katrina; APALA-DC
Falwell, Sandra; DCNA/NNU
Ferruffino, Ruben Dario; LABORERS 657
Fields, Daniel; SEIU 722
Frederick, Anthony; Laborers 657
Freeland, Ronald; Laborers 657
Gaines, Riley; IBEW 26
Garland, Anthony; ATU 689
Greenhill, Larry; IBEW 26
Havard, Donald; IUOE 99
Hoffman, Ann; NWU/UAW 1981
Isaac, Eartha; AFGE 2978
Jacob, Doug; Unite Here 23
Jeter, Jackie; ATU 689
Jeter, Roland; ATU 689
King, Brenda; DCNA
Martin, Kendall; Ironworkers Local 5
Martin-Gross, Yvette; AFGE 631
Mayfield, Robert; AFGE 2978
Murphy, Michael; IUOE 99
Newman, Elaine; NCAUR
Perez, Tony; UFCW 400
Preston, William; AFGE 17
Renne, Gino; UFCW 1994 MCGEO
Reyes, Victor; LABORERS 657
Richardson, David; AFGE 12
Saunders, Nathan; WTU 6
Schniderman, Saul; AFSCME 2910
Sewell, Rodney; LIUNA 657
Starin, Eric; OPEIU 2
Taylor, Katherine; 1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers-East
Williams, Jos; Metro DC Council
Williams, Lateefah; ATU 689

Guests:

Diaz, Benito; Working America

Staff:

Garlock, Chris; Metro Washington Council, AFL-CIO
Kann, Julia; Metro Washington Council
McKirchy, Kathleen; Community Services Agency, OPEIU 2
Powell, Rick; Metro Washington Council
Solomon, Alya; Metro Council