



Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES: February 25, 2013

Meeting called to order by Doris Reed (ASASP) at 4:05pm, with President Williams in attendance over the phone.

Reed led board members in a moment of silence for passing of Gloria Johnson.

Minutes (January) moved and seconded to accept. Approved.

Financial Report (January) moved and seconded to receive. Approved.

Correspondence: it was moved, seconded and approved to make the following expenditures: Andrea Harrison (PG Council 5) 20-Feb MWC Labor Fundraiser: \$500; Jews United for Justice 25-Mar Labor Seder: \$250; NoVA Labor 26-April Tribute to NoVA Labor: \$650 — Total: \$1,400

Union Cities

Carl Goldman (AFSCME Council 26) gave an update on Congress sequestration negotiations and how federal workers will be affected by possible cuts. This Friday (March 1) is the deadline for a decision. "If this goes on for months and months it's going to have a really scary affect." There was a big AFGE/AFSCME rally two weeks back on these issues, if a deal is not struck soon folks should expect more actions.

Dena Briscoe (APWU, Southern MD and Nation's Capital) reported on the proposed cuts to Saturday mail delivery. The four unions representing workers who work for the postal system are all being affected and are all getting ready for actions in the coming month against the proposed cuts. Locally "they're gutting out operations in some facilities." Workers are being "excessed" -- moved to new locations without any say in it -- so workers want to leave. APWU leaders are meeting with representatives to ask for their support in "stopping the Post Master General from

blatantly trying to take away service." More details will follow on rallies. Some discussion ensued on the proposed cuts and how unions are responding to the Postmaster General's action.

Jackie Jeter (ATU 689) reported on the public transit campaign against privatization of Metro. Workers flied at metro stations during Inauguration weekend, handing out thousands of fliers. Now the campaign will focus locally, mobilizing 689 members and allies. There will be a training session for ATU 689

members and leaders for mobilization happening without and outside of the union. "You're going to hear from us" said Jeter. More details to follow.

Chris Garlock (Coordinator) reviewed the new 2013 Directory of Affiliates, which will be mailed out to affiliates, media, and politicians. Garlock also reminded board members about the following upcoming events: Voting Rights Rally at the US Supreme Court (2/27); We Feed DC/We Are DC Rally (2/28); DC Trash (3/1-8); Bread & Roses: Jane McAlevey & Bill Fletcher (3/5); Trabajadores Unidos Fundraiser (3/9); Labor Seder: Let My People Go Home Sick (3/17) (resolution passed last month); MD Coalition to Fund Our Communities rally (3/23)

Attendance

Present: F Allen (GCC 538-C), V Ayres (WBTC), J Boardman (UNITE HERE 25), D Briscoe (APWU Nation's Capital & Southern MD), A Frederick (LiUNA 657)*, C Goldman (AFSCME Council 26), J Jeter (ATU 689), K Martin (Ironworkers 5), M Murphy (IUOE 99), T Perez (UFCW 400)*, C Reed (SEIU 400 PG), D Reed (ASASP), N Saunders (WTU), J Williams (MWC)*
Excused: L Bridges (OPEIU 2), S Falwell (DCNA/NUU), J Tarlau (CWA District 2)
Absent: D Dyer (OPEIU 2), R Gaines (IBEW 26), G Johnson (AFSCME Council 20), T Ratliff (Teamsters 639), G Renne (UFCW 1994), K Taylor (1199SEIU)
Guests: S Courtien (WBTC), S Epps (UNITE HERE 25), D Richardson (AFGE 12, ret), F Stella (DC/MD ARA), J Walker (AFGE)
Staff: C Garlock, J Kann; K McKirchy; R Powell, A Solomon
* via phone



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COPE Reports

Rick Powell (Political/Legislative) reported on the steps the Scorecard Committee has made in tracking politicians' actions in Annapolis. He spoke about proposed legislation on Prevailing Wage, Workers Comp, and Same Day Registration. He added that Maryland Republican Senator Kittleman is introducing "nonsense bills that are not going anywhere and take up our resources." In all of Maryland COPE they are preparing to "map out 2014" looking at open seats throughout the government to identify what resources will be needed. In the past, affiliates have set up PACs individually, and this allowed for the mobilization of hundreds of people. Currently there are not enough people being mobilized to effectively run a campaign, which is why only two of the five people endorsed won. The plan is to go back to affiliates and encourage them to establish these committees moving forward. Powell added that the UFCW has a bill in the Senate and the House called the "alcohol beverages sales prohibition against self-scanning" to forbid 'self-scanning' of alcohol, which takes away jobs from workers. Tony Perez (UFCW 400) expanded on the importance of this legislation.

Fred Allen (GCC 538-C) reported on the two meetings DC COPE held in February in an attempt to make a recommendation to the Board for the At-Large DC City Council seat currently held by Anita Bonds (appointee of the Democratic State Committee). Neither of these meetings led to an endorsement. Allen, the DC COPE committee chair, asked the board to defer action.

Allen also spoke about the "Local Budget Autonomy" question on the ballot, which would allow local decisions about the DC budget, rather than Federal-level decisions on the local budget. Allen recommended that the Metro Council take a position supporting this referendum. Moved and seconded to support this referendum. Nathan Saunders (WTU 6) reported that he'd testified in support of this legislation but is disappointed by the discourse between DC City Council Chairman Mendelson and the Mayor. Allen said he believes that the Mayor has put too much confidence

in national politicians who make decisions for DC. He opts for local dealing with the DC budget. Motion to support approved.

Extensive discussion ensued on the question of endorsements for the At-Large position.

Vance Ayres (WBCTC) moved for 'No position.' Seconded. Rick Powell explained what endorsement, "no endorsement," and "no position" each mean. Further discussion ensued.

After the question was called, "No position" in the DC Council At-Large race was approved, with three "no" votes, meaning locals are free to endorse any candidate of their choosing.

Rick Powell added a big thanks to Lino Cresotti (Insulators 24), Roxy Mejia (Painters), and Tony Perez (UFCW 400) for their great support in hosting the recent labor fundraiser for Andrea Harrison (Prince George's County Council Chair).

Community Services Agency

Kathleen McKirchy (Executive Director) thanked CWA 2108 and ATU 689 for their notable donations to the emergency assistance fund for union members in need. McKirchy announced that Labor Night at the Nats is set for July 19, 2013; ticket price is still \$10; purchase 50 or more to get your name on the big screen. Evening with Labor is coming up on Saturday, March 16. Ads will be accepted for another 36 hours. Still selling tickets; great menu planned; same band as last year.

President's Report

AFL-CIO Immigration resolution. Moved and seconded to adopt the AFL-CIO Resolution in favor of Immigration Reform. Approved.

Reports of Board Members

Kendall Martin (Iron Workers 5) thanked board members for their support in giving him the 2012 JC Turner award.

Frank Stella (MD-DC ARA) distributed information about the MD-DC Alliance for Retired Americans to



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board members. Stella explained that the organization concentrates on federal issues. Stella asked for Board members' support by assigning one or two retirees from each union as contacts for ARA. "We'd like folks from your organization to be involved." Contact info is on page 17 of the new Directory.

John Boardman (Unite Here 25) brought a resolution to the Council, supporting a boycott of Hyatt hotels (with the exception of the Hyatt Regency, which is union). **Moved and seconded to adopt the Unite Here Resolution in support of the Global Boycott. Approved.**

Moved and seconded to adjourn at 5:58pm. Approved.