



Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

DELEGATE MEETING MINUTES: February 25, 2013

Meeting called to order by Doris Reed (ASASP) at 6:35pm.

Reed swore in Jim Griffin (IBEW 1900) as a delegate.

Reed led delegates 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.

Delegates moved, seconded, and approved the adoption of the following recommendations from the executive board: 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

Resolutions: Immigration Reform; Global Boycott of Hyatt Hotels

Endorsements: “No position” in DC City Council At-Large Special Election, yes on “budget autonomy referendum”

Ann Hoffman (NWU) spoke in support of the budget autonomy referendum, saying “we may or may not get away with this, which makes it more fun! But first we have to vote on it.”

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. Still selling tickets; great menu planned; same band as last year.

Union Cities

Chris Garlock (coordinator) reported on:

- Congress sequestration negotiations and how federal workers will be affected by possible cuts. This Friday (March 1) is when sequestration will begin without congressional action. Saul Schniderman (AFSCME 2910) added that the “grand bargain” or “great compromise” are nice words for something that’s bad for workers. Bill Preston (AFGE 17) said they will be bargaining on impact of implementation of the furloughs. McKirchy added that CSA has prepared documents and resources that can be shared with federal employees in preparing for sequestration cuts.

- Proposed cuts to Saturday mail delivery. The four unions 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.

Jackie Jeter (ATU 689) reported on their 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. Pedro Cruz (DC JwJ) added that “we’re going to be asking for your help, your support” on this campaign.

Emilio Abate (Unite Here 23) reported on a recent contract win with Bon Appetit at American University. They are now focusing on contract negotiations with Sodexo. There will be a major rally this Thursday at 4:30pm on U street, called “We Feed DC / We Are DC!”

Jesse Goode (Federation of Administrative Judges) reported that they have started a petition to be recog-



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nized with the IFPTE. They submitted cards from over 60% of the office and still have been unable to get a vote. The chief judge comes from Hershey and is deeply anti-union. They have called on the Mayor to intervene, and President Williams has been working to support them, too. They're now over 70% card submissions, but they still haven't gotten a vote. They were going to have a final, make-or-break meeting with City Administrator Allan Lew, but it was just cancelled. They will wait for one more meeting but this is the last straw before taking this more public. Some discussion ensued on the situation the judges are in and how they will proceed. Jeter and Eric Starin (OPEIU 2) added that Venable, the anti-union law firm hired by the judges' boss, was also holding up ATU 689 and OPEIU 2 in negotiation at Metro, and they are both happy to help any way they can.

Julia Kann (Asst. Mobilizer) 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)

COPE Reports

Doris Reed (ASASP) reported on the successful labor fundraiser for Prince George's County Council Chair Andrea Harrison raising \$10,000 for her in Prince George's county. Rick Powell (Political/Legislative) added a big thanks to Alya Solomon (Asst. Political/Legislative), for taking on so much while he was sick, and Lino Cresotti (Insulators 24), Roxy Mejia (Painters), and Tony Perez (UFCW 400) for their great support in hosting the fundraiser.

Rick Powell reported on the steps the Scorecard Committee has made in tracking politicians' actions in Annapolis. He spoke about pro-union proposed legislation on Prevailing Wage, Workers Comp, and Same Day Voter Registration. He added that Maryland Republican Senator Kittleman continues to introduce

anti-union bills. 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 expanded on the importance of this legislation.

Jim Lowery (IUEC Local 10) seconded Powell's praise of the fundraiser for Harrison and its positive effects. The Tri-County COPE meeting will be tomorrow night and Chris Davis will be there (he ran in 2010 against the current minority leader). Before the meeting a small group will meet with Bob Martin about the fight to keep Walmart out of La Plata. Powell added that in Maryland they will be "mapping out" a 2014 strategy, identifying possible open seats, resources, budgeting, etc. They will present, at March COPE meeting, a road map for PG and Mont Co, and then road maps for Tri County and DC to follow, so that they can start much earlier with strategy.

Chris Garlock and Julia Kann previewed the annual Year In Review slideshow that will run during the upcoming Evening with Labor, featuring photos from local labor activities during 2012.

Reports of Delegates

Gwend Johnson (DC CBTU) reminded delegates about CBTU's upcoming annual conference, noting that discounts are available to people registering early.

Ann Hoffman (NWU) announced that CLUW is promoting the Union Women Summer School, which she attended in the '70s, saying "It's a great adventure" and adding that the Berger-Marks Foundation has scholarships for young women (under 35).

Saul Schniderman (AFSCME 2910) reported on the recent screening of "At The River I Stand" at the Library of Congress for Black History Month. He recommends it to everyone.

New delegate Jim Griffin (IBEW 1900) introduced himself, saying this is the first Council meeting he is attending. Local 1900 represents 1,100 PEPCO work-



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ers. Griffin thanked everyone in the room who supported him in the summer negotiations and through the derecho storm. The Mayor has formed a task force to look at how to anticipate future storms, and they are interested in moving things underground. The problem is there are “hundreds and hundreds of scabs at Pepco on any given day.” There will be a fight to make sure it is IBEW 1900 members doing the new construction and new folks hired. “They’ve been using scab contractors for a long time and it’s decimating us.”

Frank Stella (MD-DC ARA) reported on recent meetings with Congressional Representatives Hoyer and Van Hollen around the fiscal issues involved in sequestration coming to a head this Friday.

Nikki Lewis introduced herself as the new Executive Director of DC Jobs with Justice.

Mike Wilson (Respect DC) reported on the Large Retailer Accountability Act of 2013 and their fight to hold Walmart (and other big box stores) accountable to DC residents. The bill was introduced by Council Chair Phil Mendelson last month. Everyone is encouraged to contact the Council and share their support. Paper cards were handed out to show support, and an online petition will be circulated soon.

Moved and seconded to adjourn at 7:38pm. Approved.

Attendance

Delegates: Abate, Emilio (UNITE HERE 23); Allen, Fred (GCC 538-C); Ayres, Vance (WBCTC); Blumenthal, Dan (AFSCME 3870); Boardman, John (UNITE HERE 25); Briscoe, Dena (APWU, Nation’s Capital & Southern MD); Buchanan, Avis (AFGE 2782); Carson, Carl (Cement Mason 891); Clay, Chuck (IATSE 22); Collins, Cynthia (SEIU 400 PG); Courtien, Stephen (WBCTC); Dixon, Vanessa (DCDC/AFSCME NUHCE); Epps, Samuel (UNITE Here 25); Frederick, Anthony (LiUNA 657); Goldman, Carl (AFSCME Council 26); Griffin, Jim (IBEW 1900) Hershfield, David (AFGE Council 1); Hoffman, Ann (NWU/UAW 1981); Jeter, Jackie (ATU 689); Johnson, Gwend (CBTU DC); Lowery, Jim (IUEC 10); Lowery, Ruth (IAMAW 193); Martin, Kendall (Ironworkers 5); Murphy, Michael (IUOE 99); Newman, Elaine (NCAUR); Perez, Tony (UFCW 400); Perry, Alan (IATSE 22); Preston, William (AFGE 17); Reed, Carnell (SEIU 400 PG); Reed, Doris (ASASP); Richardson, David (AFGE 12); Saunders, Nathan (WTU 6), Schniderman, Saul (AFSCME 2910); Starin, Eric (OPEIU 2); Stella, Frank (MD/DC ARA); Walker, Johnnie (AFGE 65)

Guests: Lewis, Nikki (DC JwJ); Wilson, Mike (Respect DC)

Staff: Garlock, Chris; Kann, Julia; McKirchy, Kathleen; Powell, Rick; Solomon, Alya