



Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES: December 16, 2013

Minutes- of November 18 meeting moved, seconded and approved as circulated.

Financial Report- of November 30, 2013 received.

Report of the Community Services Agency: Executive Director Kathleen McKirchy reminded the Board about the continuing Holiday Basket Project and donations of food, funds and gift cards still needed. Also the Bowling Tournament is 1/26/14. She also provided the Board with a listing of all successful grant applications for various CSA projects as well as pending applications for funding.

COPE Reports

DC- Assistant Political/Legislative Coordinator Alya Solomon updated the Board on the minimum wage and paid sick leave legislation scheduled to be voted on December 17 by the DC City Council. She updated the Board on the schedule for endorsements for upcoming races for Mayor and City Council:

Thursday, January 2nd, deadline for filing nominating petitions to DC Board of Elections
Monday, January 13th, DC Board of Elections challenge period ends

Monday, January 6th, send out legislative questionnaires to candidates that have filed with the DC Board of Elections

Thursday, January 16th, deadline to return completed questionnaires.

Friday, January 17th, questionnaires will be posted on the website for review

Tuesday, January 21st, begin candidate interviews (4-6pm). A DC Cope meeting will take place after the final interview to vote on endorsement recommendations (6-8pm)

Monday, January 27th, DC Cope submits recommendations to the Executive Board for approval and ratification by the delegates

Tuesday, April 1st, Primary Election Day

Maryland- Political/Legislative Coordinator Rick Powell updated the Board on the Montgomery and Prince George's Counties mini-

mum wage votes. He indicated that the Maryland State and DC AFL-CIO has identified statewide minimum wage as a priority for the 2014 General Assembly session. Targeted early endorsement campaigns include Veronica Turner, running for State Senate, 26th DT, and Jimmy Tarlau, running for State Delegate in the 47th. Brother Tarlau, CWA District 2, thanked the Board for its vote of confidence and indicated he is looking for funds and for volunteers to help him run his campaign.

Powell alerted the Board to the schedule for Maryland endorsements:

County Council & County Executive Races

Tuesday, Feb. 25th - Filing deadline

Wednesday, Feb. 26th – Send out questionnaires

Friday, March 7th – Deadline for return of questionnaires

Monday, March 10th begin candidate interviews, 10 AM to 5 PM

Wednesday, March 12th - Last day candidate interviews, 10 AM to 5 PM

Thursday, March 13th – COPE votes recommendations (One union one vote)

Monday, March 17th – Submit PG/Montgomery and Tri-County COPE recommendations to Executive Board for endorsements

State Legislative Races

Midnight, Monday April 7th - Sine die, State Assembly session over

Monday, April 14th – Begin candidate interviews, 10 AM to 5 PM

Thursday, April 17th – Last day of interviews, 10 AM to 5 PM

Friday, April 18th - COPE meeting to vote recommendations

Monday, April 22nd – Submit PG/Montgomery and Tri-County COPE recommendations to Executive Board for endorsements

President's Report- President Williams circulated the recommendations for Evening with Labor awards and asked Mike Murphy, IUOE 99, chair of the JC Turner Committee, to report. Brother Murphy reported that the committee identified Jimmy Tarlau, CWA District 2, as the nominee for the Board to approve. He has been a solid trade unionist and deserves the award. President Williams indicated that the other recommendations included the IBEW national office for the Thomas M. Bradley Community Services Award for the community involvement and support of CSA in a number of ways. It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the recommendations for the JC Turner and Community Services Awards. President Williams will circulate additional recommendations for Organizing and Golden Picket Sign awards. A discussion ensued regarding the current rules of the awards which for most require that activities be done by volunteers, not paid staff. The Board will review the award criteria and re-visit at the January 2014 Board meeting.

In attendance: J Williams, J Tarlau, D Briscoe, C Goldman, M Murphy, F Allen, J Jeter, S Falwell, V Ayres, J Boardman, D Reed, E Bunn, A Frederick

Guests: Mark Coles, DC Building Trades Council; Sam Epps, UNITE HERE Local 25

Staff: K McKirchy, R Powell, A Solomon



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Reports of Board Members

Jackie Jeter, ATU 689- we organized paratransit workers at First Transit in Fairfax County, VA and are working on 300 more at the Central Avenue facility

Sandra Falwell, DCNA, reported that they are sending RN's over to the Philippines at their own expense and would welcome contributions to help defray costs. They are staffing rural health clinics and the need is still very great there.

John Boardman, UNITE HERE 25, indicated they are anxiously awaiting the opening of the Marriott Marquis convention center hotel where they have a card check neutrality agreement.

Mike Murphy, IUOE 99, reported that the National Labor College is closing and he has two members losing their jobs. Negotiations regarding the NLC's living up to its contractual obligations for these workers as well as the ones represented by OPEIU local 2 are not going well.

Eric Bunn, AFGE District 14, reported on the latest budget activities in Congress. There are some good things in the bi-partisan bill passed by the House and expected to come up for a vote in the Senate this week. They recently won a Federal Labor Relations Authority decision to continue union representation of combined health services workers- this is due to consolidation of Walter Reed, Ft. Belvoir and Bethesda Naval Hospital- service members across services will be able to access all sites and workers who were in various unions can maintain their union representation.

Carl Goldman, AFSCME Council 26, indicated that the bi-partisan agreement has lots of stuff in it we don't like, like institution of two and three-tier wage and benefits structures for new hires and no taxes on the wealthy.

Dena Briscoe, APWU Nation's Capitol/Southern Maryland local, discussed the fact that new workers will have to pay more into their pensions and the USPS seems to be adopting some Canadian postal service moves including doing away with delivery to each home and substituting delivery to boxes to be installed at entrances to neighborhoods.

The meeting adjourned at 6PM and Board members proceeded to the Reception for endorsed MD 26th Legislative District Senatorial Candidate Veronica Turner.