



Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

EXECUTIVE BOARD/DELEGATE MINUTES: April 21, 2014

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Meeting called to order by President Williams at 3:10 pm at the AFL-CIO Presidents' Room.

The regular order of business was suspended at the request of the President to allow for a presentation by Working America National Program Director Maggie Priebe, and NE Regional Director Cory Medina. They presented the AFL-CIO Working America program which involves focusing on not-yet-union individuals who are canvassed, who join, who vote and who sign support letters for our initiatives. This program can boost voter and activist density during our political, legislative and organizing campaigns. They discussed their track record and experiences in several states and with several national unions which resulted in victories and expansion of working family power. Discussion ensued focusing on how to get such a program going locally and the steps and resources needed to generate activity in our jurisdiction.

President Williams thanked the presenters and introduced two staff of the campaign of Jimmy Tarlau for State Delegate. Tony Perez, consultant, introduced Danielle Douglas, campaign manager, who informed the Board of what is needed between now and the election in less than 65 days. All pledged their support, the President thanked them and then moved back to the regular order of business.

Minutes of February 24, 2014 meeting were moved, seconded as approved with one correction, to change the name of Andrew Lee to Andre Lee, AFSCME Council 20. The March meeting had been cancelled due to weather.

Financial Report of March 2014 was tabled until the May meeting.

Correspondence:

The Board approved a total of \$2,240 in expenditures as outlined below:
Jews United for Justice Labor Seder- \$250 for quarter page ad and 2 tickets

DC Chapter APRI for A. Philip Randolph Birthday Luncheon- \$140 contribution
NoVA Labor Federation Annual COPE Tribute Dinner- \$750 for full page ad
IBEW 26 for Poker Run Fundraiser- \$250 to get name on t-shirt
Metro Baltimore Council of AFL-CIO Unions Cope Dinner- \$250 half page ad
Teamsters 639 Golf Tournament- \$250 tee sign contribution
Iron Workers 5 DAD's Day Poker Run- \$250 contribution

Community Services Agency
Executive Director McKirchy reminded the Board about Labor Night at the Nats, Friday, July 18 against the Brewers. We have sold about 2,000 tickets to date and have on order another 1500. Secretary of Labor Perez expressed interest in throwing out the first pitch so we will update the Board if that becomes official. She informed the Board of a new grant award from the City Fund for \$70,000 for the Building Futures program- over 300 agencies applied and only 58 were funded, so this speaks to the success of this program. She also alerted the Board to WTOP's "Click for a Cause". If CSA wins through individuals voting, the agency wins \$10,000.

Union Cities

Mobilization Coordinator Chris Garlock updated the Board on upcoming Streetheat events:
4/24: Postal Workers Protest at Staples; 11:30a, 19th & L (Dena Briscoe)
4/24: Stand with Seasons Culinary Workers; 12 noon: NEA, 1201 16th St
4/24: Global Day of Action for Bangladesh Factory Collapse Victims: 5:30p: Children's Place store; 3100 14th St NW (at Park Rd)
4/28: The Battle for the Capitol: Kick Corporate Cash out of Congress! 11a: American History Museum, 14th & Constitution Avenue, NW.
5/7: Rally to Oppose Fast Track and Support a New Fair Trade Framework; 1:30p, Upper Senate Park

He also discussed the upcoming DC LaborFest and DC Labor FilmFest, noting that the 14th annual FilmFest is anchoring an expanded labor art and culture event that includes dozens of events – music, theater, art, poetry and labor history – through the month of May.

Board Members in Attendance:
Fred Allen, Dena Briscoe, Eric Bunn, Steve Courtien, Sandra Falwell, Mark Federici, Carl Goldman, Kendall Martin, Mike Murphy, Doris Reed, Sonny Reed, Gino Renne, Jimmy Tarlau, Jos Williams

Guests Present: Mike Wilson (UFCW 400), John Shields (SM 100), Patrick Moran and Frank Horton (AFSCME MD Cn 3), Sue Esty (AFSCME Council 67), Mark Coles (WBTC), Nelvin Ransome (MCGEO UFCW 1994), James Lowery (IUEC), Dave Richardson (AFGE), Brenda King (DCNA), Roland Jeter (ATU 689), Shirley Adams (AFSCME 2250), Eric Starin (OPEIU 2), Cynthia Jaffe (OPEIU 277)

Staff Present: Chris Garlock, Rick Powell, Kathleen McKirchy



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COPE Report

-DC COPE: President Williams reminded the Board that the FY 2015 DC Budget is now working its way through the City Council. Unions affected should be sure to review and testify at the agency hearings now occurring. He has been in touch with all DC primary award winners. Muriel Bowser, Democratic winner for Mayor has agreed to meet with the Board asap.

-Maryland COPE Report- Political/Legislative Coordinator Rick Powell reported on the endorsement process observed by the Montgomery/Prince George's County COPE and Tri-County COPE for Maryland General Assembly races and County Council, County Commission, other local races and Democratic Central Committee races. COPE Chair Doris Reed led the consideration of these recommendations.

Attendees were reminded that by rule candidates must return completed questionnaires to be considered for endorsement. After extensive discussion and voting, the Board approved the following:

General Assembly (final endorsement due by MD State and DC AFL-CIO April 22, 2014)

District 14

Senator- Karen Montgomery

Delegates - Anne Kaiser, Eric Luedtke, Craig Zucker

District 15

Senator- Brian Feldman

Delegates - David Fraser-Hidalgo, Bennett Rushkoff, No Position

District 16

Senator- Susan Lee

Delegates - Bill Frick, No Position, No Position

District 17

Senator- No Position

Delegates - Kumar Barve, Jim Gilchrist, Andrew Platt

District 18

Senator- No Position

Delegates - Jeff Waldstreicher, Natali Fani-Gonzalez, No Recommendation

District 19

Senator- Roger Manno

Delegates - Ben Kramer, Bonnie Cullison, Marice Morales

District 20

Senator- Jamie Raskin

Delegates - Sheila Hixson, David Moon, Will Jawando

District 21

Senator- Jim Rosapepe

Delegates - Ben Barnes, Barbara Frush, Joseline Pena-Melnyk

District 22

Senator- Paul Pinsky

Delegates - Tawanna Gaines, Ann Healey, Alonzo Washington

District 23

Senator- Doug Peters

Delegate 23A - Geraldine Valentino-Smith

Delegates 23B - Marvin Holmes, Joseph Vallario

District 24

Senator- Joanne Benson

Delegates - Carolyn Howard, Michael Vaughn, Ereik Barron

District 25

Senator- Ulysses Currie

Delegates - Dereck Davis, Juanita Miller, Larry Greenhill, Sr.

District 26

Senator- Veronica Turner (Early Endorsement Made)

Delegates - Kris Valderrama, David Sloan, No Position

District 27

Senator- No Recommendation

Delegate 27A - Jim Proctor

Delegate 27B - Michael Jackson

Delegate 27C - Sue Kullen (early endorsement made)

District 28

Senator - Mac Middleton

Delegates- Edith Patterson, No Position, No Endorsement

District 29

Senator- No Endorsement

Delegate 29A- No Endorsement

Delegate 29B- John Bohanan

Delegate 29C- Len Zuza

District 39

Senator- Nancy King

Delegates - Charles Barkley, Krill Reznik, Shane Robinson

District 47

Senator- Victor Ramirez

Delegates- 47A - Jimmy Tarlau (Early Endorsement Made)

No Endorsement for Second Seat (Encourage members to bullet vote)

Delegate 47B - No Position

Local Races (endorsements final with some still to come at May MWC Executive Board/Delegates Meetings, May 19,2014)

Montgomery County

County Executive

Consider at May meetings



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County Council

At-Large 4 positions- consider at May meetings

District 1- Duchy Trachtenberg

District 2- Consider at May meetings

District 3- Ryan Spiegel

District 4- Consider at May meetings

District 5- Tom Hucker

Sheriff- Consider at May meetings

Clerk of the Court- Alan Bowser

Montgomery Democratic Central Committee- Erin Yeagley

Prince George's County

County Executive- Rushern Baker

County Council

District 1- Mary Lehman

District 2- Doyle Niemann

District 3- Dannielle Glaros

District 4- Vince Canales

District 5- Andrea Harrison

District 6- Consider at May meetings

District 7- Karen Toles

District 8- Obie Patterson

District 9- Mel Franklin

State's Attorney- Angela Alsobrooks

Clerk of the Court- No Position

Sheriff- Melvin High

Democratic Central Committee- At- Large- Cynthia Collins

Charles County

County Commissioners

President- No Position

District 1- Sam Graves

District 2- Debra Davis

District 3- No Position

District 4- No Position

Sheriff- Rex Coffey

Orphans' Court- Frank Lancaster (early endorsement made)

Register of Wills- Lorraine Hennessy

Clerk of Court- Sharon "Sherri" Hancock

Democratic Central Committee- Greg Waller

Calvert County

County Commissioners

At-Large- Joyce Stinnett Baki

District 3- Kelly McConkey

Democratic Central Committee- Cliff Savoy

St. Mary's County

County Commissioners

President- Jack Russell

District 2- Bob Schaller

District 3- Joseph "Tony" St. Clair

There being no further business, and due to the meeting extending into the time for the Delegates' Meeting, the Executive Board meeting adjourned at 7:30pm and the delegate's meeting immediately called to order by President Williams.

DELEGATE MEETING

The regular order of business was suspended at the request of the President to allow for a presentation by APWU president Mark Dimondstein who – noting that he's been a longtime Union City reader since before moving to DC from North Carolina -- reported on the protests in 50 cities – including Washington – on Thursday, April 24 (11a starting at Farragut Square Park) against the Postal Service's plans to open USPS counters in Staples. All four USPS unions have united in what Dimonstein called "a grand alliance" in opposition to the move, which will staff the counters with non-union low-wage workers; concerns also include service and training. "We have it within our power to win," said Dimondstein, "but only if we band together in solidarity."

Minutes of February 24, 2014 meeting were moved, seconded and approved. The March meeting had been cancelled due to weather.

Financial Report of March 2014 was tabled until the May meeting.

COPE: The endorsements of the April 21 Executive Board (see above) were reviewed, discussed and then moved, seconded and approved.

Correspondence:

Delegates approved Board-recommended approved expenditures of \$2,240 as outlined below:

Jews United for Justice Labor Seder- \$250 for quarter page ad and 2 tickets

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Union Cities

Jennifer Angarita (AFL-CIO) introduced Ernestina Hernandez, an immigration rights protestor who's been fasting in Lafayette Park for the last two weeks. A passed hat collected \$300 supporting the fasters.

The AFL-CIO's Brett Gibson reported on the May 7 Fast Track rally (against the TPP) at the U.S. Capitol.

ATU's Kewana Battle-Mason updated delegates on the May 20 transit rally.

IFPTE's Abby Mills (who works at the International Labor Rights Forum) reported on the April 24 Global Day of Action for Bangladesh Factory Collapse Victims: 5:30p: Children's Place store; 3100 14th St NW (at Park Rd)

UFCW 400's Mike Wilson reported on a planned action against Walmart on Wednesday, April 23.

Ron Carver reported on the upcoming Ralph Fasanella art exhibit at the Smithsonian, part of the first LaborFest, showing delegates two original Ralph Fasanella paintings. Saul Schniderman

(AFSCME 2910) reported on the LaborFest kick-off event on May 1, a wreath-laying at the Mother Jones memorial sign in Silver Spring. Labor FilmFest Director Chris Garlock also discussed the upcoming DC LaborFest and DC Labor FilmFest, noting that the 14th annual FilmFest is anchoring an expanded labor art and culture event that includes dozens of events – music, theater, art, poetry and labor history – through the month of May. He also introduced Alison Reardon, new area VP at Amalgamated Bank, a FilmFest sponsor which is also hosting labor film posters during the Labor FilmFest (as is the AFL-CIO).

Garlock also updated delegates on other upcoming Streetheat events, including the 4/24 Stand with Seasons Culinary Workers (12 noon: NEA, 1201 16th St) and 4/28 Battle for the Capitol: Kick Corporate Cash out of Congress (11a: American History Museum, 14th & Constitution Avenue, NW).

Community Services Agency

Executive Director McKirchy reminded the delegates about Labor Night at the Nats, Friday, July 18 against the Brewers. We have sold about 2,000 tickets to date and have on order another 1500. Secretary of Labor Perez expressed interest in throwing out the first pitch so we will update the Board if that becomes official. She informed the Board of a new grant award from the City Fund for \$70,000 for the Building Futures program- over 300 agencies applied and only 58 were funded, so this speaks to the success of this program.

She also alerted the delegates to WTOP's "Click for a Cause". If CSA wins through individuals voting, the agency wins \$10,000.

Reports

John Shields, Sheet Metal 100, reported that the local is in new negotiations now, and that the Sheet Metal Workers are merging with the UTU.

Ann Hoffman, NWU, reported on the local's April 24 noontime presentation at the AFL-CIO on "Copyright in the Digital Age: Creators in a landscape of Google Books and Orphan Works." Chuck Clay, IATSE 22 reported that the local just successfully won triple damages in a Prince George's County case, and that the union has signed a nationwide agreement with PSAV.

ATU's Kewana Battle-Mason reported that the union's efforts to get rid of non-union First Transit are looking increasingly successful.

Former Council staffer Alya Solomon reported on her new job as the Consumer Affairs Liaison at the Office of the People's Counsel.

On behalf of DC Jobs with Justice, President Williams asked delegates to save the date for JWJ's annual I'll Be There Awards on Thursday June 12, 6-8pm at the AFL-CIO Samuel Gompers Room, which will be recognizing Alya Solomon; Reverend Graylan Hagler; the Trabajadores Unidos, and Sasha Bruce Youthwork. He also urged sign up for the May 17 Labor Walking Tour led by Chris Garlock which benefits DC JWJ.

Joni Eisenberg reported on WPFW's involvement and support for the DC LaborFest. Benito Diaz noted that there are ongoing staff problems, but both Eisenberg and Vanessa Dixon asserted that those issues "have been largely resolved" and President Williams reminded delegates the Council will follow SAG-AFTRA's lead on this issue and that the Council would be following up with the local on the current status at WPFW.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Doris Reed, Secretary

Delegate Attendance

Shirley Adams, ACE/AFSCME 2250; Kadija AshAFGE, Local 2978; Aaron Bast, ironworkers local 5; Kewana Battle-Mason, ATU 1764; Dan Blumenthal, AFSCME 3870; Dena Briscoe, APWU, Nation's Capital and Southern MD; Benoit Brookens, AFGE 12; Eric Bunn, AFGE District 14; Carl Carson, OPCM 891; Chuck Clay, IATSE 22; Mark Coles, Washington Building Trades Council; Cynthia Collins, SEIU Local 400 PG; Stephen Courtien, Washington DC Bldg Trades Council; Benito Diaz, Working America; Vanessa Dixon-Briggs, Doctors Council ; Sandra Falwell, DCNA/NNU; Carl Goldman, AFSCME Council 26 ; James Griffin, IBEW 1900; Theresa Haas, IFPTE Local 70; Drew Halunen, National Federation of Federal Employees; Edward Hill, AFGE 2782; Ann Hoffman, NWU/UAW 1981; Roland H. Jeter, ATU; LaKisha Little, DCNA; Jim Lowery, IUEC 10; Rick Malachi, SEIU 722; Kendall Martin, Iron Workers 5; Elaine Newman, NCAUR; Alan Perry, IATSE 22; Nelvin Ransome, UFCW 1994 MCGEO; Alison Reardon, Amalgamated Bank; Doris Reed, ASASP; Sonny Reed, SEIU 400 PG; Gino Renne, UFCW Local 1994 MCGEO; David Richardson, AFGE 12; Saul Schniderman, AFSCME 2910; John Shields, Sheet Metal Workers', Local #100; Alya Solomon, DC Office of the People's Counsel; Eric Starin, OPEIU Local 2; Francis Stella, MD/DC Alliance for Retired Americans; Ian Stublarec, OPEIU Local 2; Jimmy Tarlau, CWA District 2-13; Josh VanDyke, IUOE 77; Johnnie Walker, AFGE 65; Michael Wilson, UFCW 400 (Respect DC); Bruce Wolf, OPEIU 2