



# Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

## EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES: September 15, 2014

(draft)

The President called the meeting to order at 4:05pm at the AFL-CIO. The President welcomed Board members back after the summer recess and requested a moment of silence for Ray Abernathy, longtime labor PR and communications person who passed away yesterday.

### Special Orders of Business

SEIU 1199's Katherine Taylor reported on the situation at Dimensions Health. After 16 months of bargaining, there's been "nothing but problems" with management, which has brought in a union-busting law firm, rejected all the union's offers and reduced staff. Massive rally planned at a date TBA; asked for support and turnout at the event. Thanked UFCW 400 for support (1199 meets in Local 400's basement conference room). Jimmy Tarlau (CWA) said to let him know what elected officials can do to help. President Williams pledged support and emphasized that this isn't just a matter of labor solidarity but of the quality of health care at Dimensions. **MOVED, SECONDED AND APPROVED** to support SEIU 1199 in their struggle at Dimensions.

PG County Council District 4 candidate Todd Turner – introduced by Tony Perez -- spoke about his candidacy.

President Williams introduced Maya Goines, who's been assigned by the AFL-CIO to help state federations and central labor councils in the region develop capacity and resources on the ground.

President Williams introduced Caneisha Washington, an OPEIU 2 member and coordinator of the DC Young Trade Unionists. Washington discussed Local 2's Rising Star program and urged Board members to "keep sending us your young members" to YTU meetings, saying the group "helps develop activists and leaders." She specifically asked each local to commit to sending at least two rank and file members to the next YTU meeting on October 23 (location TBA).

**Minutes:** The minutes of June 16, 2014 were moved, seconded and approved.

**Financial report:** The financial report of August 2014 was received.

**Community Services Agency** - Director Kathleen McKirchy strongly urged delegates to help support CSA financially by making personal contributions, getting the 2014 campaign flyer out to members and encouraging support by rank and filers during the DC One Fund, United Way and CFC campaigns. This is labor's agency and services cannot continue to be provided to unions and their members without financial support.

**Union Cities Report** - Chris Garlock, Organizing/Mobilization Coordinator reported on the Council's new website and its format and features, including the Google-powered calendar section for upcoming activities. The site's traffic has increased dramatically, with over 45,000 visitors in the last month.

He also reported on the upcoming 4th annual Global Labor Film Festival Organizer's Conference, with two dozen organizers coming from around the world to the event October 7-9 at the AFL-CIO, with welcoming remarks by Richard Trumka and Jos Williams.

Streethat highlights included UFCW 400 negotiations at Kroger, the CWA demo Wednesday at CNN and the Teamsters 96 win at Daycon.

**Correspondence:** The Board approved the following expenditures, totaling \$1,075:

Sheetmetal 100, 9/19/2014 Golf Tournament: \$250.00  
Dick/Ayanna Gregory, 9/26/2014 play: \$250.00  
AFL-CIO 10/9/2014 Meany-Kirkland Human Rights Award: \$25.00  
Joe Uehlein 10/19/2014 Seeger Tribute: \$250.00  
JUFJ 10/26/2014 Heschel Vision Awards: \$200.00  
Edith Patterson, Charles County Delegate candidate: \$100.00

**COPE:** After extensive discussion, the Board approved the following endorsement recommendations:

DC- Edward "Smitty" Smith (Atty General); Elissa Silverman and "No Position" (2 At-Large City Council seats); Brianne Nadeau (Ward 1); No Position (Ward 3); Charles Allen (Ward 6), Donna Brockington (ANC 4D-04- member of AFGE 32).

Montgomery County- For positions now occupied on the County Council by Nancy Floreen, George Leventhal and Hans Reimer, No Position, No Endorse-

Present: Allen, Courtien, Boardman, Briscoe, Bunn (by phone), Falwell, Federici, Goldman, Jeter, Martin, Ratliff, C Reed, D Reed, Shields, Tarlau, Washington, Williams.

Excused: Bridges, Dyer, Davis, Murphy, Renne

Staff: Garlock, McKirchy, Powell

Guests: Donna Edwards, Maya Goines, Ed Smith (IAFF 36), Eric Starin (OPEIU 2), Tiffany Flowers (UFCW 400), Ed Hill (AFGE 2782), Tim Traylor (AFGE 383), Caneisha Washington (OPEIU 2/DC YTU).



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ment and No Endorsement respectively. No Endorsement (District 1); No position (District 2); No Endorsement (District 3); Nancy Navarro (District 4). Sheriff- No Position; Clerk of Court- No Position; County Executive- No Position

Prince George’s County Council- Deni Taveras (District 2); No Position (District 4); No Endorsement (District 6). Clerk of Court- Sydney Harrison

Tri-County Area- County Commissioners- Peter Murphy (President); Amanda Stewart (District 3). Democratic State Committee- Dual endorsement for Jeff Guido (CHOICE) and Greg Waller (IBEW 1900)

The Board recommended No Position on the DC legalization of marijuana initiative.

President Williams appointed a committee to discuss strategies for implementing this year’s Labor to Labor campaign.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dena Briscoe (APWU 140)  
Secretary