



Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES: March 16, 2015 (draft)

Called to order at 4:07

Minutes (February 2015): unanimously approved, with note that the attendance needs to be updated.

Financial Report (February 2015)

Kendall Martin (Iron 5) raised some questions about the format and content of the report. President Williams noted that the Council has a new accountant and he'll get clarification and report back at the April retreat; meanwhile the financial report was tabled pending further information being provided.

AFL-CIO Reports

TPP/Fast Track, Immigration: Maya Goines - Campaign has now been extended, meetings, petitions, phone calls; also need help targeting local representatives in Congress – not only asking for their support but that they do so publicly -- and also be sure to report on actions locals take in Congress on this issue so that the AFL-CIO can track and have a complete sense of what's happening. Also noted that the AFL-CIO and internationals are not making any federal contributions until further notice while this issue is pending. Board members reported that all area Senate and House members are voting for TPP with the exception of Donna Edwards. Discussion ensued.

- March 31-April 1 Immigration workshop in DC: to help people get access to DACA forms. President Williams said that this is a priority for internationals and urged locals to get involved and support.

Montgomery County Taxi Drivers: Christian Sweeney (AFL-CIO Deputy Organizing Director), Beth Levie and two drivers, including Peter Ibek, local union president. First union since UFW to go from an organizing committee to a full-fledged union. Reviewed history of organizing taxi drivers, who used to be union members but were then classified

as independent contractors and not employees and thus not eligible to join unions. New organizing strategy is to go ahead and organize and act like a union. Taxi driving is one of the most dangerous jobs in America.

Thanked the Metro Council and especially UFCW 1994 for all their support.

The industry is changing rapidly now, making it harder and harder to make a living driving a taxi. Working in Montgomery County to support drivers who are organizing and help them survive the challenges; have a bill now under consideration that includes voluntary dues. President Williams led a discussion of the issue/concerns about whether this bill as written might open the door to "right-to-work" legislation. It was moved, seconded and unanimously approved that the Council support the Montgomery County driver's rights to organize and authorized President Williams to work with the AFL-CIO to craft language that will meet the concerns.

Present: Williams, Renne, Falwell, Briscoe, Boardman, Goldman, Jeter, Murphy, Martin, Tarlau, Shields, Smith, Federici, Allen, Reed, Davis
Excused: Bridges, Courtien, Ratliff
Absent: Dyer
Also attending: Mike Wilson, UFCW 400; Maya Goines, AFL-CIO

Correspondence: the following expenditures were recommended for approval:

Plumbers 5, 4/18/2015 125th anniversary: \$250 (2 tickets)
NOVA CLC, 5/15/2015 Tribute to NOVA Labor \$500 (half-page ad)
Charles County Democratic Central Committee, 5/22/2015 Truman-Kennedy Dinner \$250 (half-page ad)
IUEC 10, 5/31/2015 Golf Tournament \$200 (hole sponsor)
Printcraft Bowling Tournament, \$100 (full-page ad)

Community Services Agency

Labor Night at the Nats: July 17, 7:05pm. Executive Director Kathleen McKirchy reminded Board members that the Nats will be playing the Dodgers; tickets now available.

Union Cities

Coordinator Chris Garlock reported that the 2015 Directory of Affiliates has just been published. It's been completely updated and is being sent to all affiliates, politicians and area reporters and editors.

Plans for the 2015 DC LaborFest/Labor FilmFest are progressing well, with over 40 screenings, performances and more already confirmed or planned. More details will be published in Union City as they're available. He urged Board members to once again support the LaborFest/FilmFest by taking ads in the program guide.

2014 Year In Review slideshow: Chris showed the slideshow of labor photos from 2014, which had been first shown at Evening with Labor. This is a 3-minute version with music, and it'll be posted on the Council's website.



EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES: March 16, 2015 (draft)

COPE Report

DC – Ward 8 Special Election Labor to Labor Budget distributed by President Williams.

President's Report

Evening With Labor: Excellent program but Board members expressed frustration with significant delays with picking up cars after the event; President Williams said this is under discussion with the hotel.

Strategic Planning Program: Gino Renne reviewed the schedule and plan for the April 14-15 meeting; discussion ensued.

President Williams reported that both the DC Attorney General and Council Chairman Phil Mendelson have requested regular meetings with labor. The AG wants an advisory committee and President Williams asked the following Board members to serve: Federici, Briscoe, Washington, Bunn, Smith, Boardman, Davis, Allen, Courtien, Renne and Falwell. The meeting with Mendelson will be held April 6 or 7.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:28pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Dena Briscoe (APWU 140)
Secretary