



Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

DELEGATE MEETING MINUTES: April 20, 2015

Meeting called to order by President Williams at 6:32pm.

Board members in attendance: Allen, Falwell, Jeter, Williams

New Delegates sworn in: Lauren Rogers, IATSE 22; Valerie Bailey Grasso, IFPTE Local 75 CREA

Regular Order of Business was suspended to allow the DC Labor Chorus, which has a concert May 2, to lead the group in "Solidarity Forever" and other songs of struggle.

Minutes of the Meeting of February were moved, seconded and approved. Minutes of March 16 were amended to change the local union of Susan Thaul to CREA IFPTE 75.

Financial Report through the month of March was received.

Executive Board Report was moved, seconded and approved and included two expenditures: \$250 for a tee sign for Teamsters Local 639 golf outing and \$350 for a half page ad for the Metro Baltimore Council of AFL-CIO Unions COPE Dinner, as well as a report that the DC Living Wage initiative effort would be looked at by the Board at the May meeting.

Community Services Agency

Executive Director Kathleen McKirchy informed delegates that 3000 tickets have been sold to date. Event is Friday, July 17. Tickets still available.

Union Cities

Mobilization/Organizing Coordinator Chris Garlock reported that the DC LaborFest is about ready to pop in May with close to 60 events. The Young Trade unionists are having a happy hour before one of the films then volunteering to help with tickets. Nikki Lewis, DC Jobs With Justice, talked about the Labor History Bike Tour they are co-sponsoring and Saul Schniderman (AFSCME 2910) reported on the wreath-laying and ceremony to be held at the Mother Jones historical marker in Montgomery County. Garlock thanked American Income Life for their multiple-year sponsorship of the FilmFest. He updated affiliates on the Fast Track action calendar: daily phone banks at NOVA Labor; Town Hall Friday, April 24, 7:30p at Cedar Lane Unitarian Church; will keep calendar updated at www.dclabor.org. He also introduced the staff which does the Labor 411 pub-

lications and handed out "hot off the presses" copies to the delegates.

COPE Report

Political/Legislative Coordinator Rick Powell updated delegates on the Ward 8 Special Election labor-to-labor campaign for endorsed candidate LaRuby May. Looking for folks to come out Saturday, April 25 for door knocking and to help cover 5 precincts on election day Tuesday, April 28. He encouraged folks to head over to the TENAC (tenants rights) candidate forum after the delegates meeting as affordable housing is critical to workers.

Reports of Affiliates and Allies

Tarn Goelling, DC Young Trade Unionists, reported on the Young Trade Unionists convention in Chicago, the Next Up Summit, which was well-attended and according to delegate Ian Stublarec, OPEIU 2, was full of great learning, solidarity and networking activities. Tarn also reported that, working with the northern Virginia and Baltimore chapters, they plan to hold a "DMV summit" in September to energize 150 young trade unionists and grow the organizations.

Chuck Clay, IATSE 22, reported that they are close to having a contract with the Washington Ballet, and also that their local sent 2 members to the Young Trade Unionists conference.

Robert Williams, NALC Branch 142, reported on the upcoming National Letter Carriers Food Drive which is Saturday, May 9. He encouraged all to leave non-perishable food outside their mailboxes on that day for pick-up by their members. This event collects thousands of pounds of food for local food banks. A discussion ensued about the fact the non-union Food Lion has contributed 600,000 plastic bags for use during this drive. President Williams indicated he would try to connect UFCW with the president of NALC to see what could be worked out about this.

Vanessa Dixon, guest from Committee of Interns and Residents, proposed a resolution of support for the medical residents at Howard University Hospital whose recent election to unionize has been validated by the NLRB. It was moved, seconded and approved to support the resolution and to have the council send letters urging Howard not to challenge this decision and to bargain with the residents and their union.

There being no further business, and because it was about to storm, the meeting adjourned at 7:50pm. (continued)



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50-50 raffle, \$47, was won by Emilio Abate, UNITE HERE Local 23.

Delegate Attendance

Emilio Abate UNITE HERE 23 (DC Chapter)
Robin Burns DCNA
Barbara Churchill IATSE Local 868
Chuck Clay IATSE 22
Vanessa Dixon-Briggs CIR/SEIU 1957
Sabrathia Draine-Ishakwue DCNA
Sandra Falwell DCNA/NNU
George Farenthold OPEIU 277
Tarn Goelling DC Young Trade Unionists, AFL-CIO
Maya Goines AFL-CIO
Valerie Grasso CREA (IFPTE 75)
David Hershfield AFGE Council 1 12
Nikki Lewis DC Jobs with Justice
Robert Mayfield AFGE 2978
Elaine Newman NCAUR
Ralph Randall AFSCME Local 1653
Dave Richardson AFGE
Lauren Rogers IATSE 22
Saul Schniderman AFSCME 2910
Ian Stublarec OPEIU 2
Robert D. Williams NALC 142