



# Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

## DELEGATE MEETING MINUTES: May 18, 2015

Meeting called to order by President Williams at 6:35pm.

Board members in attendance: J Williams, K Martin

New Delegates sworn in: Luigi Buitrago, AFGE 2978

Minutes of the Meeting of April 20 were moved, seconded and approved with the addition of Elaine Newman, NCAUR to the attendance list.

Financial Report tabled due to on-going audit.

Executive Board Report was moved, seconded and approved and included the following expenditures:

DC Fire/EMS Foundation: in memory of fire fighter Kevin McRae: \$100

Peggy Browning Fund 6/10/2015 Peggy Browning Award: \$250 (1 ticket)

MD State/DC AFL-CIO 6/19/2015 Salute to Leadership \$550 (1/2-page ad, 2 tix)

Iron 5 6/20/2015 DADs Day Poker Run \$250 (contrib)

Sprinkler Fitters 669 9/26/2015 100th Anniversary celebration \$250 (1/4-page)

PG Young Dems Kennedy-King Dinner \$250 (Friend)

PG NAACP 6/13/2015 80th Anniversary Celebration \$300 (1/4 page)

Total: \$1,950

And took the following actions:

Approved the appointment of Ed Smith, IAFF 36, to a vacancy on the Board.

Accepted the activities and financial report for the Ward 8 Special Election

Approved a resolution for the MWC to send a letter to Mayor Bowser supporting the re-nomination of DC Office of People's Council, Sandra Mattavous-Frye, to a second term.

Approved an AFL-CIO plan to support immigrant DAPA activities in the metro area.

Community Services Agency

Executive Director Kathleen McKirchy reminded the delegates about Labor Night at the Nats July 17, and directed their attention to a consultant job announcement for a position to help CSA boost union member giving through worksite giving campaigns.

Union Cities

Since Mobilization Coordinator Chris Garlock was at a DC LaborFest event, Kathleen McKirchy reminded the delegates about the continuing events, how they help build the labor movement and attract new people to the council, and cross a range of activities from films, to bike rides, to happy hours, and that free passes were available on the back table.

COPE Report

President Williams introduced new staff, Political/Legislative Assistant Coordinator David Dzidzienyo, who reported on the successful Ward 8 race for labor-endorsed candidate LaRuby May.

Coordinator Rick Powell reported that Montgomery/PG County COPE held a post-General Assembly session with delegation leadership and that they want to make this an annual event.

MD State and DC AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Donna Edwards reported on highlights of the legislative session, discussed the need to have more labor faces lobbying at the Statehouse, discussed how the economy of the state has changed and how it is affecting workers and handed out the annual synopsis of bills and outcomes. She indicated that more areas of the state are going Republican and also that you can't always count on the Democrats as we have seen over and over.

President Williams introduced MD State Delegate Will Smith (Dt 20), who presented a Proclamation to the council honoring the FilmFest and its support of AFI in District 20. He also discussed the political and legislative situation as a new legislator, pledged his support to work with labor and stayed to meet delegates.

Reports of Affiliates and Allies

Vanessa Dixon, guest from Committee of Interns and Residents, discussed ongoing efforts to change the process for DC deciding to contract out services. President Williams indicated that staff would collect information and the Board would look at possible actions on this issue.

Valerie Grasso, IFPTE 75 CREA, alerted the delegates to an attempt to add an amendment to an appropriations bill in the House of Representatives that would prohibit legislative branch agencies from allowing payroll deduction of union dues. Clearly this would be devastating to unions and has to be fought. (Later in the meeting a text was received



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indicating that the House Rules Committee had rejected this amendment- for now).

Jorae Williams, DC Young Trade Unionists, reported on recent activities with the LaborFest, that they have filled some board vacancies, and that they are planning summer and fall activities and will provide information to the council for publicizing.

George Farenthold, OPEIU 277, urged the delegates to support the "Shoot for a Cure" fundraiser for the Leukemia/ Lymphoma Society.

Bruce Wolf, OPEIU 2, discussed the need for more enforcement of worker-friendly legislation that passes, such as the Wage Theft Protection Act, so that workers benefit from the laws.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.

50-50 raffle, \$30, was donated back by the winner for the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society fundraiser.

### **Delegate attendance**

Aaron Bast Ironworkers Local 5  
Luigi Buitrago AFGE 2978  
Robin Burns DCNA  
LaVerne Byrd AFGE 2782  
Barbara Churchill IATSE Local 868  
Sabrathia Draine-Ishakwue DCNA  
George Farenthold OPEIU 277  
Valerie Grasso, IFPTE  
David Hershfield AFGE 12  
Edward Hill AFGE 2782  
Ann Hoffman NWU, Local 1981 UAW  
Yvette Martin-Gross AFGE 631  
Robert Mayfield AFGE 2978  
David McKenzie, AFGE 2876  
Elaine Newman NCAUR  
David Richardson AFGE Council 1  
Doug Rosenthal AFM 161-710  
Saul Schniderman AFSCME 2910  
Timothy Traylor AFGE 383  
Guest: Vanessa Dixon-Briggs CIR/SEIU 1957