



Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES: September 21, 2015

President Williams reviewed the agenda and noted that AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Liz Schuler will be visiting to review the Council's strategic plan and update us on the AFL-CIO's plans for 2015-2016.

Minutes: June 15 minutes approved as distributed

Financial Report: approved as distributed

Correspondence: It was moved, seconded and approved to make the following contributions totaling \$2,830 (\$5225 YTD)
Insulators 24: 8/1/2015 Golf Tourney \$300
Empower PAC: 8/22/2015 Person of Excellence event (UFCW 400) \$1,000
SMART: 9/21/2015 Golf Tourney \$300
DC Jobs With Justice: 10/15/2015 I'll Be There Awards \$600
DC Immigration FilmFest 10/22/2015 \$250
Jews United for Justice: 10/25/2015 Heschel Vision Awards \$180
The Union Edge: radio show (WPWC 1480am) \$200

Community Services Agency

Exec. Director Kathleen McKirchy reported: Golf: few slots left; appreciate the support. Fundraiser for Emergency Assistance Fund. Fall employee giving campaigns: see material in folders, new flyers, etc. Need to beef up individual rank-and-file contributions. Have hired a consultant (funded by Marpat Foundation) to help beef up these campaigns.

SMART conference contribution: this year held in DC and Local 100 identified CSA as the beneficiary and wound up raising \$96,000; deepest thanks to Local 100.

Union Cities

Coordinator Chris Garlock reported on upcoming actions and events on the local labor calendar, including the papal visit, which was the focus of the report.

5th annual Labor Film Festival Organizer's Conference coming up; expect nearly two dozen organizers from across US and around the world.

2016 DC LaborFest committees: forming to start planning for next year's LaborFest. 2016 Directory: please update your local's info for the 2016 Directory.

COPE Report

President Williams reported that Congressional interviews will be scheduled later this month; the Maryland/DC AFL-CIO will be endorsing in Senate and US House races at the October convention, which will be held here in DC at the Washington Court Hotel. State Fed is sending questionnaires to Senate candidates; Labor Councils have been tasked to send questionnaires to house candidates and interview them and make recommendations. 10/15 COPE Committees will interview and make recommendations to the Executive Board at the October meeting. Tri-County COPE meeting coming up; President Williams and David Dzidzienyo will be there.

Steve Courtien, CHOICE, asked that a calendar of this process be sent to the board; President Williams agreed.

Jimmy Tarlau (CWA) reported: James Proctor died, Will Campos resigned; both state delegates will be replaced by appointees of the Governor.

DC Council has been in recess. Political Coordinator David Dzidzienyo reported on meeting with DC Attorney General Racine; this was a follow-up to the previous meeting, they're intended to be quarterly. Encouraged Board members to participate and to make sure their issues are communicated. Also working on Paid Family Leave bill and notification of changes to bills. Also reported on AFL-CIO training session he attended recently that covered messaging, research and project management.

Special Guest: AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Liz Schuler

President Williams welcomed AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Liz Schuler; the Executive Board and guests introduced themselves. Schuler reviewed recent history of attempts to restructure Labor Councils and make them more effective and efficient. She thanked President Williams and the Council for all their hard work and commitment to the labor movement. She noted that the process the Council is going through is the same that the AFL-CIO is working through now; it can seem boring but it's really important, matching resources to priorities. That's where the Raising Wages campaign came out of, DC is one of 13-14 cities across the country to figure out how to build power on the ground; CLC once stood for community labor council, not just central labor council.

Present: Allen, Boardman, Bunn, Courtien, Falwell, Jeter, Murphy, Reed, Renne, Shields, Smith, Tarlau, Washington, Williams
Excused: Bridges, Briscoe, Goldman, Ratliff
Absent: Dyer
Also attending: Vicky Leonard (LIUNA), Maya Goines (AFL-CIO), Andre Lee (AFSCME Council 20), Aaron Bast (Iron 5), Sam Epps (UNITE HERE 25)
Staff: McKirchy, Garlock, Dzdzienyo



Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES: September 21, 2015

The labor movement has been shrinking and we need to figure out how to reverse that. DC has been a model on many issues, like minimum wage and paid sick leave. We're going to make sure that our infrastructure is the best it can be. We're serious about being responsive and responsible to our affiliates, to the movement and to working people across the country. Here in DC you have the advantage and challenge of being in the backyards of internationals. We are a movement of working people in the broadest sense possible, not just for the labor movement but for the country itself to thrive. If the Koch brothers didn't have us standing in the way, they'd have unbridled power. Thanks for your support of the DC YTU; young union activists see their mission as a social justice mission, no matter what union they come from, what ethnicity, sex, etc. Q&A followed with board members. Schuler stressed that "CLCs are the lifeblood of the movement, the grassroots, the hub for activism." "Honestly there's a lot of debate going on right now about whether we have the right structure now; should there be a CLC in every community if the only thing they're doing is keeping the light on? Yet there are still things happening on the local level and we don't want to lose the movement on the ground. Should the AFL-CIO itself be decentralized? These are all questions being debated and discussed at all levels. We can't be all things to all people; just doesn't work. This is hard work; thank you so much for doing it!"

Adjourned at 6:32

Respectfully submitted,
Dena Briscoe, Secretary

President's Report

Strategic planning updates

- Constitution Committee: President Williams reported, followed by a discussion of proposed changes. A motion will be developed for review and adoption next month.
- Executive Director Search Committee: after interviews, the committee, chaired by John Boardman, Unite Here 25, and Jackie Jeter, ATU 689, narrowed down to three candidates, two of whom have dropped out; last one is to have second interview on Thursday, then we'll discuss and come back with a recommendation.
- Finance Committee: Ed Smith, IAFF 36: 9/8 meeting; reviewed info; (see smith's report; km must have). need to increase revenues through combination of more fully-paid per capita by existing affiliates and also bringing in new affiliates. Discussion about the status of the Council's finances and budget, especially in terms of whether the Council can afford to pay an Executive Director. With current resources, there's not enough to fill all three vacancies. Discussion ensued. Another meeting set for 9/23.