

## **Metro Council Delegate Meeting Minutes**

**September 18, 2017**

Called to order 6:42

Minutes (June): Moved, seconded and approved.

Financial Report: Amir Malek (Bond Beebe) reviewed. Financial position has been steadily improving this year.

Correspondence: report on actions taken at Executive Board:

JWJ I'll Be There awards: recommendation for \$500. Moved and seconded. Approved.

CSA (Golf tourney): recommendation for \$500. Moved and seconded. Approved.

Insulators 24 (Golf tourney): \$300 previously approved.

Baltimore CLC (COPE dinner): \$350 previously approved.

DC Fiscal Policy Institute: \$1,000 previously approved.

DC Jobs with Justice: \$500 previously approved

Saturday, March 10 at the Omni has been chosen for the 2018 Evening with Labor.

President Jeter has been selected as the Council's official delegate to the upcoming AFL-CIO convention, with Executive Director Carlos Jimenez as alternate.

It was moved and seconded to approved the Executive Board's actions.

### Union Cities

Coordinator Chris Garlock noted that it had been a very busy summer for the local labor movement and the Fall promises more of the same.

ATU president Jackie Jeter gave an update on ongoing contract negotiations with WMATA, which are now officially at impasse. The union is planning actions and will keep the Council posted.

Rick Ehrmann, Baltimore Washington News Guild, reported on ongoing negotiations at the Washington Post, where off-the-record talks have now failed. An informational picket is planned for September 27 the Post. The following motion to support Guild was moved, seconded and unanimously approved:

"The Metro Washington Council AFL-CIO supports the Washington-Baltimore News Guild, CWA Local 32035 in its ongoing effort to reach a fair contract with the Washington Post."

Chris Garlock noted a very busy Fall calendar and stressed the need to get the word out. In addition to events like the upcoming Post picket, lots of labor arts, including Bread and Roses, which is expanding from the Takoma Busboys and Poets to locations in Hyattsville and Shirlington, and the new Films Across Borders series with an impressive collaboration of local arts organizations. President Jeter noted that "We're a labor movement, let's act like it."

### Community Services Agency

Executive Director Kathleen McKirchy reported:

- Golf tourney reminder: next Monday, slots still available.
- Fall campaign season; staff is available to make presentations to union meetings and we have flyers on paper and electronically but we need your help to get them into your members hands with encouragement to donate to CSA.
- Presentation of Maryland State and DC historic convention photo to Donna Edwards.

## COPE

Executive Director Carlos Jimenez reported on behalf of David Dzidzienyo.

Thanks to everyone who turned out for Saturday's training; excellent turnout and participation and a good start. Among other things, there are far too many union members and their families who are not registered to vote.

COPE committees are working on setting priorities; looking to identify consensus to decide early endorsements for County Executive in both Montgomery County and Prince Georges, plus identify union members who are running for office. So let us know if you know of anyone who's running.

## Strategic Campaigns

Megan Fitzgerald reported:

Community/Labor Summit planning moving forward.

Thanks for Labor Day 2017 participation.

Fight for \$15 is heating up again and we're turning out for hearing 9/26 7:30pm to show support.

## Executive Director report

Carlos Jimenez reported:

Earlier this year we talked about how to create spaces where affiliates can come together around shared interests. Have been working on setting up "tables" or working groups in various sectors and those initial efforts over the summer were very successful so we'll be looking to move forward on these.

## President's Report

- President Jeter reported on the upcoming AFL-CIO Convention. The Executive Board has recommended that Council president Jackie Jeter be the Council's official delegate and that the Executive Director be the alternate; moved, seconded and approved.

## Affiliate Reports

- Chuck Clay, IATSE 22: have negotiated and ratified a contract with Strathmore, the best one ever, 14% raises over 5 years plus more. In negotiations with Warner and Live Nation; 11% over 4 years. Bad news: dispute with MGM when they went with non-union labor broker and lost the arbitration but we're going to fight, including picketing and the rat, not only here but at other MGM properties.

Barbara Churchill, IATSE 868: 4 grievances at Strathmore and they've all been settled to our satisfaction.

Alex Feltham, OPEIU 2: Bargaining update at Solidarity Center; just concluded after just five days. 4-year contract, 9% wage increase over 4 years. Thanks to the Guild for setting the pattern, including 10 weeks of paid parental leave. Also reported on the loss at Nissan, where the silver lining was all the unions that came together to support.

Michael Spiller at OPEIU 2: Got contract at AFGE. Painters pension employees also got their contract. But still trying to get contract at APWU for staffers there.

David Brooks, AFGE 2741: we won our fight to prevent contracting out; we are now 100% unionized as well.

WTU 6: have reached TA supported by 97% of the membership and headed to Council where there may be some issues coming up so we're trying to keep the vote on the contract alone. Vote will be first week of October but discussions are going on now.

Robin Burns, DCNA: In July Wala Blegay kicked off campaign for DT 25 seat in Maryland House of Delegates; DCNA has won several contracts recently; October 11 Town Hall meeting on nursing coverage in DC schools. Lobbying City Council members to put more funding into school nurse program.

Elizabeth Falcon, DC Jobs with Justice: annual awards coming up, recognizing unions for their great work, including SEIU 32BJ and UNITE HERE Local 23 for organizing victories at the DC-area airports including a \$12.75 minimum wage for contract workers, the DMV Sanctuary Congregation Network for creating a network of congregations dedicated to providing support and solidarity to neighbors, friends, and family who fear being detained, deported or profiled, DC High School Walk-Out leaders for organizing a District-wide walk-out of students to show youth power and values after the 2016 presidential election. Urged support through taking out ads asap; deadline next week. Tickets also available; see website. Partnering IBEW 26 to fight bottom-feeder contractor Power Design; watch for details soon. "Come celebrate and fight with us."

Korey Hartwich, NNU: Ken Zinn (NNU), Roxie Herbekian (UNITE HERE) and UFCW 400 are getting an award from JUFJ, NNU is happy to support JUFJ and DC JWJ.

President Jeter reported on the AFL-CIO leadership trainings she took this year that she said were really useful, focusing on developing personal, organizational and movement development. "These were really valuable learning experiences; met a lot of great people and I'm proud that this Council sent me and am looking forward to implementing some of the movement-changing ideas we have."

Donna Edwards: new president of Maryland State and DC AFL-CIO. Talked about the breadth of the State Fed, "a conglomerate of everybody" across the region, the unorganized as well as the organized. We must work together. Urge you all to participate in the Convention and applaud this Council for everything you do. We all go forward together.

President Jeter reported on Infrastructure Academy, which will help DC residents get training and jobs.

Adjourned 8:01pm

COPE 50/50 (\$64) won by Donna Edwards & donated to CSA

ATTENDANCE

Dena Briscoe APWU, Nation's Capital and Southern MD

David Brooks AFGE 2741

Robin Burns DCNA

Melvin Cherry IBEW 26

Barbara Churchill IATSE Local868

Chuck Clay IATSE 22

John Dixon WTU 6

Rick Ehrmann Newspaper Guild 32035

Alexander Feltham Solidarity Center, OPEIU 2

Laura Fuchs WTU 6

Korey Hartwich NNU

Edward Hill AFGE 2782

Jackie Jeter ATU 689

Roland Jeter ATU 689

Sonia Mistry OPEIU local 2

Kim Mitchell UFCW 400

Elaine Newman NCAUR

David Richardson AFGE 12

Michael Spiller OPEIU Local 2

Aaron Tyler IBEW 1900

Gina Walton AFGE 1975

Gregory Warner IBEW 26

Also attending: Robert Wright, AFGE 2782; Elizabeth Falcon, DC JWJ