

Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO
Executive Board Meeting AGENDA
March 18, 2019

3:30P: Call to Order

Moved and seconded to accept the agenda as distributed; approved.

Roll Call of Officers

Present: Briscoe, Bunn, Carson, Clay, Contreras, Davis, Fields, Greenhill,
Harris, Havard, Jeter, Reed, Richardson, Washington

Excused: Griffin

Staff: Garlock, Dzidzienoy, DuCote

Minutes (February): Moved and seconded to approve (Correction: Don Havard was present); approved.

Correspondence: NoVA Labor: ½-page ad and 2 tickets; approved. Pres. Jeter noted that the Board last month approved a \$250 contribution to Jews United for Justice, which includes four tickets: David Richardson and guest, Carl Carson, and Dena Briscoe. Also, \$250 donation approved for Fundraising Gala April 5, 2019 6 pm, Embassy of Nicaragua.

Financial Report/Budget

Treasurer Eric Bunn: After review and discussion of the financial reports, a motion was made to accept the Statement of Activity by Class, Statement of Activity by Month, Station of Financial Position Comparison, and Budget vs 2019-FY19 P & L. Motion passed. Motion (Washington) Second (Richardson) that the Financial Committee convene to look at our investment options. Motion to have Treasurer to consolidate accounts that were closed. Motion Passed. Discussion ensued about payroll accounts reflecting the difference between i.e. mobilization, Film Fest, Evening with Labor, etc. for work time. Emails will be sent to the staff to learn more of how their time is being allocated. This will give the council a better account of where resources are being spent. Accounting of approval of leave, leave request, and leave balances, will be worked on with President Jeter and staff. Time sheet expenditures go to the accountant which will help to accurately report those items. Projected budget- Labor Fest, Film Fest projected expenditures (\$24,000) and income (\$35,000). Motion made to approve the hiring of an Administrative Assistant Part-time about \$15 to \$18 per hour; 24 hour work weeks, salary approximately \$25,000 and benefits. Line item is in the approved budget with a stipend for the president. Motion was made and passed to send Chris Garlock, David Dzidzienyo and Eric Bunn to the North East AFL-CIO District meeting with all expenses.

Evening with Labor 2019

Doris Reed and Chris Garlock reported that as of 3/15, the 2019 Evening with Labor had income of \$150,950 and expenses of \$93,005, for a net of \$57,945. The current outstanding ticket/ad money owed is \$13,550. Discussion ensued: general consensus

was that it went very well and was a success on every level, including financial. Many felt that this was one of the best Evening with Labor events that they have attended. Time of presentations went down to about 47 minutes. Discussion ensued as to ways to improve next year's fundraiser which included a suggestion to possibly have an International Union President as the Keynote Speaker. Discussion ensued around the question of comps (criteria for who gets them). Moved that Jos Williams, Kathleen McKirchy and Fred Allen each get a pair of comp tickets (for their lifetime), in recognition of their many years of service to the Council; seconded by Eric Bunn. Discussion. Herb Harris moved an amendment that in addition to the three individuals, each year's awardees each receive a pair of comp tickets. Approved with two abstentions (Washington and Collins). Preliminary discussion of pros and cons of event.

COPE/Political and Legislative Campaigns
David Dzidzienyo reported:

2019 Committee on Political Education Calendar Important Dates:

- Tuesday, March 26, 2019 – TriCounty COPE Mtg – American Legion (La Plata)
- Thursday, March 21, 2019 - Metro Washington Council Health Committee Mtg

District of Columbia Committee on Political Education (COPE):

On Tuesday, March 12, 2019 the District of Columbia Committee on Political Education convened its monthly meeting at IATSE Local 22. At this meeting, we had special guest At-Large Councilmember Elissa Silverman. She led an in-depth discussion with labor leaders and workers on the District Columbia's Career & Technical Education program; that integrates technical career skill proficiencies with academic content and prepares students for the workplace.

We also discussed the ongoing healthcare and housing issues that are having a devastating impact on city. In addition, we discussed the importance of having an effective Paid Leave program.

As a result of our discussion with Councilmember Silverman concerning the CTE program, I was contacted by the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE). OSSE is in the process of revamping the District of Columbia CTE program and they would like to work with Labor to identify how to best improve the program. That said, we are in the process of coordinating a meeting between the Office of the State Superintendent of Education and some of our affiliates. (photo by Korey Hartwich, NNU)

Affiliate Meetings

IATSE Local 22: We have several upcoming meetings in the month of April, with Councilmembers Kenyon McDuffie, Brianne Nadeau and Robert White. The purpose of these meetings is to continue to galvanize support for proposed bill - Special Event Safety Certification Act of 2019.

This legislation would ensure that all sponsors and promoters for Special Events within the District of Columbia would use both: (a) Responsible, qualified staging companies to provide staging and event support services; and (b) Properly trained technical and craft personnel used for erecting, maintaining and dismantling stages and other equipment

and systems needed for Special Events. We are confident that we will be able to secure the required support to bring this bill to fruition.

OPEIU Local 2: We are in the process of convening meetings with District of Columbia City Councilmembers to discuss the public safety issues concerning the District of Columbia Circulator system. Currently, the DC Circulator is in the process of reducing their road supervisors from 15 to 8. This reduction will create a situation where supervisors will have to work additional shifts and longer hours; which would cause undue stress and ultimately put residents at risk. In addition, there will be a reduction of 5 dispatchers to 2. This management company has not fulfilled the promises it made to the District of Columbia when they obtained the contract. The contract states you have to maintain a certain level of service and are obligated to submit a staffing plan by 30 days after being awarded the contract. To date, they have failed to provide that information and it's now been 7 months since the award. Secondly, they are required under the contract to submit any changes to the said plan before implementation and that has yet to be done. To us, this is more than just about a contract. It is about the safety of the workers and the public they serve.

Amalgamated Transit Union 689 – Better safety for Transit Workers: We have several upcoming meetings in the month of April, with members of the District of Columbia City Councilmembers. The purpose of these meetings is to galvanize support towards legislative actions that will strengthen the protection laws for Metro Bus drivers. Our goal is to ensure that bus drivers within the District of Columbia Transit system have the same safety protection as a police officers, fire fighters, postal workers and ticket writers.

Committee Meetings

Healthcare Committee: On Thursday, March 21, 2019, the Committee on Health will convene a meeting at AFSCME, NUCHHE 1199. At this meeting, we intend to discuss and outline a more detailed strategy concerning East End & Providence Hospital campaigns. We will also identify what additional support may be requested from other affiliates. The meeting location is 8181 Professional Place, Landover, MD.

Allies Meetings: On Wednesday, March 13, 2019, I attended the Jobs with Justice Steering Committee Meeting. At this meeting, there was discussion and unanimous vote to support two initiatives; the East End Hospital and the Immigration Legal Funding campaign. The East End campaign would protect and secure proper union representation at the new East End Hospital.

The Immigration Legal Fund initiative would increase the District of Columbia's current funding for the immigrant Justice Legal Services Grant program from \$900,000 to 2.5million. This would help to ensure that every immigrant who cannot afford a private attorney has access to legal counsel.

Legislative Update

East End Health Equity Act of 2018 (Update)

Currently, the Metropolitan Washington Council is still requesting that affiliates, allies and community members send letters/emails to Mayor Muriel Bowser in support of the Service Employee International Union (SEIU) 1199 and District of Columbia Nurses Association (DCNA). On March 11, 2019, I participated in an East End Hospital Coalition meeting where the coalition decided to host two townhall meetings. The purpose of these efforts would be to further educate the community on the facts concerning the proposed East End Hospital development and to galvanize more community support for transparency. The proposed townhall meetings will be held in Wards 8 & 5. The dates are yet to be determined. I will keep you posted.

Prince George's/Montgomery County Committee on Political Education (COPE):
The Prince George's/Montgomery County Committee on Political Education did not convene a meeting in the month of March. Currently, the committee continues to work on supporting certain legislative efforts in Annapolis.
On Wednesday, March 20, 2019, I will be attending the Prince George's County, County Executive Budget Briefing.

Transportation Ctte: Herb Harris (BLET) reported on 3/12 meeting at Teamsters; well-attended meeting with hour-long presentation on maglev project. Max speed of 311 mph, which means the route must be fairly straight. Goal is eventually to have a high-speed train DC-NYC that'll take just over an hour. Next committee meeting is May 14; presentation from Washington Business Partnership on their transportation plan.

Education Committee to meet April 4 to finish White Paper to merge MD and DC because of dealing with same funding issues. Liz Davis (WTU 6) noted the disproportionate effect of budget cuts on schools with primarily minority students. 3/29 hearing scheduled on this issue.

CSA

Sonte DuCote reported on graduating 18 students from BF program today.

Invited to re-apply for Joshua Foundation grant.

Labor Night at the Nats; see hold-the-date notices. No t-shirts but ticket price is down to \$16 now.

DuCote and pres. Jeter will be attending pro bono consulting session on strategy, human resources and marketing on March 27.

Union Cities

Chris Garlock reported:

The bulk of my time during this month was devoted to working with the Evening with Labor committee and Chair Doris Reed to ensure the success of this year's event, coordinating event logistics, the program guide (ad sales and book production), ticket sales (promotion and management) and producing the Year in Review slideshow. Attendees seemed to enjoy the event, the program ran smoothly and it's projected to net in excess of \$50,000. I'll be working to collect the outstanding ad/ticket money owed. We have circulated a post-event survey to participants to get a better handle on their opinions/suggestions and will have a report on those responses next month.

DC LABORFEST/LABOR FILMFEST

The General Strike: Back to the Future? on Wednesday, February 6

Power to Heal: Medicare and the Civil Rights Revolution on Tuesday, February 19

We Were There on Tuesday, March 19

As previously reported, the February events were well-attended and resulted in well over 100 new Streetheat/Union City sign-ups, underlining the role of LaborFest events in mobilizing both the labor and general community and building the Streetheat database.

Work on the 2019 DC LaborFest in May is underway now and I expect to have a draft schedule by the end of March.

DATABASE/DIRECTORY

Work on both database updates and the 2019 Directory had to be set aside – except for updating delegates -- in favor of Evening with Labor and supporting the Board elections and will resume this week. There are a number of database updates to be made as a result of recent mailings. I'll also be working with Pres. Jeter on the Council's annual AFL-CIO reports.

UNION CITY NEWS, SOCIAL MEDIA, RADIO

Hassan Kanu, Legal Editor/Reporter, Bloomberg Law; Newspaper Guild member (and part of the Guild team accepting the 2018 Organizing Award at the recent Evening with Labor); Allen Lowe, Senior Partner, Ashcraft & Gerel: real-life stories behind Workers Comp cases; Jennie Tomlinson, School librarian and technology coordinator at Chavez Prep: AFT Accuses Chavez Schools Of Violating Federal Law.PAI News Editor in Chief Mark Gruenberg; RN Vivian Obijekwu, fired by Johns Hopkins Hospital after organizing African American nurses who are being discriminated against; Amy Millar, UFCW 1994/MCGEO (MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMPLOYEES REACH AGREEMENT 2/21/2019); Jon Shelton, Associate professor of democracy and justice studies at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay; Elizabeth Davis, President, Washington Teachers Association, AFT Local 6. "Panelist on Teacher Insurgency: What Are The Strategic Challenges?" at the "The Future of American Labor: Initiatives for a New Era" conference February 8-9; Larry Cohen, Former President, Communications Workers of America; chairs the board of Our Revolution, the successor organization to Bernie 2016. Panel moderator, "Sectoral Bargaining: America's Past, Present And Future"; William Jones, Professor of history at the University of Minnesota and vice president of the Labor and Working Class History Association, author of "The Tribe of Black Ulysses: African American Lumber Workers in the Jim Crow South" (2005) and "The March on Washington: Jobs, Freedom, and the Forgotten History of Civil Rights" (2013). Full details here: <http://www.dclabor.org/union-city-radio/category/your-rights-at-work> Union City Radio, my 3-minute weekday report on WPFW, included reports on the recent DC COPE meeting, CSA reports, plus local labor news; full details here: <http://www.dclabor.org/union-city-radio/category/union-city-radio>

I'll now be working on the AFL-CIO annual report and the 2019 Directory.

6:15P: Adjourned.