

Executive Board Meeting MINUTES: April 15, 2019

Meeting called to order at 3:14pm by 3rd VP Herb Harris

Present: Briscoe, Bunn, Burns, Carson, Clay, Collins, Davis, Farenthold, Federici, Fields, Frum, Greenhill, Sr; Griffin, Hall, Harris, Hollingsworth, Jeter, Mejia, Reed, Richardson, Shelton-Martin, Washington

Excused: Havard

Absent: Contreras, Dyer, Washington

Also present: Garlock, Dzidzienyo, DuCote, Lolita Martin, Emma Brennan, Jada, Teya.

Minutes (March); Moved (Richardson) and seconded (Greenhill); approved as distributed

Correspondence: none

Evening with Labor: Chair Doris Reed reviewed her report: income \$152,750; expenses \$93,005, for a net of \$59,745 (most-ever). Ticket/Ad \$ still owed: \$5,050 (*Kaiser Permanente* \$3,000; *CWA 2108* \$750; *NALC* \$500; *Dernoga, Thomas* \$300; *DC OPC* \$250; *News Guild* \$250).

Survey results: 62% rated the 2019 Evening with Labor "Excellent" (24.14%) or "Very Good" (37.93%), while 24.14% said it was "Good." Asked "What did you like about the event?" the most-mentioned responses were: food, location and free parking, followed by friends, programming, and union people.

President Jeter introduced other MWC staff, including part-time receptionist Jada Jenkins and CSA staff.

Union Cities

Chris Garlock reported (see below) and reviewed the 2019 LaborFest line-up, noting that there's still time to be a sponsor.

Union City social media update: Our Facebook followers are now up to 1,732 and our page reach over the last month was 4,891, up 48%. Our Twitter following is at 4,246. Our website traffic in March was up to 4.1K, with 3.1K new users.

Evening with Labor: Conducted follow-up to collect outstanding ad/ticket monies, which are down to just over \$5,000. Conducted and analyzed post-EWL survey.

Bread and Roses series: Takoma: "We Were There" (Women's History Month Special); Tue, March 19; Shirlington: Councilwoman (film); Tue, March 26. Both events were well-attended.

DATABASE/DIRECTORY: Work on both database updates and the 2019 Directory had to be set aside – except for updating delegates -- in favor of supporting the Board elections in March and working on the Council's annual AFL-CIO report.

UNION CITY NEWS, SOCIAL MEDIA, RADIO: Union City highlights (March 2019):

<http://www.dclabor.org/home/archives/03-2019>; This week's Labor Calendar:

<http://www.dclabor.org/calendar.html>

Your Rights At Work Guests (March 2019): Painters DC 51's Roxie Mejia; APWU's Clint Burelson; Len Shindel (IBEW); Washington Teacher's Union president Liz Davis; DC Personal Injury Lawyer David Schloss; Hassan Kanu, Legal Editor/Reporter, Bloomberg Law; Allen Lowe

(right), Senior Partner, Ashcraft & Gerel; Jennie Tomlinson, School librarian and technology coordinator at Chavez Prep.

Other duties/projects: Garlock reported that he's continued to assist with handling the incoming MWC mail, including check-logging, as well as continuing to support all MWC leaders/staff as necessary, including CSA and COPE website updates/maintenance, etc.

CSA

Sonte DuCote reported on the Building Futures program and Labor Night at the Nats.

WANTO's Emma Brennan reported on tech assistance for the program (bricks and plumbers); 3% for women in the trades even though we're 50% of the population. Just graduated first all-female cohort at plumbers.

DuCote also reported that the Community Services Agency is working on the following initiatives:

Capacity Building: CSA is working to develop a volunteer program. The executive director has reached out to the AFL-CIO Retirees and the Metro Washington area Alliance for Retired Americans chapter to recruit volunteers to help with data entry and mailings. The executive director has also reached out to Howard University, University of the District of Columbia, George Washington University and Georgetown to see if there are students who would be willing as part of a student project help CSA update its website and refine/implement marketing / fundraising strategy.

Fundraising: Labor Night at the Nats is **Saturday, June 22 at 7:15 pm**. Please place your orders as soon as possible. This year ticket purchases of 49 tickets or less will be purchased on line (fees apply). Fifty or more ticket orders have no fees and are placed with the executive director. **Locals can customize flyers** with its name and contact info or distribute the flyer with CSA's contact info. Visit www.communityservicesagency.org for the flyers or contact sducote@dclabor.org or 202-974-8226.

Hold the date for the CSA Golf Tournament – Monday, September 23, 2019. Thanks to CSA Board Member Julio Palomo of LIUNA Local 11 for joining the Golf Tournament Planning Committee.

Representatives of the CSA Board met to discuss a plan to raise general operating funds. CSA needs to raise at least \$150,000 annually to cover the cost of one FTE and associated expenses (rent, IT, phone). The first step in the fundraising effort is to meet with MWC locals to a) deepen understanding of CSA's impact and b) help CSA get a better sense of locals' social service needs. CSA will need the MWC board to help facilitate these meetings.

Government Shutdown: CSA's Government Shutdown Financial Assistance Program ended March 31st. CSA is currently entering the data and is working on a report.

Building Futures Pre-Apprenticeship Program: Recruitment is happening now for the May cohort. Please let your networks know that we are recruiting 20 plus years of age low income men and women for the District of Columbia class and women for the Prince George's class. Contact scasara@dclabor.org for more information.

Building Futures Grant Funding: CSA was awarded \$40,000 from the Joshua Community Foundation to train and place residents of Census Tract 47 (Florida Avenue and North Capitol

Street NE) in construction jobs. The Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development also awarded CSA a three-year \$200,000 grant to enhance case management, job development and assistance for students, e.g., help obtaining drivers' licenses, purchasing boots and tools.

CAP

Tonya Love introduced Lolita Martin, and reviewed the purpose and scope of the program, which works with DC residents dealing with unemployment compensation claims.

COPE

David Dzidzienyo reported:

Important dates reminder:

Wednesday, April 17, 2019 - MWC Education Committee Mtg – ASASP – 2pm

Thursday, April 18, 2019 - MWC/District of Columbia Office of Attorney General Labor Advisory Mtg – 441 4th St - 11am

Prince George's County Labor Advisory Committee Meeting – 11am

Thursday, April 18, 2019 - District of Columbia Healthcare Justice Coalition – 6pm (Black Workers Center) 2500 Martin Luther King Ave

Thursday, April 25, 2019 - AFT/WTU Educational Rally (Freedom Plaza) - 4pm

Saturday, April 27, 2019 - Health Committee Townhall Mtg – United Medical Center - 2pm

Asked for issues for upcoming meeting with DC AG. April 25 WTU rally coming up: Liz Davis discussed. Reviewed "Fund Our Future" resolution from WTU 6; moved (Clay), seconded (Greenhill) and unanimously approved.

Dzidzienyo reviewed and discussed the rest of his report:

District of Columbia Committee on Political Education (COPE):

On Tuesday, April 9, 2019 the District of Columbia Committee on Political Education convened its monthly meeting at IATSE Local 22. At this meeting, there were two presentations provided. The first presentation was provided by Michael Piccinelli from Research and Strategic Initiatives concerning "Carried Interests". This is a tax loophole that industry hedge fund managers take advantage of to pay a lower tax rate, which results in the loss of hundreds of millions of dollars for states and cities across the United States.

The second presentation was provided by the Washington Teachers Union President, Elizabeth Davis. President Davis's presentation was concerning the Mayor and District of Columbia City Council providing adequate resources for the District of Columbia Public School system. In addition, President Davis was seeking support from the COPE committee for her resolution. As a result of our discussion concerning full funding for DC Public Schools, the COPE Committee voted unanimously to provide a recommendation to the Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO Executive Board to support this initiative.

Affiliate Meetings

IATSE Local 22: Over the past month, IATSE Local 22 president, Chuck Clay and I have convened meetings with the office of Councilmember Charles Allen, Brianne Nadeau and Robert White. The purposes of these meeting were to continue to educate our political officials and galvanize support for **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.

These meetings were very productive and we feel confident that we will be able to secure the necessary support from other councilmembers to get this initiative passed before the summer recess.

OPEIU Local 2: On Wednesday, April 10, 2019, OPEIU Local 2 representative Michael Spiller and I convened a meeting with the office of Councilmember Kenyon McDuffie. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the public safety issues concerning the District of Columbia Circulator system. Currently, the DC Circulator is in the process of trying to reduce 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.

OPEIU Local 2/Amalgamated Transit Union 1764: On Thursday, April 11, 2019, I attended the District of Columbia Committee on Transportation and the Environment Budget Oversight Hearing. OPEIU Local 2 and ATU 1764 testified concerning the systemic problems within the DC Circulator system and did an exceptional job. They were able to clearly articulate to the Chair of the Committee, Mary Cheh and others why the DC Circulator system is a disaster waiting to happen. Currently, we are in the process of scheduling meetings with other political officials in order to shed more light on a system that puts the public and it's workers at risk.

District of Columbia CTE Program: On Wednesday, April 13, 2019, I convened a conference call with the Office of the State Superintendent of Education and some of the Labor Council affiliates. The reason for the call was to discuss Labor's participation in the District of Columbia Career and Technical Education (CTE) program and the potential of a future partnership. Over the next several months, there will be meetings scheduled pertaining to each career sector. If you have an interest in participating, please let me know as soon as possible.

Committee Meetings

Healthcare Committee: During the month of April, I've attended several Health Committee meetings at AFSCME, NUCHHE 1199. At these meetings, we discussed and outlined a more detailed strategy plan concerning the East End & Providence Hospital campaigns. We also discussed forming a larger coalition comprised of Labor, JWJ, WPFW, community organization, DC residents and other allies. The purpose of this coalition would be to work together to educate communities on the healthcare crisis within the city and to galvanize support against the injustices within the DC healthcare system. We want to make sure that people truly understand that this is not just a Labor issue. Our first meeting of the District of Columbia Healthcare Justice Coalition was convened Thursday, April 4, 2019.

Education Committee: The Metropolitan Washington Education Committee meeting will convene on Wednesday, April 17, 2019. The meeting will be held at the Association of Supervisory and Administrative School Personnel (ASASP) – 1300 Caraway Court, Suite #204 Largo, MD 20774 at 2pm.

Legislative Update

Amalgamated Transit Union 689 – Better safety for Transit Workers

I'm in the process of scheduling another meeting with Councilmember Bonds who has expressed an interest in leading the legislative initiative concerning better safety laws for transit workers.

Prince George's County - Committee on Political Education (COPE)

On Wednesday, March 20, 2019, I attended the Prince George's County, County Executive Budget Briefing. At this briefing, the County Executive provided her budgetary priorities to labor and other allies. We learned that her top priorities are Education, Transportation and Infrastructure, Crime Reduction, Youth Development, Economic Development, Proficient and Transparent Government, Quality of Life and Environment.

Over the past month, I've also attended several meetings and assisted with some legislative efforts in Annapolis to provide support to some of our affiliates. I was joined by SEIU 400, IBEW Local 26, Teamsters Local 730 and AFSCME Council 67.

On Tuesday, March 26, 2019, I had the opportunity to attend the Association of Supervisory and Administrative School Personnel (ASASP) Leadership Training. One of the sessions that I participated in was called the "Outward Mindset". The focus of this training was to show you how to build the right culture within your organization through the work that you do" It shows you how to guide your work using three questions: How can you be helpful? How can you make things go right? How have you been a problem for others and prevented progress? This training really provides you with the essential tools to begin to change the culture within your organization and it really makes you take a hard assessment of yourself. This would be a great training for labor to participate in.

TriCounty - Committee on Political Education (COPE)

The TriCounty Committee on Political Education next meeting will be convened on Tuesday, April 30, 2019. We ask all affiliates who have members that live or work in the TriCounty area to come out and participate in the meetings. The TriCounty area is one of the fast growing areas in the United States and the COPE meeting provides you with a great opportunity to learn why you should be vested.

Liz Davis introduced David Schwartzman from DC Citizens for Tax Justice to discuss the issue of recovering the federal income tax cut for low-income DC residents. Schwartzman reviewed a PowerPoint presentation on the issue. The presentation was well-received and the PowerPoint will be shared with the Board.

Robin Burns (DCNA) initiated a discussion of the need to coalesce around issues of common concern among the labor movement. Discussion focused on the opportunities and challenges.

New board members introduced themselves:

George Farenthold: former steelworker, then OPEIU, now works for AIL. Has worked all over the country before winding up here in DC. Comes from a political family; mother was in the Texas legislature 1968-1972. AIL is a 100% union company. Looking forward to serving on the board.

Robert Hollingsworth; AFSCME Council 20 president. Dad worked in the city of Memphis back during the MLK era, which had a huge impact on his life. Served in the Navy and began a career or protest there. Has always found himself involved with labor.

Djawa Hall, SEIU 1199: began as a journalist, covering local stories. Connected with Andrew Gillum in Florida in an effort to make changes for people of color and have since worked all over the country. Made the switch to unions working with 1199 and have been there since October, worked with SEIU VA prior to that. This room is where the conversation happen.

Roxie Mejia, Painters: arrived here at age of 7 and had to translate for my parents, then went to UMD. Trained as a translator and then started translating for her father at the Painters and that led to a 17-year career at that union. Always been one to stand up for people's rights, especially those facing language barriers.

Robin Burns, DCNA: DC native; her father was one of first to integrate the bookbinders as an apprentice and has been a strong union member ever since.

Mark Federici, UFCW 400: although a longtime Board member, he re-introduced himself to the new board members. Been here a long time and love this Council.

Wanda Shelton-Martin, 1199 DC: cut my teeth at OPEIU 153, representing ULLICO workers. Went on to be chief steward there; got degree at NLC in 2000 in education. Then went to NYSNA and then was asked to run NUCHHE 1199-DC and have been here for 11 years.

Steven Frum, NNU: Been a delegate for a while and think it's a fantastic org. working nurse for 23 years now work for NNU at two VA's and at Providence. Our enemies are united and we need to be united as well.

Financial Reports: updated/corrected reports circulated by Treasurer Bunn. Extensive review/discussion.

President Jeter will circulate the strategic plan for review and asked the trustees to review and return with recommendations. Moved (Richardson) and seconded (Burns) to receive financial report as submitted; unanimously approved.

Discussion of MWC Executive Board committees: Committee chairs – education, transportation and health -- reviewed their purpose and upcoming meetings.

Question about circulating Executive Board contact info (especially with new Board members): this info was circulated last week and will be re-sent. Suggestion raised that the Board meetings be shortened (used to start at 4p).

Mark Federici, UFCW 400, thanked the Council for their support for the strike against Stop and Shop, especially the support in Union City and UC Radio for the online petition. Local 400 will be negotiating with the same parent company this fall.

Adjourned 6:25p; approved.