

Delegate Meeting MINUTES: April 15, 2019

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm

President Jeter welcomed AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Elizabeth Shuler, who told the leaders and delegates that "You're at the forefront, whether it's national issues like the government shutdown or local struggles." Shuler was at the Council to officially swear in the 2019-2022 MWC Executive Board, elected last month. She welcomed the returning Board members and asked new members to introduce themselves. "You all were there, you pushed and stood in solidarity and I just want to say Thank You!" said Shuler. "You're all leaders, not just of your local unions, but of the labor movement and we appreciate and thank you for your passion and commitment." Council president Jackie Jeter thanked Shuler, saying that she and the entire Board look forward to continuing to play a key leadership role in the metro-area labor movement.

Shuler then swore in the Executive Board.

Election Committee: Mike Spiller, on behalf of chair Ann Hoffman, reviewed the rules for nominations for the open seat. After nominations were opened, Jesse Bennett nominated Denise Yorkshire, AFSCME 2250. Eric Bunn nominated Gina Walton from AFGE 1975. Kimberly Mitchell from UFCW 400 nominated Donna Brockington from AFGE local 32. Nominations were then closed. Nominees will be checked to be sure they're delegates from their locals; acceptance forms must be returned by Thursday 4/18 COB and the election will be held at the May meeting. President Jeter thanked the Election Committee for all their diligent hard work, working with MWC staffer Chris Garlock, to ensure a correct and smooth election process.

Minutes: moved and seconded to accept as circulated. Approved.

Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC): Rick Ehrmann (NewsGuild) described the ongoing struggle by FLOC in the south and noted that the resolution supporting the Vuse boycott has been passed by the Newspaper Guild. Ehrmann moved and Farenthold seconded that the Council adopt the resolution. Robin Burns (DCNA) said that healthcare professionals are also concerned about the health implications of e-cigarettes. Approved.

Washington Teachers Union: Liz Davis said that the city is slowly but surely starving and privatizing the city school district; there were 153 schools when I started and just 103 now. More than half the city education budget now goes to charter schools. Public schools must accept and educate all students while charter schools cherry-pick. Rally set for 4/25; please come. Moved (Davis) seconded (Bunn) to approve the resolution.

Financial Reports: Eric Bunn reviewed the (2) reports distributed to delegates. Moved (Harris) seconded (Farenthold) to accept. Approved.

Claimant Advocacy Program (CAP): Lolita Martin explained what CAP does in fighting for folks who have unemployment comp cases, plus dealing with overpayment cases. She provided her

cel number -- 202-257-7610 – and said text her anytime. Saul Schniderman (AFSCME 2910-ret) and Dan Fields (SEIU 722) spoke highly of the program.

Union Cities

Mark Federici, UFCW 400, reported on the Stop and Shop strike by 31,000 UFCW members and updated on the situation on Shoppers Food Warehouse now SuperValue, now UNFI.

Jim Griffin, IBEW 1900, ongoing negotiations at PEPCO; not going well, may be calling on Council for assistance.

Garlock reported on the upcoming DC LaborFest, noting that a number of the films this year raise the issue of women and power. Pres. Jeter emphasized that the LaborFest is a key way that the Metro Council organizes and mobilizes, not just among our own members, but to the broader community. "It's where the labor movement becomes art." Liz Davis (WTU) suggested showing "Backpack Full of Cash."

See the 4/15 Executive Board minutes for the complete written UC report.

Community Services Agency: Sonte DuCote reported on capacity building, fundraising -- Labor Night at the Nats is Saturday, June 22 at 7:15 pm -- plans to raise general operating funds, government shutdown update, the Building Futures Pre-Apprenticeship Program and Building Futures Grant Funding. *See the 4/15 Executive Board minutes for the complete written CSA report.*

COPE: David Dzidzienyo reviewed the important upcoming COPE dates. *See the 4/15 Executive Board minutes for the complete written COPE report.*

Chuck Clay (IATSE 22): Committee for Business and Economic Development to testify about partnership with city video dept; very successful program and budget has now been doubled. NLRB certified the election at PSAV, 15-1. Have started negotiations with them but it's going to be a hard slog.

Dena Briscoe (APWU): reported on today's "US Mail is not for Sale" Tax Day rallies; flyers to be sent around.

Herb Harris (BLET) reported that the Transportation Committee will meet May 14.

Meeting adjourned 8:14pm

50/50 raffle won by Cynthia Collins