

**Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO
Delegate Meeting: September 21, 2020**



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Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO
Delegate Meeting Agenda
September 21, 2020 (via Zoom)

- 5:00pm Call to order & Welcome: President Dyana Forester
*****Moment of Silence in honor of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg*****
- 5:05pm Roll Call: 1st VP Andrew Washington
- 5:10pm New delegates swearing in
- 5:15pm Code of Conduct: Gina Walton
- 5:20pm Approval of Minutes
- 5:25pm Nominations for Board vacancies: David Fernandez-Barrial
- 5:35pm President's Report: Dyana Forester
- 5:50pm Financial Report: Treasurer Eric Bunn & Teya Bruce
- 6:00pm Organizational Reports
COPE: David Stephen (15mins)
*Vote on DC COPE Endorsement and Supporting
Legislation/Ballot Initiatives*
- 6:00pm Union City: Chris Garlock (5mins)
Community Service Agency: Sonte DuCote (5mins)
CAP: Tonya Love (5mins)
- 6:15pm Affiliate Updates (30mins)

Metropolitan Washington Council Delegate Meeting MINUTES

July 21, 2020 (Via Zoom), 3-5pm

(3:00pm) Call to order & Welcome: MWC President Dyana Forester

Roll Call: Cynthia Collins

Minutes: Recording Secretary Cynthia Collins reported that the June minutes have not yet been completed, so she'll have to report them at the September meeting. May 19 minutes were approved as submitted.

President's Report: MWC president Dyana Forester reviewed her report, including her work on these areas: Administration, Management, Financial Management (including forming a Financial Committee) and Affiliate Support, as well as her plans for "Looking ahead.....Priorities for July to September." She also discussed plans for Council committees and recruiting delegates to join and participate in those committees.

Financial Report: Teya Bruce reviewed the financial reports. Approved as submitted.

Election Committee Report: David Fernandez-Barral reviewed the Committee's report, reported that Eric Bunn has submitted a formal challenge to the election results, which the committee is reviewing, and reminded delegates that the official election results are available for review through December 15. Discussion ensued.

Evening with Labor Report: Chair George Farenthold reported that given the ongoing pandemic, the October date for the rescheduled 2020 EWL won't be workable due to continuing safety concerns, so discussions are in progress with Martin's for a date in Spring 2021.

Organizational Reports

COPE: David Stephens reported on the town halls conducted with DC City Council candidates. He also reported that the DC has finalized the Fall calendar for endorsements, and thanked everyone who participated in the HEROES Act demonstration.

CAP: Lolita Martin reviewed the written CAP report, noting that their caseload continues to be unusually high due to the increased volume of people on unemployment because of the pandemic. Discussion ensued.

Union City: Chris Garlock thanked the MWC, CSA and CAP staff for their all their hard work for affiliates and area union members, noting that much of his own work involves just trying to keep up with what staff and affiliates have been doing and getting the word out. He also reported that the LaborFest free online screenings, which took a mini-break in July, will resume in late August and continue through at least the end of October.

Affiliate Updates:

DCNA reported on the recent NNU action at the U.S. Capitol to remember all those who have died during the pandemic, and also reported that an action is planned outside MedStar WHC. CSO reported on a meeting coming up to discuss their concerns about re-opening schools during the pandemic.

AFSCME 1808 reported meetings coming up to address similar concerns about re-opening city libraries.

WTU 6 reported on a successful caravan to City Councilmember houses on ensuring equal and safe access for all city students.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30p.

Minutes by Chris Garlock based on review of the Zoom audio recording.

Attendance (based on Zoom attendee log):

BAST	AARON T	Ironworkers 5
BATES	WILLIAM	Smart Dist Col Leg Board
BEY	JUMOKEATU	689
BLACKWELL	LISA	AFGE 1000
BOWEN JR	GREG	ATU 689
BROOKS CHRISTOPHER		IBEW 26
BRYANT-CUNNINGHAM	MARLO	AFGE 32
BURNS	ROBIN	DCNA
CAVANAGH	TERRY	SEIU Maryland/DC State Council
CHILDS	BARBARA	AFSA/CSO 4
CLARK	TOM	IBEW 26
CLAY	I CHUCK	IATSE 22
CLELAND	RAYMOND	Ironworkers 5
CLIFFORD	EAMON	IUOE 99
COLEMAN	ANDREA	AFSCME 2830
COLLINS CYNTHIA L		SEIU 400 PG
COLTER	MARIANACE	AFSCME 2250
COURTIEN	STEPHEN W	Baltimore-DC Metro Building Trades Council
CUMMINGS	JONAH	AFSCME 1418
ESPARZA	FRANCISCO	Carpenters 197
FARENTHOLD	GEORGE E	OPEIU 277
FLASHMAN	SUSAN CARA	MD-DC Chapter
FORESTER	DYANA N	UFCW 400
FRUM	STEPHEN	NNU
GAMBLE	LARHONDA	AFGE 12
GENIA	ALEXANDRA ALLIE	AFSCME 1808
GRAF	STEPHANIE	AFGE 12
HA PHAM	BICH	IFPTE 70
HARTWICH	KOREY	NNU
HENRIQUES	PAUL	IBEW 26
HERSHFIELD	DAVID	AFGE 12
HOFFMAN	ANN	NWU 2 (UAW 1981)

HOGAN GEORGE IBEW 26
 ISREAL JAMES WTU 6
 JETER JACKIE ATU 689
 JETER ROLAND H ATU 689
 KASECAMP LARRY SMART-TD 1470
 KILLEEN THOMAS SMART 100
 LITTLEJOHN ROOSEVELT NFFE-IAM 2
 MCKOY CORDELIA IBEW 26
 MEJIA ROXANA Painters DC 51
 MIDDLETON SR GLENARD S AFSCME Council 67
 MURPHY RICHARD G IBEW 26
 NABORS DERRICK E ATU 689
 PETERSON TAREN 1199 SEIU UHE- MD/DC Region
 PURYEAR CHRYSTAL WTU 6
 REED DORIS ASASP
 REESE RICK NABET 31
 RICHARDSON DAVID HAFGE 12
 RICHARDSON KAREN DCNA
 SAVOY BRENDA CLUW Chesapeake Bay Chapter
 SCHNIDERMAN SAUL AFSCME 2910
 SETTLES WAYNE Teamsters 639
 SPANN-DOWNING TRACY DCNA
 SPILLER MIKE OPEIU 2
 SPRUILL TONY ASASP
 TIMLIN MARTHA IATSE 772
 WALKER ANIKA AFGE 383
 WALKER DEBRA AFSCME 709
 WALTON GINA AFGE 1975

Schlein David unknown
 Bruce Teya accountant
 Chris Garlock staff
 David Stephen staff
 Lolita Martin Staff
 Nikko Bilitza JWJ?
 Juanita Sanchez afl-cio
 Clayton Sinyai Catholic Labor Network
 Lenace Edwards unknown
 2027872526 unknown
 2023844547 unknown
 3019251660 unknown
 2407840751 unknown
 Elaine Newman unknown
 Sandra Cai unknown
 David Fernandez-Barral Election Ctte
 Ben Blake UMD

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dyana Forester

Throughout the summer months my work has been focused on: stabilizing our internal practices and procedures to ensure we can remain productive throughout the pandemic, evaluating our financial management systems and our financial health, advancing our political program, and reinvigorating our committees.

So far, in collaboration with staff and board members, we have:

Developed internal procedures to address organizational practices in order to adapt to working remotely and operate in compliance with our governance

- Established regular staff check-ins, meetings, and work-plans
- Planned and hosted training for financial officers and developed plan for trustee's audit
- Evaluated and began updating our financial systems and practices
- Applied for Solidarity Grant from the AFL-CIO
- Develop plan to address unions in arrears
- Recruited PGNEA to join our CLC
- Supported mobilization efforts for affiliates- WTU Townhalls, Postal Workers Action, NAN March on Washington and IASTE Red Alert
- Assessed existing committees and appointments

Next Steps

- Provide board members with their roles/responsibilities and assure all officers are trained
- Form together a Constitution and By-laws committee to plan for a Constitutional Convention for 2021
- Work with program area committee chairs to develop strategic plans- Education, Health, Transit, Public Sector, COPE, BLM and Hospitality/Transit
- Work with Political Director and COPE Committee to move GOTV program
- Continue to support rallies, legislative efforts, and programs of affiliates
- Work with our team to streamline our organization communication

Upcoming Meetings

- Appointment & Committee Discussion Friday 9/25 10am
- Committee Chair Meeting- Thursday 9/24 10am
- Union Dues & Relief Committee- Thursday 9/24 1pm

Community Services Agency (CSA) of the Metropolitan Washington Council AFL-CIO

Sonte DuCote, Executive Director

HOLIDAY BASKET 2020

CSA is gearing up for our Annual Holiday Basket program which is expected to receive at least triple the number of requests received in previous years from needy Metro Washington area families who are laid-off and still bearing the brunt of COVID-19.

Last year, CSA provided union grocery store gift cards to 52 needy families for the 2020 holiday season and adopted five (5) families by providing food, clothing, and toys during Christmastime. Thanks to Metro Washington Council affiliates and allies we made a difference in people's lives!

There are three ways to help:

1. Make financial contributions to CSA earmarked for "Holiday Basket."
2. Contribute grocery store gift cards from area union grocers or discount store cards (except for Walmart).
3. Adopt a Family – provide gift cards, toys, clothes, etc to area needy families.

Contributions and gift cards can be mailed to: Community Services Agency, 815 16th Street, NW, Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20006

Contribution Deadlines:

- **Thursday, November 12 for Thanksgiving**
- **Friday, December 11 for Christmas**

Look out for an email containing further details and the Holiday Basket referral form.

COVID-19 / EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

CSA continues to pass along resources to locals impacted by COVID-19 and help members with limited financial and food assistance. Funds are dwindling due to the increased COVID 19 need and the cancellation of the Labor Night at the Nats and Golf Tournament fundraiser. Please consider making a contribution earmarked for Emergency Assistance to the CSA address above or on the CSA website: www.communityservicesagency.org.



COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN (CFC)

The Combined Federal Campaign starts September 21 through January 15th. Funding from the CFC provides much needed unrestricted funds to help CSA keep its virtual lights on so that it can continue to provide union members with assistance and services.

We are asking affiliates representing federal employees to urge their members to visit

<https://givecfc.org> to make a contribution to CSA using CFC number 19579.



BUILDING FUTURES CONSTRUCTION PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

BUILDING FUTURES Pre-apprenticeship Program graduated 22 DC residents from its UPO-funded virtual program. More than 50% are already placed in good paying jobs and apprenticeships. Apprenticeship sponsors this month included Heat and Frost Insulators Local 24, Piledrivers, Heavy Equipment Operators Local 77, Sheet Metal Workers Local 100, and Plumbers Local 5.

A new DOES-funded cohort started last week with a total of 14 DC residents participating in BUILDING FUTURES virtual classroom. Students in this class are veterans and older youth 19-24 years-of-age with an interest in the building and construction trades.

As part of the program, students receive OSHA 10, Flagger Safety Training, CPR, First Aid and AED, and Scaffold

User Training. In addition, they receive job counseling and individualized case management and referrals to other programs in the city to address any challenges to employment.

COPE/Legislative Monthly Summary for August 2020

David Stephen, Political Director

Washington D.C.

COPE Recommendations for endorsement:

- At-Large: Ed Lazerre, Robert White (already endorsed)
- Ward 2: Brooke Pinto
- Ward 4: Janeese Lewis George (already endorsed)
- Ward 7: Vincent Gray (unopposed)
- Ward 8: Trayon White (already endorsed)

Collaborated with Lara Fuchs on planning to participate in State Board of Education candidate screening

- At Large: Mysiki Valentine
- Ward 2: James Harnett
- Ward 4: Frazier O'Leary
- Ward 7: Eboni Rose Thompson
- Ward 8: Carlene Reid

Plan for endorsement support:

- Peer-to-Peer texting
- Mailer from Council & affiliates
- Phone banking in DC and with state federation
- Working America letter writing campaign

Washington DC Legislation:

- Public sector injured workers (see attached)
- Medical marijuana (see attached)
- Voter information is live on dclabor.org

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT!

All active voters will receive a Mail In ballot at their registered address.



**VOTE BY
MAIL**

Montgomery/Prince George's County County:

- Worked and prepped leadership at IATSE Local 22 on testifying in Montgomery County on funding assistance for \$3,250,000 for Arts COVID-19 Relief Fund
- Planned Meet and Greet for Prince George's County Board of Education (date rescheduled for October)
- Information meeting on Taxes Ballot Questions Coalition - No on B
- Worked with Chris Garlock on disseminating census info for Prince George's County

Tri-County/Statewide

Request to adopt Workers bill of rights into future COPE questionnaires (see attached)

Resolution:

- Post office position statement

Daily tasks:

- Tracking legislation on the federal level, as well as for Washington DC, Maryland, and local jurisdictions and Virginia (when applicable) and updating webpage with all updates.
- Updating legislative update page on the website with the latest information.

Other tasks:

- Labor support committee for March on Washington



Take back the White House!
Make Calls to Pennsylvania!



Pennsylvania is the most important state this election. Do your part by making calls on behalf of Joe Biden, the AFL-CIO endorsed candidate for president! We will train you on how to talk with your fellow union members in Pennsylvania about this important election.

Trainings are held Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.



Sign up for a training by scanning or going to <http://www.paaficio.org/volunteer>

CLAIMANT ADVOCACY PROGRAM

Tonya Love, Program Director; Lolita Martin, Attorney

The Claimant Advocacy Program's overall objective is to advise and represent claimants with DC unemployment benefits who have a scheduled hearing before the Office of Administrative Hearings.

Additional tasks:

- Discussed existing issues with DOES regarding regular UI, PUA, PUEC and FPUC.
- Check-ins with other stakeholders on issues on a broader level that affect unemployment benefits.
- Suggest and connect UI claimants with other resources, when/if needed.

Summary:

1. Invoiced for the month of June in the amount of \$72,187.50. Invoiced for the July in the amount of \$67,375.00. Invoiced for August in the amount of \$49,500.00. CAP has more than tripled the number of cases over the period of the pandemic.
2. CAP continues to assist hundreds of union and non-union members in accessing the UI system in DC, with multiple emails, calls and texts to POCs at DOES. We have assisted, escalated and resolved at least 20-30 union members' claims during the months of July and August, which are unbilled hours. As for billed hours in July: (3) 32BJ; (2) SEIU 722; (1) WTU 6, (1) UNITE HERE 25 members represented. In August: (2) SEIU 722; (1) 32BJ members were represented. Overall, less than 10% of our billable cases have involved affiliated union members.
3. Began and will continue discussions with DOES regarding COVID19 and how the transition to fully reopening DC could impact employees (currently claiming UI) that are concerned about returning to work.
4. Continued discussions with DOES to reduce the misinformation regarding Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) applications as well as the PUA process and backlog.
5. Monthly DOES conference call with recommendations for procedural changes and expediting decisions/payment of benefits.
6. Bi-weekly conference calls with the Commission Task Force of the DC Office of Administrative Hearings.

UNION CITIES

Chris Garlock, Coordinator

2020-21 MWC Directory:

Includes updates to the [online directory](#) as well as to LaborKey. A draft of the hard-copy Directory should be available for final review soon, after which it will go to press and be distributed via mail.



Union City, Union City Radio, MWC social media

Of special note was producing and hosting the annual **WPFW Labor Day “Workers Rising” show**, which ran this year from 8a to 5p and included segments on:

[COVID’s effects on DC-area workers: Education/Healthcare](#) with Pia Morrison, SEIU 500 and Wala Blegay, staff attorney, DCNA

[COVID’s effects on DC-area workers: Essential workers](#) with Mark Federici, UFCW 400; Jim Griffin, IBEW 1900; Dabney Hudson, IAFF 36 and Andrew Washington, AFSCME Council 20

[COVID’s effects on DC-area workers: Hospitality/Entertainment](#) with Dyana Forester, MWC; John Boardman, UNITE HERE 25; Jaime Contreras, SEIU 32BJ; Ryan Chavka, IATSE 22 and Ed Malaga, DC Musician’s Union



Getting out the vote: Labor 2020 with Donna Edwards, Maryland/DC AFL-CIO; Stephen Courtien, Baltimore-DC Metro Building Trades Council; Julie Hunter, Virginia AFL-CIO; David Stephen, Metro Washington Council and Harold Meyerson, The American Prospect

[Labor & solidarity with Black Lives Matter](#) with Louis Davis, SEIU 32BJ; Djawa Hall, 1199SEIU; Tanya Wallace-Gobern, National Black Worker Center Project; Clayola Brown, A. Philip

Randolph Institute; Davon Lomax, Painters and Chuck Modiano, Sports Writer

[Labor Day with the Labor Radio/Podcast Network](#) with Judy Ancel, Heartland Labor Forum radio show; Bama Athreya, The Gig podcast; Liz Medina, En Masse podcast; Jacob Morrison, The Valley Labor Report radio show; Harold Phillips, Working to Live in Southwest Washington podcast; Jeremy Waugh, The Break Time Breakdown podcast.



Produced, published and distributed latest local labor news on the MWC's Union City daily, Union City Radio (WPFW 89.3FM) and Facebook/Twitter feeds, including ongoing coverage of the COVID-19 pandemic and the efforts of DC-area unions and workers.

Union City returned to daily weekday publication as of September 8; Union City Radio (WPFW 89.3FM) continues to run 7 days a week (formerly was on weekdays only); Your Rights At Work broadcasts every Thursday from 1-2p.



I have continued working with all MWC staff to keep the labor community informed about news and resources on the local response to the pandemic, including keeping our website and social media – including [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) -- up-to-date, with the [website](#) – including the COPE, [CAP](#) and [CSA](#) pages – updated as necessary.

MWC meetings: Coordinated with President Forester to hold the special July Board meeting on July 20 and the delegate meeting on July 21, including preparing reports, notifying affiliates/delegates, etc.

MWC check log-in: Opened, sorted, logged in MWC mail and checks.

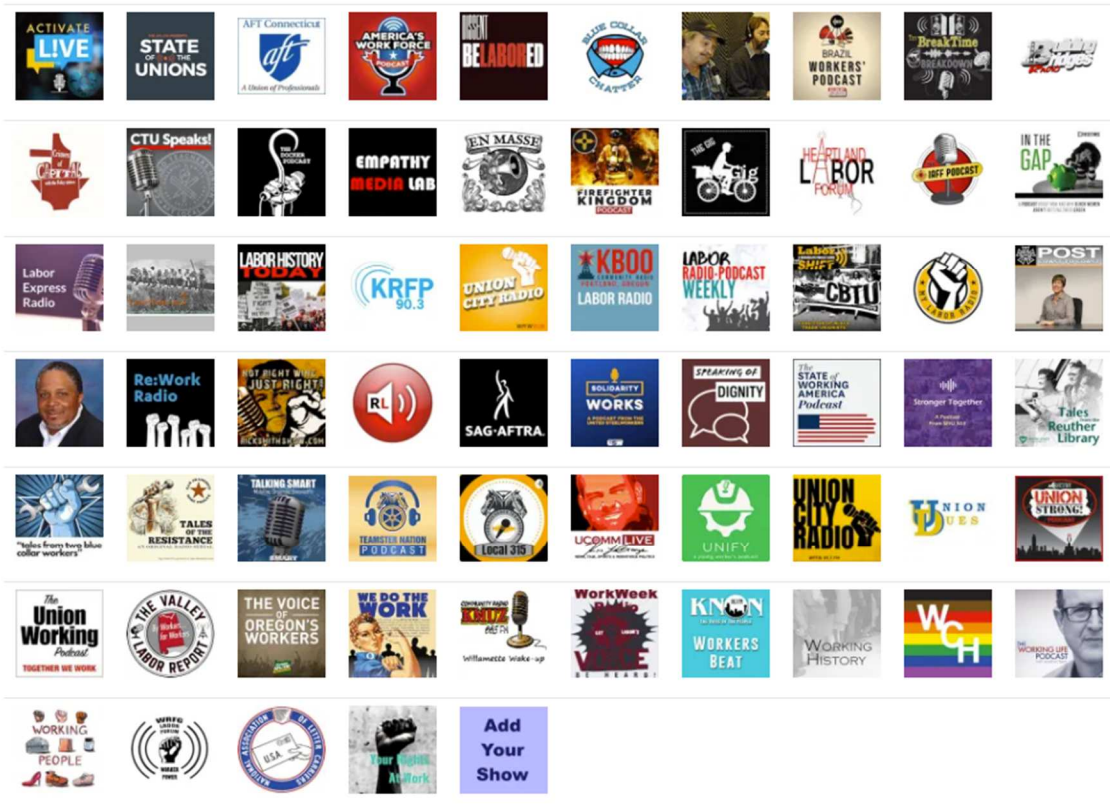
Database updates: Updated MWC and LaborKey databases as necessary.

Election Committee: Assisted the committee in responding to questions/concerns and coordinated ballot inspections.

Your Rights At Work (WPFW 89.3FM, Thursdays from 1-2p)

August guests included: 8/27: local union leaders participating in the Commitment March and Rally; "Union Busting, Vegan Style"; 8/20: Danny Alpert, Co-director of the upcoming film The Last Strike; 8/13: Liz Davis, Washington Teacher's Union; Christopher Martin, Professor of Digital Journalism, University of Northern Iowa: author of "No Longer Newsworthy: How the Mainstream Media Abandoned the Working Class"; 8/6: Jews United For Justice DC

Community Organizer Zach Weinstein; AFL-CIO Deputy Director, Corporations and Capital Markets Brandon Rees.



Union City AUGUST 2020 highlights.

Labor Radio Podcast Network

Continued to expand this network of labor radio shows and podcasts, which now includes 70 shows and was reported on recently in the AFL-CIO Now blog: [Labor Radio Podcast Network Expands To More Than 60](#)

[Members In Four Countries.](#) Coordinated/led weekly meetings and hosted a roundtable discussion as part of the WPFW Labor Day show: [Labor Day with the Labor Radio/Podcast Network.](#)

LaborFest: The weekly online screening series has resumed on Tuesday nights at 7p via Zoom. **Upcoming screenings:**

PATSY MINK: AHEAD OF THE MAJORITY



Tuesday, September 22

7p, FREE via Zoom; [RSVP here](#)

2008; 56m; documentary; Women Make Movies' OWOV (One Woman One Vote) Festival

In 1965, Patsy Takemoto Mink became the first woman of color in the United States Congress. Seven years later, she ran for the US presidency and was the driving force behind Title IX, the landmark legislation that transformed women's opportunities in higher education and athletics.

Co-sponsored by [Suffrage.Race.Power.Black Women Unerased](#)



RESISTERHOOD

Thursday, September 24

7p, FREE via Zoom; [RSVP here](#)

2020; 97m; documentary

Introduced by AFL-CIO Secretary Treasurer **Liz Shuler** (Invited); Q&A with director **Cheryl Jacobs Crim**; Hosted by **Elise Bryant**, president of the Coalition of Labor Union Women

Resisterhood is a feature-length documentary about the power of women, hope and resistance in the age of Trump. It follows fledgling and veteran activists as they fight for our rights on the streets and in the halls of power. Produced, directed, filmed and edited by women, Resisterhood is a testament to the strength of ordinary Americans in this extraordinary time.

Co-sponsored by the DC LaborFest, Labor Heritage Foundation, Coalition of Labor Union Women