

**Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO
Delegate Meeting: October 19, 2020**



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**Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO
Delegate Meeting Agenda
October 19, 2020 (via Zoom)**

<https://aflcio.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEuf-6prz4uGtMfb1MST9p03xiwUJp3A662>

- 5:00pm Call to order & Welcome: President Dyana Forester
5:05pm Roll Call: 1st VP Andrew Washington
5:10pm New delegates swearing in
5:15pm Code of Conduct: Gina Walton
5:17pm Minutes
5:20pm Election Committee: David Fernandez-Barrial
Nominations for Board vacancy
Explanation of process for election for Secretary and open seat
Statements by candidates for Secretary and open seat
5:45pm President's Report: Dyana Forester
6:00pm Financial Report: Treasurer Eric Bunn & Teya Bruce
6:15pm Affiliate Updates (30mins)
6:45pm Organizational Reports
COPE: David Stephen (15mins)
Community Service Agency: Sonte DuCote (5mins)
CAP: Tonya Love (5mins)
Union City: Chris Garlock (5mins)
7:15pm Adjourn

Metropolitan Washington Council Delegate Meeting MINUTES

MINUTES

Draft minutes of the September 21 Delegate meeting are in the process of being reviewed, including necessary corrections and clarifications; they'll be available for approval at the next Delegate meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dyana Forester

Over the past month the focus has been to finalize internal policies, supporting the development of GOTV plans, begin researching fundraising opportunity, and supporting affiliates priorities.

- Work to improve workflow and clarify per cap process
- Updated banking and credit card accounts
- Update Expense and Credit Card Policy
- Work with Pol/Leg Director to develop plans to support labor endorsed candidates and national GOTV mobilization
- Begin the process of applying for grant with Meyer Foundation and looking for alternative fundraising opportunity as an option for our annual in-person events.
- Met with key elected officials to discuss Labor legislative priorities regarding Public Sector Workers Comp, Medical Marijuana and COVID Support and support mobilization efforts around the plans to reopen DCPS
- Participate in the following board meeting: DC JWW Board as the Labor Chair, DCHA as the Labor representative, Employ Prince George's as a Board Member

COPE/Legislative Monthly Summary for August 2020

David Stephen, Political Director

MWC GOTV Calendar

Tuesday, October 13

- Maryland State and DC AFL-CIO Member-to-Member Phone Banks to Swing States
- Phone banking with Unite HERE Local 25 for Ed Lazere 5-8 pm
- Progressive Maryland text bank – 6-7:30 pm

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**

Wednesday, October 14

- Prince George's/Montgomery County Voter Education forum
- Phone bank Against Montgomery County, MD Ballot Question B at 6:30 pm. Contact David Stephen at dstephen@dclabor.org to participate.

Thursday, October 15

- Maryland State and DC AFL-CIO Member-to-Member Phone Banks to Swing States
- Phone banking with Unite HERE Local 25 for Ed Lazere 5-8 pm (Union Week)
<https://www.mobilize.us/edfordc/event/344571/>

Tuesday, October 20

- Maryland State and DC AFL-CIO Member-to-Member Phone Banks to Swing States
- Phone banking with Unite HERE Local 25 for Ed Lazere 5-8 pm
- Progressive Maryland text bank – 6-7:30 pm

Wednesday, October 21

- Maryland State and DC AFL-CIO Member-to-Member Phone Banks to Swing States
- Phone bank Against Montgomery County, MD Ballot Question B at 6:30 pm

Thursday, October 21

- Maryland State and DC AFL-CIO Member-to-Member Phone Banks to Swing States
- Phone banking with Unite HERE Local 25 for Ed Lazere 5-8 pm

Tuesday, October 27

- Maryland State and DC AFL-CIO Member-to-Member Phone Banks to Swing States
- Phone banking with Unite HERE Local 25 for Ed Lazere 5-8 pm
- Progressive Maryland text bank – 6-7:30 pm

Wednesday, October 28

- Maryland State and DC AFL-CIO Member-to-Member Phone Banks to Swing States
- Phone bank Against Montgomery County, MD Ballot Question B at 6:30 pm

Thursday, October 29

- Maryland State and DC AFL-CIO Member-to-Member Phone Banks to Swing States

Tuesday, November 3 – ELECTION DAY

Voter information is live on dclabor.org

Montgomery/Prince George’s County County:

Voter Education Forum for the Wednesday, October 14 at 11:00 am

Tri-County/Statewide

Endorsement

Recommendations:

- Chad Leo - Calvert County School Board
- Judge Patrick Devine – Calvert County Circuit Court Judge



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

Sonte DuCote, Executive Director

COVID-19 / EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

CSA has received a \$21,000 grant from the Greater Washington Community Foundation to provide food assistance to workers facing hardship due to no fault of their own **and** who live within the following zip codes: 20001, 20004, 20005, 20009, 20010, and 20018.

CSA's executive director conducted outreach to locals largely impacted by the economic fallout of COVID 19 to get a sense of the numbers of workers who live in the designated zip codes.

This grant will only provide a small portion of workers with food assistance.

Upon receipt of the funding, the executive director will reach out to locals with members hit hard by COVID-19 with further instructions on this grant.



**FOOD
BASKETS**

HOLIDAY BASKET 2020

CSA is asking Metropolitan Washington Council affiliates to make a contribution to support the Holiday Basket Program. Please see October 9 email sent by DC Labor.

CSA expects triple the number of requests for holiday assistance from needy families than received in previous years. Six (6) families have already requested holiday assistance.

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.

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**

Member Referral Deadlines

- **November 3 for Thanksgiving**
- **Friday, December 4 for Christmas**

COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN (CFC)

The Combined Federal Campaign starts September 21 through January 15th. Our theme this year is “Show Some Love.”

Funding from the CFC provides much needed unrestricted funds to help CSA keep its virtual lights on so it can continue to provide workers impacted by COVID-19 or experiencing other hardships with emergency assistance and services.

We are asking affiliates representing federal employees to:

- a) Look for an email from AFSCME, Local 2910, Library of Congress Retiree Saul Schniderman
- b) Share and discuss the email with your executive boards and members.



To participate in the Combined Federal Campaign and contribute to the Community Services Agency visit www.communityservicesagency.org or <https://givecfc.org> **Use CFC # 19579.**

CSA would like to express our deep appreciation to the International Union of Electrical Workers for its help to produce this one-minute video to promote CSA in the Combined Federal Campaign.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/163kF3cHJ6o5cijJqCWDKkSTocrC-BOVV/view>

We are deeply grateful to IBEW leadership for allocating resources to this project and to Tarn Goelling, Director, Civic and Community Engagement for facilitating the partnership and to Sean Bartel, Senior Video Producer, IBEW Media Department for his outstanding collegueship and video producing skills.

Thanks also to Saul Schniderman for offering his time and talent to outreach to our federal sector affiliates!

BUILDING FUTURES CONSTRUCTION PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

Building Futures' DOES-funded cohort graduated a total of 14 DC residents, a group of veterans and older youth 19-24 with an interest in launching a career in the building and construction trades. We partnered with Helmets to Hardhats, the Insulators Local 24, Piledrivers, Sheet Metal Workers, and Heavy Equipment Operators Local 77.

The students received pre-apprenticeship training based on the AFL-CIO sponsored Multicraft Curriculum or MC3 and a safety certifications packet that includes OSHA 10, Flagger Safety and Traffic Control, CPR, First Aid and AED, and Scaffold User Training. In addition to the training curriculum, students receive job counseling and individualized case management and referrals to other programs in the city to address any challenges to employment. This combination of intensive worker-centered industry training, safety certifications, personalized job counseling and case management has become a model of practice for other organizations interested in scaling it up such as Job Corps and re-entry programs.

Building Futures is currently running in hybrid mode with live online learning, self-learning and in-person learning for some of the certifications and hands on experience. When conducting training in-person we have prioritized safety and put preventative measures in place to protect our staff, instructors, consultants and students in alignment with the CDC and the District of Columbia COVID-19 guidelines for community organizations, churches and schools.



CSA BRINGS ON THREE NEW BOARD MEMBERS

CSA is proud to announce that the following union leaders are now part of the CSA Board:

Brian Courtien, Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer, IUPAT, DC 51
Stephanie Graf, Head Steward, AFGE Local 12
Quincey Jones, Union Organizer, ATU Local 689

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.
- Assisted claimants that were willing to provide written or oral testimony before the DC City Council's DOES Performance Oversight Hearing
- 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 September in the amount of 58K and exhausted the maximum invoice amount for the year. From March 2020 until September 2020, CAP has been the primary POC for questions related to DC unemployment claims and have advised and/or represented more than 500 individuals.
2. CAP continues to assisted 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 or resolved 8 union members' claims during the months of September, which are unbilled hours.
3. As for billed hours in September: (3) 32BJ, (3) SEIU 722, (1) WTU 6, (1) UFCW 400, (3) UNITE HERE 25 and (1) UNITE HERE 23 members were represented.
4. Proposed a streamlined method of escalations. Through continued discussions with DOES to reduce the misinformation regarding Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) applications as well as the PUA process and backlog, DOES proposed a revised method of sending CAP escalations and receiving timely responses, which began in Mid-October.
5. Continued the bi-weekly conference calls with the Commission Task Force of the DC Office of Administrative Hearings.

UNION CITIES

Chris Garlock, Coordinator

MWC affiliate support

Provided as needed, including responding to questions about affiliate voting strength, updating delegates for the upcoming election and coordinating solidarity/mobilization efforts.

MWC meetings

Coordinated prep, 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

Supported committee's work, kept affiliate per cap and delegate info updated, election page updated

Evening with Labor

Supported EWL Committee work, maintained contact with venue re schedule updates; website page [here](#)



MWC staff support

Coordinated weekly staff check-ins, supported staff as necessary, including keeping program pages on website updated, including the [COPE](#), [CAP](#) and [CSA](#) pages

Union City e-newsletter

Produced, published and distributed latest local labor news on the MWC's Union City daily; reports posted [here](#)

Union City Radio

Produced daily report for Union City Radio reports, 7:15a on WPFW and on the [UCR podcast](#)
NOTE: UCR has been underwritten in 2019 and 2020 by a \$5,000 annual contribution from UnionPlus, which is split 50/50 with WPFW.

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

September guests included:

Heidi Shierholz on **EPI's** report on the Trump administration's 50 most egregious attacks on working people since he took office.

Julie Karant, **SEIU 32BJ**:
Essential workers launch union's largest-ever voter turnout program.

NPEU president Kayla Blado on union-busting at the Feminist Majority

"Resisterhood" director/producer Cheryl Jacobs Crim

Largest hospital union victory in South since 1975: Asheville, NC HCA nurses vote 'Yes' to unionize in Landslide Vote by 70% for **National Nurses United**.

Despotism on Demand: How Power Operates in the Flexible Workplace; a chat with author **Alex J. Wood**, live from the UK.

The **Union Veterans Council** reports on their 2020 political strategy launch; AFGE's Black Labor Week September 14-18.

PLUS: Laid-off food service workers (**UNITE HERE 23**) to rally at Senator Mitch McConnell's house

Grocery workers plan 18 simultaneous protests today at area stores to demand hazard pay; also, how UFCW 400 members rescued boaters at sea last week.



MWC social media

Posted labor news/updates to MWC [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) feeds

MWC website

Posted affiliate news/updates on our [website](#).

Latest website traffic report: Users 3.9K (Increased 68.9%); Sessions 4.6K (Increases 71.3%)

Labor Radio Podcast Network

Coordinated network of over 70 labor radio and podcast programs, including weekly meetings. Worked with MWC Executive Board member George Farenthold to facilitate \$5,000 AIL contribution to support the Network.

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.

DC Labor FilmFest

Scheduled, promoted and hosted weekly screenings, Tuesday nights at 7p on Zoom.

Upcoming screening: **NO TIME TO WASTE - THE URGENT MISSION OF BETTY REID SOSKIN**; Tuesday, October 20; 7p, FREE via Zoom; [RSVP here](#)

ELECTION COMMITTEE REPORT

David Fernandez-Barrial, Chair

Members: Chuck Clay, Jeff Guido, Amy Millar, Gina Walton

Affiliates and delegates have been notified multiple times about the upcoming election as follows (see below): they have also been notified that nominations will be accepted at Monday's meeting to fill the seat recently vacated by Doris Reed; that election will be held at the November meeting.

The election to fill the two vacant seats on the Metro Washington Council Executive Board will be held following the October 19 meeting of the Council via Zoom. Candidates will be provided an opportunity to briefly address delegates at the October 19 meeting before ballots are sent out. The election will be conducted by ElectionBuddy and eligible delegates will be emailed ballots on Thursday, October 22; deadline for voting is 11:59p on Saturday, October 24. Any questions or concerns during the voting period should be directed to cgarlock@dclabor.org.

WE MUST HAVE ALL DELEGATE'S CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESS AND/OR CEL PHONE # IN ORDER FOR THEM TO RECEIVE BALLOTS, email cgarlock@dclabor.org

The candidate for the position of Secretary is Lisa Blackwell-Brown, UFCW 1994.

Candidates for the open Board seat are John Gibson, Teamsters 639, Tom Clark, IBEW 26 and Ann Hoffman, NOLSW, UAW 2320.

Please see below for latest list showing each affiliate's voting strength and delegates. Delegate updates and/or questions about voting strength should be sent to cgarlock@dclabor.org. Deadline to update delegates is 5pm Friday, October 16.

Email Updates: The MWC distributes two email Candidate Updates, one on October 8, the other on October 16, to all MWC delegates and affiliates. All candidates were invited to participate.

David Fernandez-Barrial, Chair, MWC Election Committee

Chuck Clay (IATSE 22), Jeff Guido (BDCBT), Amy Millar (UFCW 1994), Gina Walton (AFGE 1975)

Staff: Chris Garlock

REGISTER HERE for the October 19 meeting.

MWC Affiliate VOTING STRENGTH & DELEGATE LIST (updated 10/15)

* If your local has too many delegates assigned, you must update: email cgarlock@dclabor.org; only the number of delegates your local is entitled to will be permitted to vote in the election!