



# Executive Board Minutes

Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

June 19, 2006

*Meeting called to order by President Jos Williams at 4:15P.*

**SPECIAL GUEST:** Bob Jackson, Ruben Burnett, David Russell and Leonard Phillips, Kaiser Permanente. Presentation on Kaiser, which provides health care for 82,000 union members nationally and has had a unionized workforce since the 1940s. Kaiser's interested in partnering with the Council and its affiliates to present educational health care seminars at local churches and community sites, covering topics such as Medicare Part D, high blood pressure, diabetes, cholesterol, wellness health care and more.

Minutes: Moved and seconded to approve as distributed for month of May.

#### Correspondence:

- All political requests for funds were deferred pending results of endorsements (Kullen, Kelley, Niemann, Busch)
- APRI 37th Annual Educational Conference 8/16-20 in Detroit. \$500 approved to help fund a student attending.
- Boilermakers 193 17th Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament 7/21 at Twin Shields; \$200 approved.
- Central Maryland AFL-CIO Council United Labor Dinner 10/4 in Hagerstown; \$150 half-page approved.
- Progressive Maryland PAC "Backyard BBQ" 7/1; \$100

approved.

- Other correspondence: thanks from Hilton Washington GM Frank Otero for holding 29th Annual Evening With Labor there; thanks to President Williams for his participation in Roundtable sponsored by Near Southeast-Southwest Community Action Roundtable on Jobs and Opportunity; request by DC NAACP for President Williams to serve on Blue Ribbon Committee to help raise funds for the 97th National NAACP Convention in DC July 15-20.

#### UNION CITY

- UFCW 400's Mark Federici reported on strategic national campaign targeting Smithfield Foods, which has conducted bitterly anti-union campaigns at their plant in North Carolina, where nearly 7,000 workers have been trying to organize a union but have lost two elections. Metro DC is the largest Smithfield market; campaign kicks off this Thursday with a march from All Souls Church to Giant Foods.

- Union Cities Coordinator Chris Garlock reported on the Gas Can rally scheduled for Friday, 6/30 to draw attention to the impact of high gas prices on working Americans.

- UC Coordinator Chris Garlock reported on the major demonstration and civil disobedience planned for July 13 in front of NLRB headquarters as part of national week of actions drawing attention to pending Kentucky River

decisions that could strip millions of workers of their unions by re-classifying them as supervisors. DCNA's Sandra Falwell noted that such a ruling would wipe out her entire union, since virtually every nurse supervises someone. It was moved, seconded and unanimously approved to support this campaign.

President Williams reported on the early June exchange of letters that took place regarding actions taken in Montgomery County against gubernatorial candidate Doug Duncan by the the MD State and DC AFL-CIO, UNITE HERE Regional Joint Board, the leader of the Baltimore Labor Council and others. President Williams asked the Board to approve his June 7 letter to MD State Fed President Fred Mason expressing his "deep dismay" over Mason's leadership of a delegation of unionists to Duncan headquarters to denounce Duncan's Abramoff-connected campaign contributions. President Williams noted that while individual affiliates were of course entitled to express their political opinions, the appearance of the State Fed President at such an event gave the appearance of official State Fed support of the action, which was inaccurate and inappropriate. Discussion ensued. It was moved, seconded and approved (with two abstentions – Roxie Herbekian and Mike Golash) to support President Williams

**PRESENT:** J Williams, R Herbekian, S Reed, J Lozupone, C Goldman, M Federici, M Cuttitta, J Pappas, D Reed, S Falwell, G Pinder, N Saunders, M Golash, F Allen.

**EXCUSED:** G. Renne, B Campbell, J Boardman, R Scott, L Cernak

**ABSENT:** L Bridges, D Dyer, T Ratliff, E Bunn, G. Johnson.  
**Staff:** C Garlock, R Powell, C Simpson, Harvey Sawatis  
**Also attending:** Eric Starin, OPEIU 2; Tony Perez, UFCW 400; Dwight Bowman, AFGE 14; Richard Putney, ACE-AFSCME Executive Director

letter.

#### COPE

President Williams noted that the various COPE committees are making a number of "no recommendation" suggestions, so there will be a special-called meeting in July to vote on those races.

Craig Simpson reported on COPE Committee recommendations for endorsement in the September primaries (see next page), which were discussed and voted on (see next page).

#### REPORTS

Gene Pinder, Laborer's District Council, reported that even though as of June 1 the Laborers had pulled out of the AFL-CIO, as far as he's been instructed, everything is status quo.

*Meeting adjourned 6:29P*

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