

# Executive Board Meeting Minutes *DRAFT: For Approval*

## Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

February 26, 2007

### Report of Special Meeting with DC Mayor Adrian Fenty

President Williams welcomed and introduced the Mayor, explaining that the Mayor had asked to speak to his school reorganization plan. Mayor Fenty introduced his Deputy Mayor for Education, Victor Reinoso, the first such Deputy Mayor. The Mayor noted that he'd "spent 22 months door-knocking neighborhoods to find out what DC residents want. We have some great schools, some great principals and teachers, but we have to do better. We can't spend hundreds of millions and be rated so low. We traveled to other areas, both large and small, to get ideas, and came up with the current proposal." The Mayor outlined the proposal, highlighting: streamlined responsibility, accountability, creating an ombudsman, consolidate functions under a State Education Office, new facilities department, maintain elected Board, charter school accountability. "This is a comprehensive proposal that's much-needed to fix our school system."

### Q&A session

Discussion ensued. Questions included role of Facilities Manager (Jerry Lozupone, WBCTC), honoring existing contracts (Tommy Ratliff, Teamsters 639), opposition to the Mayor's plan (George Johnson, AFSCME Council 20), maintaining oversight group, including labor representatives, need for increase in maintenance staffing; support for school nurses; questions on role of ombudsman; why relinquish any Home Rule? Mayor Fenty reiterated his support for organized labor and expressed looking forward to working closely together over next four years on

this and other issues.

*Regular Executive Board meeting called to order at 4:20P.*

President Williams suspended the regular order of business to ask the participants in the meeting with the Mayor to discuss the issue with the Board and advise whether there are any grounds to make a recommendation to support Mayor Fenty's proposal or not. Discussion ensued.

January Minutes: approved as distributed.

December Financial Report: Moved, seconded and approved to receive the report.

### Correspondence

1. From the Montgomery County Branch NAACP for the annual Freedom Fund Dinner to be held Sunday, April 22 at the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel and Conference Center. ½ page ad \$200 approved.
2. From the Calvert County Democrats for the Louis Goldstein Dinner to be held March 13. Silver \$500 for 5 tickets approved.
3. From Temple Sinai asking for ads for their membership directory which reaches members and students. FP \$250, ½ page \$125, ¼ page \$100- runs for one year from date of first entry. Hold for more info
4. From Rodmen 201 requesting participation in their 90th anniversary celebration, April 14 at the Washington Court Hotel. ½ page \$250 (& 4 tickets, \$40 each approved)
5. From the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee for the annual Spring Ball to be held Saturday May 12 at the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel and

- Conference Center (Jerry Lozupone, WBCTC, asked that we encourage folks to use union places). ½ page \$200 (& 2 tickets at \$100 each approved)
6. APRI DC annual birthday dinner 4/28, honoring Fred Mason, Maryland State/DC AFL-CIO & Chuck Graham, IBEW 26. Tickets \$70 each. 5 TICKETS APPROVED
  7. Mid-Atlantic UFCW Political Action Committee annual "Person of the Year" dinner on April 12. Senatorial Sponsorship.

### UNION CITIES

- Coordinator Chris Garlock reported:
- Campaigns for OPEIU 2 (Washington Gas) and AFSCME 2910 (Library of Congress) ongoing
  - 2007 Directory draft will be out by the end of the week for final review before going to press next week
  - 2007 Labor FilmFest: first ad mailing out already; early start this year

### COPE

- Coordinator Rick Powell reported:
- DC Special Elections in Ward 4 & Ward 7 races: reviewed timeline/plans. Want to do polls in Wards 4 & 7; would cost about \$5000 each.
  - Legislative updates:
    - o Retail standards reintroduced by Councilmember Mendelson, going to Carol Schwartz's committee
    - o DC paid sick leave bill from DC Employment Justice Center; 6 paid days of sick leave that can also be used for personal leave etc
    - o Affordable housing
    - o Noise ordinance
    - o Prince George's County COPE

*Attendance: Jos Williams, Linda Bridges, Randolph Scott, Fred Allen, Sonny Reed, Gwend Johnson, Carl Goldman, Tommy Ratliff, Lou Cernak, Jerry Lozupone, Mark Federici, George Johnson, Gene Pinder. Excused: Dan Dyer; Roxie Herbekian; Sandra Falwell, Jim Pappas. Absent: Faith Jones, Gino Renne, Eric Bunn, Bob Campbell, Merle Cuttitta, Chuck Graham. Also present: Kathy McKirchy, Chris Garlock, Rick Powell, Mike Golash, Mayor Adrian Fenty, Victor Reinoso (Deputy Mayor for Education)*

reconvened; working on ambitious agenda for 2007  
o DC COPE: working with Fred Allen, GCIU 538-C

### Community Services

Executive Director Kathleen McKirchy reported:

- Bowling tourney; thanks to all; looks like we cleared \$12,000 for the Emergency Assistance Fund. Reminder to locals to make their annual contributions to the fund. President Williams acknowledged the AFSCME Council 20 library workers (Local 877) who participated.

### Evening With Labor

- Scheduled for 3/24
- Ads coming in now, 2/28 deadline will be extended 1 week. Pdf via email best format. Tickets on sale now.
- Council offices have moved; see website for updated contact info. Old but good furniture available for sale 3/16.

Circulated labor, jobs & schools project proposal.

### Reports of Board Members

UFCW 400 (Mark Federici)  
- Card check agreement at Silver

Spring/Takoma Park Coop; covers 70 workers. Like an article in UNION CITY encouraging readers to patronize these union shops. Workers are very enthusiastic.

- Smithfield update: campaign ongoing; Jesse Jackson recently participated.

- Harris Teeter action scheduled for March 31, location TBA

- Stop & Shop: New England grocery chain owned by Royal Ahold, which also owns Giant. 43,000 families facing potential strike at S&S chain in New England. Talks extended past last Saturday deadline but may need help soon. There are only 5 major grocers left nationally. Issues are healthcare, healthcare, healthcare.

DC VOTE (Fred Allen)

- 2/15 Congress Lobby Day a big success on the Hill. Laborers turned out a large contingent to visit legislators. President Williams noted that AFGE has voted to join DC Vote.

Mike Golash: ATU 689 has been arguing with WMATA that dramatic increase in ridership has not been matched with increase in staff and equipment. Starting tomorrow the local will begin a work-to-rule action to demonstrate that we need more time and more buses; just can't keep the schedule and operate safely.

Doris Reed, ASASP: Labor's Evening with the Sheriff Tuesday, 3/13 at NLC. Moved, seconded and approved that the Council purchase 8 tickets (\$200). Lozupone, WBCTC, reminded everyone that this is an example of using a union facility in Montgomery County.

*Adjourned 5:34P*