

Executive Board Meeting Minutes *DRAFT: For Approval*

Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

April 16, 2007

Meeting called to order at 4:25P

President Williams asked all Board members to stay for the Delegate meeting because President Sweeney will be chartering the first NEA local at tonight's meeting "and we hope this will be just the first of the NEA locals here and across the country to join up with the AFL-CIO, the state feds and Central Labor Councils."

March minutes approved as distributed. Jerry Lozupone, Washington Building Trades WBCTC, asked about status of OPEIU-Sheetmetal Workers dispute; President Williams said that we're waiting on report from OPEIU 2's Dan Dyer.

March Financial reports accepted as distributed.

Correspondence

- Washington Region for Justice & Inclusion dinner: 1 ticket approved. \$375
- Community Tribute 4/25 to Ida Rubin: recommend contribution of \$500; approved.
- Ward 7 Democrats: 5 tickets, \$175
- Building Trades DADs Day outing: sponsor a tee \$250.

Total: 1,300

DC COPE

Rick Powell reported that at interviews/screenings in April, the Council's Board had voted to endorse Muriel

Bowser in the DC Ward 4 race and to take no position in the Ward 7 race.

Last Saturday 8 labor folks turned out for the Muriel Bowser walk in Ward 4; May 1 election; should be 10-15% turnout. 3,500 votes should win the election. Labor to labor walks start 4/21, 4/28, work precincts on Election Day. Laborers 657 have offered union hall as HQ for walks and Election Day. Want to hire Precision Campaigns to call targeted union voters in the ward. Need member lists for members in Ward 4 so we can do this campaign. This will run us \$7,000 to provide the winning edge for Muriel Bowser. Teachers have committed \$2,000; Carpenters have committed \$2,000, gives us \$4,000 so far. We figure we can get 1,500 union votes and that would be the margin of victory. Lists would be provided directly to Precision, which will guarantee security of lists.

Meeting with Fenty administration to work out arrangement so all the unions can support his school takeover plan before the Council meets on Thursday.

Retail standards has been introduced, paid sick leave will be introduced soon, but school takeover is the main agenda at City Council now.

Prince George's County COPE

Working on an action agenda of labor-community issues

and proceed with a long-lasting coalition working together on issues of mutual benefit.

Jimmy Tarlau, CWA District 2: Running unopposed in Mt Rainier election; May 3 is the election date. President Williams reminded the Board that this is now our policy: to support our own in local races; want to continue to look for these kind of local races. President Williams reported on the Prince George's hospital situation. Negotiating to save the hospital ran into a brick wall on the last day of the legislature. There's been a lot of finger-pointing and behind-the-scenes maneuvering going on since then; trying to put together a press conference tomorrow as we do everything we can to save that hospital, which serves almost 200,000 PG residents and had members from SEIU 1199.

Gino Renne, UFCW 1994: Reported on contract negotiations, which just started. Concerned that the new Montgomery County Council may not be as pro-labor as it appears to be. Heard a lot of criticism of labor costs at the first work session today.

Fred Allen, GCC 538C: DC State Dem Committee preparing for change in presidential primary date. Chair has asked Allen to organize a labor caucus.

Attendance:

Present: Jos Williams, Gino Renne, Lou Cernak, Sonny Reed, Jerry Lozupone, Doris Reed, Chuck Graham, Gene Pinder, Nathan Saunders, Fred Allen, Randolph Scott
Excused: Mark Federici, Sandra Falwell, Bob Campbell, Merle Cuttitta, Faith Jones, Gwend Johnson
Absent: Jim Pappas, Eric Bunn, Carl Goldman, Dan Dyer, Linda Bridges, Roxie Herbekian, John Boardman, Tommy Ratliff, George Johnson
Also Present: Chris Garlock, Rick Powell

UNION CITIES

Chris Garlock reported on the Letter Carrier's demo at Post Office HQ to protest outsourcing and privatization, the upcoming DC Vote rally, and the hotel workers rally to kick-off their master hotel contract campaign.

Evening With Labor report

Fred Allen
- applause for event running on time this year
- netted at least \$11,235 and perhaps as much as \$17,000
- big kudos for the food; we had selected the most expensive option but it was worth the extra expense.
- Moved and seconded to receive the preliminary report, with special thanks to the organizing committee, which did a great job this year.

Gene Pinder, Laborers District Council: Thanked the Council for honoring him with the

Trade Unionist of the Year award this year. "I really appreciate the honor." President Williams thanked him for all he does for the labor movement.

Reports of Board members

- Chuck Graham, IBEW 26: Friday fundraiser for Muriel Bowser, \$500/each.

- Sonny Reed, SEIU 400: 5-6 area locals traveling to Wisconsin next week for info-sharing; Prince George's county locals meeting to coordinate negotiations with school board; organizing school bus drivers in Calvert County. Caught between subcontractors and board, both of whom say the other has power.

- Lou Cernak, IUOE 99: local will be having elections soon.

- Fred Allen, GCC 538C: started negotiations with Government Printing Office; has been asked to assist. Current administration has different ideas about how to negotiate which are just ridiculous.

Adjourned 6P