

# Executive Board Meeting Minutes *DRAFT: For Approval*

## Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

September 17, 2007

*Meeting called to order at 4:10P*

June Minutes: approved as distributed.

August Financial Report: approved as distributed.

### Correspondence

- DC Employment Justice Center: Annual Labor Day Luncheon on October 11 at the Hotel Washington. \$125 per person. (\$500 for 4 tickets)
- DC Vote: Champions of Democracy Awards Reception on October 23 at the Carnegie Library. \$150 for individual tickets; sponsorships are \$500-\$25,000. (\$500)
- Insulators and Asbestos Local 24: 100th Anniversary Dinner on October 6 at the Marriott Wardman Park. Ads Full page white \$300; Tickets are \$125 each. Council already got \$300 ad. (2 tickets at \$250)
- Maryland Delegate Craig Rice: Reception on September 27. Supporters' home in DC. \$35 per person; \$150 for a silver sponsor; \$500 for a gold sponsor. (Tabled)
- Maryland Delegate Kathleen Dumais: Family Picnic on September 23 at the High Point Farm, Clarksburg, MD. \$30 per person; \$45 per couple; kids free. (\$50 contribution)

### Other Correspondence

- Maryland Delegate Herman Taylor: (\$500 contribution)
- Maryland Delegate Kumar Barve Night of Comedy: (\$250 contribution)
- Lawrence Guyot fundraiser: (\$235 tickets and ad)
- From Jimmy Tarlau, CWA District 2, thanking the Council for its contribution and support for his successful campaign for Mount Ranier Council.
- From Roz Pelles, Director, AFL-CIO Civil, Human and Women's Rights Department, thanking President Williams for running the AFL-CIO Northeast Region Diversity Dialogue in Philadelphia in July that was attended by 180 people.
- From Operating Engineers Local 99, thanking the Council for its help in securing a free and fair election for more than 160 workers at IAP Worldwide Services at Walter Reed, which was won 2-1. "During your tenure as Council President, you have been a tireless advocate for working people. Local 99 is proud to have you as our council president, and even prouder to call you our friend."
- From UFCW Local 400 Executive Assistant to the

President Mark Federici, thanking President Williams for his attendance at the Smithfield March held in Williamsburg, VA on August 29.

- From Christ House President Allen Goetcheus thanking the Community Services Agency (CSA) for helping line up volunteers from IBEW 26's Minority Coalition to provided donated electrical upgrade work to the medical facility for homeless persons.

### Per Capita Increase Action

Will be brought up next month with a recommendation after President Williams consults with the Trustees.

### COPE Report

Rick Powell reported:

- DC COPE is involved with 3 bills: Payday lending, bill will cap rates at 24%, like other lenders, expect it to pass tomorrow; Paid Sick Leave: requires all employers to provide up to 10 days of sick leave; Retail Standards Bill; stuck in DC Councilmember Carol Schwartz's committee; working with DC Councilmember Phil Mendelson to rewrite it to get it into the Economic Development Committee where the Chair promised to get it out.
- October 20 at Indian Queen School, Community Labor Summit theme is the opening of National Harbor in April 2008, 2,800 jobs that we want to be union jobs. 2,200 of those jobs are with Gaylord,

### Attendance:

*Present: Jos Williams, Gwend Johnson, Linda Bridges, Dan Dyer, John Boardman, Roxie Herbekian, Fred Allen, Faith Jones, Doris Reed, Sandra Falwell, Nathan Saunders, Jim Pappas, Randolph Scott, Tommy Ratliff*

*Excused: Lou Cernak, Gene Pinder, Jerry Lozupone, Gino Renne, Bob Campbell, Sonny Reed, Carl Goldman, Eric Bunn, Mark Federici, George Johnson, Merle Cuttitta, Chuck Graham.*

*Absent: Eric Bunn, George Johnson. Guests: Tony Perez, Craig Simpson (ATU 689), Doug Weber (Teamsters 639), Tony Perez (UFCW 400), Jason Ortiz (UNITE HERE).*

*Staff: Kathleen McKirchy, Chris Garlock, Rick Powell.*

which has agreed to card-check neutrality, but there are 4 other hotels and 2 restaurants and UNITE HERE has asked our assistance to get card-check neutrality. It was requested that President Williams convene a meeting of unions involved with National Harbor.

Rick Powell introduced John Boardman, UNITE HERE Local 25:

- Boardman reported on successfully settling 3-year contracts with area hotels on Labor Day weekend (applause). Credited early organizing and support by the Council and community especially at the April kick-off rally where over 1,000 UNITE HERE members and supporters turned out. He introduced Jason Ortiz, re-

searcher for UNITE HERE International, who - along with Roxie Herbekian, UNITE HERE Local 7 -- is helping with October 20 Prince George's Summit to bring together labor and the community around issues of common concern. National Harbor opening early next year with 5 hotels and 2 restaurants, 2,800 jobs, but not all have signed onto the card-check agreement and the question is who's going to get those jobs.

- Prince George's COPE recommended to support the union efforts to get the 4 remaining hotels to sign the neutrality agreement and to put up money for additional training. Executive Board voted to approve. Prince George's COPE also recommended conducting an interview to consider endorsement in the City Council races. Mark Cook, Democratic Candidate is one of the candidates we are familiar with and may interview. President Williams directed the Prince George's COPE to interview the candidate(s) and then get back to the Board with a recommendation.

### Union Cities

- Tommy Ratliff, Teamsters Local 639, reported on the ongoing attempt to support unionized waste haulers in DC and move business to them from Waste Management, an anti-union company. Local 639 is asking any locals doing business with Waste Management to switch to a union trash hauler. Doug Weber, Teamsters Local 639, reported on the decertification campaign (union lost by 1 vote) at Waste Management, which originated here in DC. Atomic Disposal will go union if enough union business

can be generated. "This is a way for us to strike back against this anti-union company." Moved and approved to support this campaign.

Chris Garlock reported:

- UNION CITY is back to daily publication!

- DC Labor Filmfest: reviewed this year's schedule, distributed stickers and discount passes (more available!).

### Community Services Agency

Kathleen McKirchy reported:

- Emergency Assistance Fund: We are out of money. Will take donations of any amount.

- Golf Tournament: 12th annual event on October 1. We still need golfers!

- Fall fundraising Campaigns: We are kicking off the United Way, CFC, DC One Fund, and Maryland charity campaigns. We now have 4 different designation numbers. Passed out order form for how many flyers people want. "These campaigns are critical because our ability to get money from our usual sources has been really hampered."

### Reports of Board Members

- Craig Simpson, ATU 689: Simpson reported on the lobbying effort on HR 401 in congress, which would restrict the collective bargaining rights of metro DC area transit workers. Asked local union presidents to write to Maryland Congressman Steny Hoyer. Simpson also reported on the current DC Council bill on transit worker assaults.

- Gwend Johnson, DC Coalition of Black Trade Unionists:

President Williams asked her to pull together constituency groups, which met in late July for the first time. She strongly urged all groups to affiliate with the Council. How can we as constituency groups work together to maximize our impact. Also reported on the November 28 CBTU Gala.

- Nathan Saunders, Washington Teachers Union Local 6: working with President Williams to defend worker rights at CSD Central Office who are facing possible mass firings by new DC School Chancellor Michelle Rhee.

- Tony Perez, UFCW 400: Thanked President Williams & Rick Powell for coordinating meeting on the Prince George's Wal-mart; Wal-Mart was pressuring Pat Fletcher for a \$10,000 "gift" from Wal-mart to schools. Perez also reported that he has filed complaint, on behalf of his local, about the end-run of development ordinances by Wegmans grocery stores. Also fighting Whole Foods grocery stores.

- Sandra Falwell, DCNA: Falwell reported on the latest update on travails of Greater Southeast Hospital; "We don't need another employer coming in with a new coat of paint". There's no coordination among or with the hospital unions (that she knows of). President Williams agreed to convene a meeting of the locals involved. Falwell also gave update on the school nurses in DC. "Nurses still don't have a contract because no one is saying who is going to have the school nurse contract in the future. The council has made no decisions so they are just in limbo with no one to really negotiate with."

- Jim Pappas, CWA 2336: Pappas briefed Board on the CWA Verizon campaign and their future regarding FIOS or fiber optics, which is the future of communications. FIOS is replacing copper wire technology. Also reported on the Connect DC Campaign to bring FIOS to DC residents. The Campaign wants continued proper maintenance of existing copper wire service, that FIOS be brought to DC, and that jobs go to DC residents. The Board unanimously approved a resolution supporting unionized telecommunications companies (see resolution).

*Adjourned 6:20P*