

Delegate's Meeting Minutes

**DRAFT FOR
APPROVAL**

Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

January 28, 2008

Called to order 6:30P

New delegate: Brian Benson,
IATSE 22 new President.

December Minutes accepted as
distributed, with the correction
that David Richardson, AFGE

Delegate Attendance

Randall Baxter AFSCME 3976
RubeJoseph Former ATU 689
Anthony Frederick LABORERS
657
Ronald Freeland Laborers 657
Jo Freeman NWU 2
Harry Geety IUOE 99
Larry Greenhill IBEW 26
David Hershfield AFGE Council
1 12
Ann Hoffman NWU/UAW 1981
2
Jessica Ingerick OPEIU 277
Jackie Jeter ATU 689
Roland Jeter ATU 689
Gwend Johnson CBTU DC
Joe Kahraman NEWSPAPER
GUILD 32035
Elaine L. Newman NCAUR
Mark B. Pullium MAILERS
(CWA 14-201) 29
Doris Reed ASAP
Carnell Reed SEIU 400 PG
Victor Reyes LABORERS 657
Leslie Richards NEA/UDCFA
David Richardson AFGE Council
1 12
Saul Schniderman AFSCME 2910
Randolph Scott IBEW 26
Mark Sexton IUOE 99
Sarah Stough OPEIU 2
Gerald Warrick Laborers 657n
Dario Ferrufino Laborers 657

Others in Attendance: Jos Wil-
liams, Kathleen McKirchy, Chris
Garlock, Rick Powell, Robert
Williams (NALC Branch 142),
Amado Uno (APALA), Karen
Minatelli (DC Employment Jus-
tice Center), Mackenzie Baris
(DC Jobs with Justice)

12 was present at the Decem-
ber meeting.

December Financial Report:
received as distributed

Correspondence

- DC Primary Care Associa-
tion: Recommended \$500 as
annual membership fee.

- National Labor College:
Presidential installation Febru-
ary; recommended \$300 con-
tribution.

- National Congress of Black
Women: Recommended \$300
contribution to Salute to So-
journer Truth

- DC Labor Chorus: \$200 rec-
ommended.

- Valerie Ervin reception:
\$250 patron.

*\$1,550 total recommended;
All actions approved.*

Evening With Labor Kath-
leen McKirchy, on behalf of
Chair Fred Allen, reported:

- Invitations have gone out; 1
ad is already in. This year in-
cludes award-winner names on
invitations.

Community Services Agency

Kathleen McKirchy reported:

- Alya Mbamba hired to re-
place Jackie Barnes. Most re-
cently worked for Maryland
Congressman Al Wynn and

before that worked for Pro-
gressive Maryland. Will be
doing a lot of the Emergency
Assistance work.

- 16th annual Bowling for
Gold yesterday; lot of fun,
success. Special thanks to
Teamsters 639, ATU 689,
Laborers District Council,
GCIU's Printcraft locals;
IBEW 26, UNITE HERE 25,
Linda Bridges (OPEIU 2),
who sold 50/50 raffle tickets
(winner got \$905 cash), and
to OPEIU 2 members who
were 35% of bowlers.

- Time for annual contribu-
tion to Emergency Services
Fund from each local for
members to be eligible to re-
ceive assistance.

Union Cities

- Mark Pulliam, CWA-
Mailers 29 reported that on
New Year's Eve the local
launched campaign for Wash-
ington Post mailers that plas-
tered Metro Center and Farra-
gut North metro stations with
ads. Main issue is no contract
since May 2003; #1 issue is
employee-negotiated pension
plan. Signs coming down
starting this Friday; discus-
sion on working to place the
signs at International Unions
and locals around town to ex-
tend the campaign.

- Saul Schniderman, AF-
SCME 2910, reported on suc-
cessful struggle against union-
busting at the Library of Con-
gress. Chris Garlock noted

that Saul and AFSCME 2910
got credit from UNITE HERE
25 for helping preserve health-
care benefits for cafeteria
workers who are being targeted
by anti-union contractor.

Chris Garlock reported:

- Directors meetings resume
February 21 at UFCW Local
400; 8:30A. Open to all politi-
cal, organizing and communi-
cation directors for affiliates.

- March 7 training session for
local webmasters coming up;
will schedule another one after
that for locals who want to get
a website.

- Labor FilmFest: 2008 dates
are October 9-12; started new
free monthly series last Friday,
with showing of "At The River
I Stand," introduced by AF-
SCME Secretary-Treasurer and
Coalition of Black Trade Un-
ionist (CBTU) President Bill
Lucy and co-sponsored with
CBTU and Labor Heritage
Foundation. Next month's
screening will focus on Black
History Month theme, also co-
sponsored by CBTU and LHF.

COPE

Rick Powell reported:

- DC Council bills: Supporting
bills that would prevent Mayor
from closing schools without
Council approval; 23 schools
being targeted by Chancellor
Rhee; hundreds of jobs at stake
here as well. January 31 demo
planned by Save Our Schools.

- Council taking a neutral po-

sition on filling the seat vacated by the death of Maryland State Senator Gwendolyn Britt.

- Reported on Prince George's County Labor-Community Summit and follow-up.

- East Campus (College Park, Maryland): met with group of community representatives from the University of Maryland project committee. Laborers 657, UNITE HERE Mid-Atlantic Regional Joint Board, SEIU 400, IUOE 99, AF-SCME 1072, AFSCME 2462, UNITE HERE 25, Sheet Metal Workers 100, IBEW 26, AF-SCME Council 26, Insulators 24, Washington Building and Construction Trades Council, and UFCW 400 are interested in working on the project, which includes a 200-room hotel, major grocery and retail, so a number of jobs involved.

- Still lobbying for six female positions in Prince George's Democratic Committee central body.

- Paid Sick Leave: DC City Council vote coming up February 5. Business is lobbying heavily against it.

- Still researching Fillmore project in Silver Spring, Maryland in old JC Penney's on Colesville Road; Laborers 657, UNITE HERE 25, IATSE 22 and UFCW 1994 are interested in this project.

Reports of Local Unions

- Gwend Johnson, DC Coalition of Black Trade Unionists: Will forward constituency group calendar events for UNION CITY. Plus putting together the annual Black History Month program.

- Ann Hoffman, Coalition of Labor Union Women: January

29 cocktail party at American Federation of Teachers in celebration of Cervical Cancer Awareness Month, to publicize this issue to our unions and members.

- Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance: President Williams recognized Amado Uno, Deputy Director of APALA, who reported on activities of both national and DC chapter, including event this Thursday, January 31 at 6:30P at 18th Street Lounge. Need to improve outreach to Asian & Pacific Islander members in the area and urge locals to help identify and recruit them to join APALA, which can also be of assistance in organizing these workers. (www.apalanet.org)

- DC Employment Justice Center: Karen Minatelli reported on Paid Sick and Safe Leave Bill, introduced last May and coming up for vote next Tuesday, February 5 after intense negotiations over last six months. Business community has been pushing back hard recently so we need to show strong support; we're actually concerned that the bill could be tabled or delayed. Need turnout for vote in Council next week. Building Industry Association and hotels have been down at Council lobbying for exemptions. Workers who don't have paid sick days must either go to work sick or risk losing either pay or their jobs if they stay home sick or to care for a sick family member. Rick Powell noted that there are even some union members who don't have paid sick days, so they're supporting this bill so that their members will get sick days. Chris Garlock reminded delegates to participate in this week's e-Activist campaign to urge the Council to pass the bill.

- DC Jobs with Justice: Mackenzie Baris reported on CWA 2108's ongoing campaign for FIOS in DC, to get better service for DC customers. JWJ is working with 2108 to survey DC residents to find out about the quality of phone service and internet service. February 7 & 9 hearings to be held by DC City Council. Circulated survey to delegates.

- Robert Williams, National Association of Letter Carriers Branch 142: Raised issue involving an employee, legal representation and the Metro Council. President Williams said there is a DC law about the right of workers to representation when they're fired or laid off, if they're denied unemployment compensation (UI) in DC; this was pioneered by the Metro Council 20 years ago. Entitled to representation by a lawyer paid out of the Special Administration Account of the UI program and housed at the Metro Council; this is how and why the Metro Council has a lawyer who represents such workers through the Claimant Advocacy Program. This is for employees denied UI, even if the employer denying UI is a union, as is the case referred to by Brother Robert Williams of NALC Branch 142. President Williams stressed that no per capita funds are used for this program. The NALC was concerned that there was a perception that the local had tried to intercede with the Council to prevent the former employee from getting representation, when they were just gathering information; President Williams confirmed that Branch 142 at no time tried to prevent the legal representation, and offered to speak to the Branch's board at any time, if that would be helpful. Sarah Stough of OPEIU 2 reminded delegates that her local represents many of the employees of

the national unions and should not hold it against the Council when it assists them when called on.

Adjourned 7:56P

50/50 Raffle: Elaine Newman won the 50/50 raffle and donated \$26 back to the Community Services Agency.