

Executive Board Meeting Minutes *DRAFT: For Approval*

Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

April 21, 2008

Strategic planning session with Elise Bryant began at 4:05P

Bryant reviewed plans to move incrementally to work with time available by Board. In previous meeting, we've done trust-building, and explored what do we need, want, what's doable. We want planned change. A round of introductions of members followed.

- Group 1: gain more political clout & voice in communication: need to expand our coalition base, work more closely with these groups to assist them and gain their support. Also use UNION CITY to reach out.

- Group 2: discussed role of UNION CITY; strong feeling that affiliates should be urging members and staff to wear union colors to demos. Try to expand things like President Williams' Fri AM WPFW show and think about doing public access TV and other media things.

- Group 3: leaders go out as a group to target & recruit unaffiliated unions

- Group 4: keeping unity between AFL-CIO and Change to Win. Don't think the problem is at the local level, it's at the national level. A 3rd party arbitrator could come in to resolve the dispute; more realistically, locals can try to force

leadership to resolve this conflict

Executive Board meeting called to order at 5:27P

March Minutes: Moved and seconded to accept as distributed. Approved

March Financial Report: Moved and seconded to receive as distributed. Approved.

Correspondence

- Ward 7 Democrats 5th Annual Lorraine H. Whitlock Dinner, April 25, 7:00 PM @ St. Lukes Catholic Church: \$400 table of 8

- Shaw Junior High Town Hall Meeting: *no action*

- DC Appleseed Annual awards dinner, May 15th: *no action*

- Avis Buchanan Farewell Committee Retirement Celebration, May 9th, \$200 (4 tickets)

- Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) Annual Gloria Johnson Awards Luncheon, April 27: \$250 4 tickets, 1/2-page ad

- Community Teachers Institute-Partners with Purpose 2008 Awards Dinner, April 12: *no action*

- National Elevator Industry Educational Program: IUEC

#10 celebrating Graduation Class of 2007, May 17: \$250 1/2-page ad

- Friends of George Leventhal Honoring councilmember on April 2, (this request was carried over from last month): \$250

- Roofers Local 30 27th Apprenticeship Graduation Dinner, May 9: \$250 1/2-page ad

- Union Plus – Union Privilege Help AFSCME Council 20-Local 2921 member Maureen Brooks achieve a Habitat for Humanity home: \$200

- Greater Fort Foote Area Recreational Cultural & Historical Council Benefit Golf Tournament Monday, May 12: \$500 1/2-page ad

- United Black Fund of Greater Washington: June 5 Calvin & Wilhelmina Roark Scholarship Luncheon: \$1,200 table of 10 full-page ad

- Health Care for All May 14 fundraiser: *no action*

- AFL-CIO thanks President Williams for his significant role in the Northeast CLC/ALF and State Federation Conference at the National Labor College in March.

- District of Columbia Primary Care Association (DCPCA) thanked the Council for the \$500 membership

Attendance:

Present: Jos Williams, Lou Cernak, Sonny Reed, Jerry Lozupone, John Boardman, Chuck Graham, Gwend Johnson, Fred Allen, Doris Reed; James Pappas, Anthony Frederick, Carl Goldman, Anthony Garland

Excused: Gino Renne, Roxie Herbekian, Linda Bridges, Merle Cuttitta

Absent: Sandra Falwell, Dan Dyer, Tommy Ratliff, Eric Bunn, Mark Federici, Faith Jones, Nathan Saunders

Also present: Jim Shearer, AFSCME 2250; Mark Coles, WBCTC; Vance Ayres, WBCTC; Earl O'Neal AFSCME Council 20; Richard Putney AFSCME 2250; Wanda Shelton-Martin AFSCME Council 67.

fee renewing its support of the DCPCA's mission to improve healthcare for all District residents.

- Our Nation's Capital thanked the Council for its contribution.

Evening With Labor:

Chair Fred Allen reported that the 31st annual Evening was again a success. He distributed a preliminary report showing \$122,175 income and \$106,518 expenses, netting a projected \$15,657. He also noted that a closer look at the expense breakdown shows that we lose \$6.55 per dinner ticket sold, which we make up on ad sales in program book.

Union Cities

Coordinator Chris Garlock reported on :

- the upcoming May 9 website workshop for locals considering getting a website.

- 2008 DC Labor FilmFest set for October 9-12: new monthly screening series has conducted 8 screenings for over 300 people, including 100 at last week's showing of Mother Jones at the Department of Labor.

Community

Services Agency

Executive Director Kathleen McKirchey reported:

- Labor Nights at the Nats July 11; tickets now available; nearly 2,000 sold already (including 1,000 to Iron 5, who will throw out the first pitch).

- Annual golf tournament fundraiser set for 9/29.

SEIU/CNA Update

President William distributed recent correspondences received on this issue and reviewed the issues involved, which includes allegations of raiding. CNA is an affiliate of the AFL-CIO and SEIU is not, but many of SEIU locals, including those in DC, are affiliated through Solidarity Charters. SEIU has instructed locals to withhold per caps to Labor Councils across the country until this issue is resolved.

COPE

Coordinator Rick Powell reported:

- DC primary coming up in September to elect Councilmembers from Wards 2, 4, 7 & 8. Filing deadline is July 2; need to establish timetable for interviews and recommendations, hopefully by June meeting.

- DC Noise Bill: Council-

member Tommy Wells introduced a bill that could have effectively shut down union demos with bullhorns; we opposed this strongly in hearings, at which only 2 testified in favor. Thought we had killed the bill, but last week lost support of Council Chair Vincent Gray. A compromise was made that would protect labor concerns; the new bill allows bullhorn in any protest 7A-8P anywhere in city, unless it exceeds 70 decibels when measured inside the nearest residence. This will probably not interfere with our usual activities, but it is a change from existing law. Comes up for a vote 5/6.

- Montgomery County: Nancy Navarro race for the Montgomery County Council was a disappointment; we felt good going in but lost by 340 votes. We identified 879 members supporting Navarro but where things broke down was figuring out how to get our voters out, with only 23% actually voting. We need to develop strategies on how to get the vote out once we ID our voters.

- Prince George's County COPE: General election April 29 to fill the open Prince George's County Council seat of David Harrington, who recently won election to the Maryland State Senate: the Prince George's County COPE recommended endorsing Andrea Harrison for the 5th Councilmanic seat. Moved, seconded and unanimously approved. The Executive Board also recommended a \$500 contribution to the Harrison campaign; moved, seconded and approved. Rick Powell, Metro Council COPE Coordinator, reported on the ongoing dispute between labor, the Prince George's De-

mocratic Central Committee (PGDCC) and the Maryland State Democratic Central Committee (MDSGCC). Extensive discussion ensued. The board moved, seconded and approved to table a resolution put forth by AFSCME 2250 and the Prince George's COPE calling for a labor picket during the MDSGCC's upcoming convention. It was then moved, seconded and approved to:

- strongly condemn the recent actions and behavior of the PGDCC;

- authorize the Metro Council President and Co-Chairs of the Prince George's County COPE to engage and discuss this matter with the MDSGCC with a view of coming up with an appropriate action to meet the concerns of organized labor;

- Further, that this matter be brought back to the Board with a report and that;

- in the meantime the Metro Council urge all affiliates to continue to withhold any contributions to Prince George's elected officials, and that an open letter to this effect be distributed at the upcoming May 3 MDSGCC convention at IBEW 26.

Meeting adjourned at 6:43