

# Executive Board Meeting Minutes *DRAFT: For Approval*

## Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

October 20, 2008

### *Called to order 4:30P*

**Minutes:** September minutes approved as distributed. (Note to amend the September minutes to add Vance Ayres, Washington Building and Construction Trades Council (WBCTC), as attending the Delegate and Executive Board meetings.)

**Financial Report:** President Williams asked the Board to postpone action on the September Financial Report until the November 17 meeting. Request approved.

### **Correspondence:**

- Prince George's NAACP: 21st Hester V. King Freedom Fund Dinner 10/17 (\$100 contribution).
- George Leventhal: Reception and fundraiser for Montgomery County Councilmember George Leventhal 10/26 (\$100 contribution).
- Maryland State NAACP: Maryland State NAACP Labor Luncheon honoring ATU 689 President Jackie Jeter 10/31 (\$740 for a full page ad and four tickets).
- UFCW Minority Coalition: Annual Ball honoring UFCW 400 President James Lowthers 11/8 (\$1300 for 1/2 page and two tickets).
- Boilermakers 193: Local 193 Scholarship Dinner and Dance 11/15 (\$100 Honor Roll contribution).

- International Labor Communications Association: Annual Media Awards Luncheon where UNION CITY & Council website will receive awards 11/21 (\$1000 for table and 1/2 page ad).
- Help the Homeless Walk: Fundraiser walk to raise money for programs aiding the homeless in DC 11/22 (\$250 donation).
- Progressive Maryland: Annual Gala 12/3 (\$350 for 1/4 page ad)
- Roofers 30: Retirees Luncheon (date uncertain) (No Action).
- National Black Caucus of State Legislators: 2008 dues for the NBCSL Labor Round Table (\$250 for dues).

Total: \$4090

### **Other Correspondence:**

- United Transportation Incorporated: Workers won a 2nd union contract. Workers represented by the International Association of Machinists.
- WPFW: Response to President Williams' letter on Zimbabwe. Planning to set up a radio forum to discuss the situation in Zimbabwe with equal time for all sides.
- Oseh Shalom: Thanked the Council for contribution honoring union member Cantor Charlie's 25th anniversary.

### **Community Services**

#### **Agency**

Executive Director Kathleen McKirchy reported:

- Golf Tournament: Thanks for all your support. This year's tourney was a big success. We raised \$16,000 which allows us to keep going through the end of the year.
- Bowling Tournament: Scheduled for January 25 at the Crofton Bowling Centre. Now accepting registrations for teams.
- United Way/Combined Federal Campaigns: Started the campaigns in early September and they end around the holidays. We need help getting out materials to membership. Information and flyers for each campaign are in the back.

#### **Union City**

President Williams reported:

- Labor FilmFest Report: Another successful year! We had 46 different screenings this year. Over 2,000 people turned out, including 1,000 at the main AFI FilmFest, many of them first-time FilmFest attendees. We also signed up hundreds for UNION CITY. We also had monthly screenings at venues including the AFL-CIO, AFT, DOL, NLC, SEIU, E Street Cinema, DC EJC, IBEW & AFI. We are working

#### **Attendance**

*Present: Jos Williams, Linda Bridges, Lou Cernak, Sonny Reed, Carl Goldman, Mark Federici, Merle Cuttitta, Anthony Frederick, Sr, Anthony Garland, Doris Reed, Fred Allen, Vance Ayres.*

*Excused: Faith Jones, Gino Renne, Roxie Herbekian.*

*Absent: Gwend Johnson, Jim Pappas, George Johnson, Eric Bunn, John Boardman, Dan Dyer, Sandra Falwell, Tommy Ratliff, Chuck Graham, Nathan Saunders.*

*Also attending: David Rodich (SEIU 500), Kathleen McKirchy, Rick Powell, Andy Richards, Alya Mbamba*

on adding more. We also received good coverage in the Post, Express, Examiner, City Paper as well as had the Filmfest blogged on the IndieExpress website (<http://indieexpress.com/>). Working with organizers in other cities to get Labor FilmFests started, including Dublin, Ireland (where FilmFest Director Chris Garlock is now), Cincinnati & Toronto.

- Better Website Trainings: Working on putting together more trainings to start after the elections; watch UNION CITY for updates
- Street Heat Actions: Workers' Rights Board: Date changed from October 21 to Thursday, November 20 at 6:30P at the Wilson Build-

ing. This year's hearing will focus on Mayor Fenty's attacks on public sector workers and the community.

- International Labor Communications Association Awards Lunch: Friday, November 20 starting at 11:45A at the AFL-CIO. Union City and the Council website won awards this year. Tickets and/or an ad space to celebrate the Union City/website awards are still available.

### COPE

Political Coordinator Rick Powell reported:

- Northern Virginia Labor 2008: Walks are going well. The last two Saturdays over 200 showed up, including members of the Metro Council Executive Board. Folks walked out of Annandale, Manassas and Herndon. I worked in Virginia in 1996, 2000, and 2004 and have never seen this much participation; I am confident we will win. Assistant Political Coordinator Alya Mbamba will be contacting people about walks and GOTV efforts. Phonebanking also continues at the AFL-CIO. President Williams reported that he is really pleased about the Affiliate participation, including from the Laborers, UFCW (in Pennsylvania and Virginia), the Washington Building and Construction Trades Council, SEIU (in Ohio and Virginia), UNITE HERE and other locals. Many of the participants are from DC and Maryland. Powell recognized Mbamba for her work in getting participation. Mbamba reported about
- the Saturday, October 25 GOTV rally at 9A in Annandale, VA. Thank you for sending out people and make sure you tell us what people are doing so we can recognize them at this year's Evening with Labor Awards dinner. People who cannot participate in walks can phonebank in Annandale, Herndon and the AFL-CIO. Vance Ayres, WBCTC, reported that precincts walks are happening in Northern Virginia every day through the election. Anthony Frederick, Laborers 657, also reminded that phonebanking is happening at their office every weeknight. Mbamba recognized SEIU 722 who sent its entire Executive Board to the AFL-CIO to do phonebanking; just another example of what can be done. We are also looking for people on Election Day and want to make sure that people receive credit for their work. A sign-up sheet is in the back.
- Tri-County COPE: Powell reported that progress is being made on getting a prevailing wage bill passed in Charles County.
- Prince George's COPE
  - East Campus Project: Powell reported that progress is being made on the East Campus project. The project is being scaled back. A coalition of unions and community organizations are working on it
  - Labor Contribution Boycott of Prince George's elected officials: Powell re-
- ported that it is still ongoing, but there needs to be an exit strategy for this. We are going to set up a meeting with Prince George's County State Delegates to try to come to a resolution. Lengthy discussion ensued.

### Reports from Board members:

- Linda Bridges, OPEIU 2: The Sheet Metal Workers International Union just laid off our entire bargaining board of workers represented by Local 2 at its pension third party administrators. They did the same thing in 1993 and outsourced many of the jobs. They are also refusing to recognize Local 2. Asked President Williams to send a letter to the Sheet Metal Workers to not fire the workers and to recognize the contract. President Williams asked the Board for approval to send the letter; seconded and approved by the Board.
- Anthony Frederick, Laborers 657: Reported that the Laborers have access to a parking lot near the AFL-CIO that could be used for parking for future E-Board, Delegate meetings. Will find out more info and pass it along.

**Adjourned 6:41P**