

Delegate's Meeting Minutes DRAFT FOR APPROVAL

Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

November 17, 2008

Delegate attendance:

Anntoinette White-Richardson; AFSCME COUNCIL 20
Anthony Frederick, Sr LABORERS 657
Avis Buchanan AFGE 2782
Brian Benson IATSE 22
Carnell Reed SEIU 400
Cynthia Collins SEIU 400
Daniel Fields, Jr. SEIU 722
David Hershfield AFGE 12
David Richardson AFGE 12
Edward Stern AFGE 12
Elaine Newman NCAUR
Eric Starin OPEIU 2
George Hogan IBEW 26
Gerald Warrick LABORERS 657
Gwend Johnson CBTU DC
Jessica Ingerick OPEIU 277
Jim Lowery IUOE 10
John Brasseux IATSE 22
Leslie Richards NEA/UDCFA
Louis Cernak IUOE 99
Lucille Washington AFSCME 2921
Michael Flood AFSCME 2921
Michael Murphy IUOE 99
Randall Baxter AFSCME 3976
Rick Ehrmann NEWSPAPER GUILD 35
Riley Gaines IBEW 26
Rodney Sewell LABORERS 657
Ronald Freeland LABORERS 657
Ruben Dario Ferrufino LABORERS 657
Saul Schniderman AFSCME 2910
Sharon Harris AFGE 2607
Vanessa Dixon Doctors Cncl
Victor Reyes LABORERS 657
Wilbert Cunningham ATU

Meeting called to order at 6:37P by President Williams.

Michael Flood, AFSCME 2921 (Council 20) delegate, sworn in

Minutes (October): moved and seconded to receive as corrected as followed: Gwend Johnson (DC CBTU) was excused; Avis Buchanan (AFGE 2782) was in attendance at the October meeting.

Financial Report (September/October): moved and seconded to receive the reports.

Correspondence:

Delegate Roger Manno 11/18/08 Breakfast reception: \$100 approved
Phelps Foundation 11/20/08 Fundraising Reception/Open House: \$100
Commissioner Collins 12/02/08 Reception; \$70 (2 tickets)
Del Eleanor Holmes Norton 12/17/08 Covenant House Party for underprivileged children: \$100
US Labor Against The War: Annual Dues: \$250
Total: \$620 Moved, seconded and approved to receive the recommendations.

Other Correspondence

- NoVA Labor: Thanks for help with NoVA election work
- Jews United for Justice: Thanks for support of 10th anniversary celebration
- Asbestos Workers 24: Thanks for support of Snyder Memorial Scholar-

ship Fund

- DC Workers' Rights Board 11/20/08: Protecting Public Services, Respecting City Workers Hearing
- UCS catalogue: sending 100 for Delegate meeting
- Labor Heritage Foundation: sending 100 catalogues for Delegate meeting

President Williams suspended the regular order of business to welcome a special guest "who always has an open invitation to this Council," NoVA Labor President Dan Duncan, in recognition of the stellar 2008 political work done in Northern Virginia. Duncan received an enthusiastic standing ovation. He reported that 500 volunteers turned out, hitting 25,000 doors in the last week alone, 60,000 doors overall and 40-50,000 phone calls. We did it, not me. Had 22 cell phones going by the end. Special thanks to former NoVA President Lou Cernak; this win has been a long time coming. Union members voted 63-35 for Obama, huge number of union voter contacts. Duncan regaled the delegates with his tale of the dog with the bone looking wistfully across the river at the barbecue; "This year we got the steak, and it was good!" He closed by reminding delegates that "Next year we elect a Governor!" Kathleen McKirchy also recognized President Duncan for initiating the annual "Labor

Night at the Nats" two years ago, indicating that it symbolized an era of new partnership between the two Councils.

Community Services Agency Executive Director Kathleen McKirchy reported:

- Fall Employee Giving Campaigns: let your members know that the CSA desperately needs the support of union members. Three different flyers so make sure you get the right one. Available to come out to talk in workplaces whenever and wherever.
- Bowling Tournament 1/25/09: fundraiser for Emergency Assistance Fund and, as always, a lot of fun. Lanes near the bar are still available.
- Holiday Basket Project: focusing on gift cards this year – easier to get families exactly what they need -- but will take canned food and other non-perishable food. Plus your local can adopt a needy family; or if your local has needy families that need adoption, let us know. Note: this is for Christmas holidays, not Thanksgiving.

Evening With Labor

Chair Fred Allen reported:

- Reminded that Evening With Labor will be held at the Omni Shoreham on March 21 instead of our usual location.
- The Board today author-

ized an increase in the ticket price to \$125 to cover costs; last year lost \$10 for each ticket.

- Award nomination form to go out tomorrow.

Union Cities

Chris Garlock reported:

- Workers' Right Board Hearing on Fenty administration attacks on public sector workers this Thursday: Ruth Castel-Branco of DC JWJ reported
- Labor Heritage Foundation: Darryl Moch distributed new catalog
- Union Communication Services: labor books catalogs distributed; more available on request
- 2009 Affiliate Directory: update mailing to go out via mail, email and fax; updates will be made to the Online Directory and new hard-copy Directory published in 2009.

COPE

Rick Powell reported:

- Labor 2008 report, DC, MD and VA
- Powell reported on the incredible local labor effort to elect Barack Obama and the rest of the labor-endorsed candidates, almost all of whom won. Thanked everyone for their help and hard work.
- Reported on resolutions from Executive Board:
 1. supporting the emergency legislation in the DC City Council banning privatization.
 2. supporting the City Council the City Council Public Safety and Judiciary committee's rejection of DC Acting Attorney General Peter Nickles. Asked delegates to call Council -- 202-724-8000 -- Tuesday morning starting at 8:30A to support the committee

vote. Discussion ensued on Nickles lack of qualifications, as outlined in the committee's 20-page report.

3. support the campaign against the Mayor in support of public sector workers.

The resolutions were moved, seconded and approved.

- Tri-County COPE: Jim Lowery (IUEC 10) reported on effort to win prevailing wage in Charles County. First time it has been put out there and have the support of all five commissioners, but it's not a done deal. Christmas party coming up 12/12.
- Prince George's COPE: Still working on East Campus project, trying to get Community Benefits Agreement.
- Maryland report: Maryland State/DC Political Director Denise Riley reported on "huge win" in 1st Congressional District and thanked everyone for helping win by just 2,000 votes. Former Governor Bob Ehrlich is already interested in running for that seat in two years, so we can't relax. Thanks also for all the help in Virginia, including bus to Richmond. CLUW leadership breakfast meeting on legislation/politics this Wednesday. MD/DC AFL-CIO Legislative Conference 12/9 at the National Labor College; sign up now. Discussion ensued on strategies for getting Inaugural tickets (call relatives in far-away states).
- Powell also recognized work done by Alya Mbamba on the Labor 2008 campaign.

REPORTS

- Johnny Walker, AFGE 383: thanked Dwight Bowman (AFGE District 4, National VP) for sending him down to work in Richmond on the election after he was laid off by the Mayor and was very proud of being able to help turn Virginia blue.

- Dave Richardson, AFGE 12: Dwight sent me to Tidewater and it was also a great experience.

- Leslie Richards, UDCFA/NEA; same experience and thanks for recent article in Union City on UDC's effort to abolish the Faculty Senate: "very well-done"

- Vanessa Dixon, Doctor's Council: thanks for unanimous support of workers facing contracting out at DC Mental Health department. Thanks also for support on emergency legislation to halt privatization. Discussion ensued.

- George Bordenave, AFT: reported that he just received a text message that School's Chancellor Rhee and Fenty have unilaterally dismantled yet another department. Urged delegates to contact them and City Council to oppose this. New AFT President Randi Weingarten has a meeting with Chancellor Rhee on Wednesday and "We will prevail in the end."

- Jim Lowery: IUEC 10: reporting for Building Trades Organizing Committee on organizing campaign involving four trades, ACI signed Tuesday and will sign with the rest this week, covering 150 workers, which brings that many workers in as new union members.

- Gwend Johnson, DC CBTU: all the constituency groups were out working hard during the election. CBTU chapter has organizing campaign going on; see her for applications. December 13 is the annual Shoebox gift-wrapping reception for SOME: good fun, good food,

good fellowship.

- Ed Stern, AFGE 12: At the DOL folks are excited and energized to be able to get back to doing what we're supposed to be doing (applause).

- Lucille Washington: AFSCME Local 2921: also battling Rhee. 97-year-old woman drove her own car to the polls on election day to vote for Obama; really made us feel good.

- Michael Flood: AFSCME 2921: hearing other union members tonight I wanted to share that some of us are coming together against outsourcing and I'm glad to be here tonight as a new delegate to build solidarity.

- Johnny Walker, AFGE 383: DC unions are filing myriad cases at PERB, which can't act since there's not a quorum since the Mayor hasn't filled vacant positions.

Adjourned 8:01P

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF EMERGENCY LEGISLATION BY THE D.C. CITY COUNCIL TO STOP ALL CONTRACTING OUT

Be It Resolved that the Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO support emergency legislation by the District of Columbia Council to halt all contracting out of government services provided to the public until the Council has an opportunity to determine on a case-by-case basis if the contracting out is consistent with the law, and is in the best interest of the people of the District of Columbia.

Approved November 17, 2008 by the delegates of the Metro Washington Council AFL-CIO