



Delegate's Meeting Minutes DRAFT FOR APPROVAL

Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

April 20, 2009

(NOTE: the April Executive Board meeting was not held due to other commitments by a majority of the Board members)

President Williams called the meeting to order at 6:38P

Minutes: moved and seconded to approve the Minutes of the March meeting as distributed. President Williams noted that the attendance record may be off because one of the sign-in sheets went missing last month and asked that delegates be sure not to remove the sign-in sheets. He said that anyone who had attended the March meeting and was not on the list should let Chris Garlock know. Jo Freeman, NWU, was the only delegate to request being added to the April attendance list.

Financial Report: moved, seconded and approved to accept the March financial report as distributed.

Correspondence: tabled because the Executive Board did not meet today, so those requests will be brought before the next meeting in May.

Community Services Agency
- Labor Night at the Nats, July 24: CSA Executive Director Kathleen McKirchy reported that she had delivered 1,000 tickets to Iron Workers 5 "but there are still plenty available." The event is a fund-

raiser for CSA's Emergency Assistance Fund. President Williams shared a correspondence from Baltimore Central Labor Council (CLC) President Ernie Grecco. The Baltimore CLC's Night At The Ballpark in June will feature the Orioles against the Nats, and the Baltimore CLC proposes that the President of the Council whose jurisdiction includes the losing team travel to the winning team's city and serve pizza to the Executive Board of the winning CLC. Discussion ensued.

Union Cities

- Coordinator Chris Garlock distributed a sheet of upcoming Street Heat highlights, including the 4/21 Homecare Workers Rally For First Contract, 4/21 Support Rite Aid Workers Trying to Form a Union, 4/22 Author Barbara Ehrenreich leads discussion on low-wage workers and the Employee Free Choice Act, 4/22 Support Rite Aid Workers Trying to Form a Union, 4/25: United For DC Kids Community Outreach Walk, 4/28: Tell Bank Of America: Taxpayers Have Had Enough, 4/28 Solis To Honor Fallen Workers At Workers Memorial Day, 5/1 Homecare Workers Rally For First Contract, 5/2 DC Labor Chorus Spring Concert
- Mackenzie Baris, DC Jobs With Justice, provided more details on upcoming events, including the Rite Aid leafletting, Ex-Offender Rights train-

ing, weekend World Bank/IMF events, Republic Door strikers event & film event last week.

- Jimmy Tarlau, CWA District 2, reported on ongoing CWA negotiations at AT&T, where contract covering over 100,000 workers expired 4/4 - 2009 Council Directory update: Garlock reported that a PDF of the Directory will be posted online soon, then go to press next month

- Labor FilmFest update: Garlock reported on three new labor film festivals based on DC's, including Delaware, Toronto & Dublin, which kicks off next week, and which Garlock – who consulted extensively with the Dublin organizers – will be attending to help launch.

COPE

- Navarro Campaign; Political Coordinator Rick Powell reported on the campaign in Montgomery County's 4th District, where the Council has endorsed Nancy Navarro. The Council sent a labor-to-labor mailing to 5,400 4th District union members last week and is assisting unions in Montgomery County with field efforts. Powell said that Navarro "has a good chance and would give labor a majority on the Montgomery County Council."

- PERB: Powell & Assistant Coordinator Alya Mbamba reported on latest news on the continuing battle over the stalled Public Employee Rela-

tions Board nominations in the District. The Mayor rejected a compromise with unions after the City Council gave him two weeks to work things out. Labor submitted names of 11 qualified candidates, but the Mayor rejected them all, insisting that the right of nomination is his prerogative alone. But labor has been an integral part of this process for decades and in fact labor's nominees were submitted at the invitation of the Council and with the agreement of the Mayor, who subsequently changed his mind. Will be pushing for strong rejection of Mayor's nominees tomorrow and passage of 1-vote temporary quorum so that the PERB can get moving again.

- Tenant Alliance with TENAC; Powell reported on a new alliance with this community group to save rent control in DC after the Mayor tried to slip by a budget item defunding the Rental Housing Commission, the court of appeals for the Rent Control Board. "Combined with actions like the attack on the PERB, there's a clear pattern emerging here of a mayor trying to eliminate and restrict citizen's rights in the District," Powell said.

Though this may not appear to be a union issue at first glance, it's very much so because of the huge percentage of working people who rent in the District.

- East Campus: despite slowdown in the economy, this project looks likely to proceed as a "shovel-ready" project; continuing our work to make it a

union project.

- Maryland Congresswoman Donna Edwards fund-raiser June 2: at Democratic Central Committee offices, formal invites to be sent out next week. (NOTE: this event has subsequently been moved to Monday, June 22)

REPORTS

- Dave Rodich, SEIU 500: thanks to everyone for all their work on the Navarro campaign; it's making a difference. The race hangs in the balance in terms of support of the Montgomery Council, which for example last year stepped in to stop union-busting during an organizing drive at Montgomery Community College.

- Ann Hoffman, DC Vote: "Ballots Not Bullets" rally Tuesday on Capitol Hill, to protest linking of repeal of DC gun control laws to winning the vote. DC voters should not have to give up their right to democracy in order to get the vote in Congress.

- Eleanor Lauderdale, AFGE 12: lunch discussion tomorrow (see flyer)

- Dave Rodich, SEIU 500: congrats to AFSCME and MD/DC State AFL-CIO for passing agency shop bill for state workers, which will translate into thousands of new members over time. Rodich also reported that "We succeeded in passing an expansion of bargaining rights for school system employees, including binding arbitration.

- Christy Matthews, Fair Budget Coalition: reported on local actions coming up. The Fenty budget cuts jobs and programs affecting women and children, local rent subsidy program, emergency rental assistance program, home purchase assistance program. "We did a lot of actions last year but didn't win enough relief; looking at \$600-million short-

fall this year and it looks like the Mayor plans to balance his budget on the backs of the poor. We're seeing a lot of newly homeless as a result of the economic crisis."

- Joe Kahraman, Washington-Baltimore Newspaper Guild: reported on more buyouts at the Post and the local is now operating on a contract extension through June.

- Fred Allen, Evening With Labor Chair: thanks to everyone for supporting this year's Evening With Labor, which had to switch locations this year. When all is said and done we expect to net a little over \$22,000, which is a very good year.

- Abdul Kamus, SEIU 32BJ: the local is a member of the National Capital Immigration Coalition, which is organizing a major rally May 1 at Malcom X Park supporting immigration reform.

Moved, seconded and approved to adjourn meeting at 7:44P

Delegate attendance

Abdul Kamus, SEIU 32BJ
Ann Hoffman, NWU/UAW 1981
Anthony Floyd, AFSCME 709
Avis Buchanan, AFGE 2782
Carnell Reed, SEIU 400
Daniel Fields, Jr., SEIU 722
David Richardson, AFGE COUNCIL 1
Dorothy Howard, AFSCME 709
Elaine Newman, NCAUR
Eleanor Lauderdale, AFGE 12
Harry Geety, IUOE 99
Jessica Ingerick, OPEIU 277
Jimmy Tarlau, CWA District 2
Jo Freeman, NWU/UAW 1981
Joe Kahraman, NEWSPAPER GUILD 32035
John Cusick, AFM 161-710
Kendall Martin, IRONWORKERS 5
Riley Gaines, IBEW 26
Robert March, Jr., NALC 142
Rodney Sewell, LIUNA 657
Saul Schniderman, AFSCME 2910
Shelia Wilson, AFSCME 709