

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

March 16, 2009

Meeting called to order at 4:12P

February 23 minutes approved as distributed

Financial Report: Delayed until next month due to computer problems with the per cap billing system.

Evening With Labor

Chairman Fred Allen reported:

- adbook at 64 pages, same level as last year; no more ads being accepted
- ticket sales at 750; down from last year, but we'll keep selling right up through Saturday
- anyone hosting politicians at their table, please let us know

Community Services Agency

Kathleen McKirchy reported:

- 2009 Emergency Assistance payments due from locals, whose members aren't eligible to receive

assistance unless their local makes a contribution. please; we can pay up to \$300 per applicant, so our funds go fast and appreciate the contributions.

- Labor Night at the Nats: ad in Evening With Labor adbook and flyer coming out soon. The game is 7/24 against San Diego.

- Union Plus program: critical to promote, as member benefits are really good.

Union Cities

- New Directory draft: circulated for review/comment; updated PDF to be posted online by end of the week.

- Ongoing solidarity work, including IUOE 99 workers terminated by United States Geological Survey (USGS) in Reston, VA: Mike Murphy reported on latest developments, including possible settlement after several rallies and extensive coverage in Union City.

- Northeast Regional Conference: presentation on

the Council's online activist database was the envy of our colleagues

- Labor FilmFest update: The DC Labor FilmFest is scheduled for October 13-18; the AFI in Silver Spring is once again our main venue – with screenings each night – and a number of free noontime screenings have tentatively been lined up that week at the AFL-CIO, AFSCME, AFT and the Jewish Community Center. FILMS: We're beginning the selection process for this year's films, and we're also excited to report that both Dublin and Toronto – inspired by and working with the DC Labor FilmFest -- will kick off labor film festivals this year, Dublin in May and Toronto in November.

COPE

- Montgomery County: Navarro Campaign for County Council: Rick Powell reported on the proposed labor campaign,

Attendance:

Present: Williams, D Reed, Falwell, Cuttitta, Boardman, S Reed, Goldman, Dyer, Contreras, Garland, Ayres, Murphy, Allen

Excused: Renne, Bridges, Federici, Ratliff, Graham, Briscoe

Absent: Johnson, Jones, Frederick

Also attending: D Rodich, SEIU 500; T Perez, UFCW 400

Staff: McKirchy, Garlock, Powell, Mbamba

which will involve mail and phone efforts to ID and turn out the labor vote for Nancy Navarro. The budget for the campaign is projected at \$8,000. Budget approved. Moved, seconded and approved that the Council make a contribution of \$500 to the Navarro campaign.

- Prince George's County COPE: no meeting until May
 - Tri-County COPE: Frank Lancaster, retired IBEW 26 member, appointed to Orphans Court; Jeff Guido, Plumbers Local 5, honored by

CORRESPONDENCE

Organization	Event Date	Request/Purpose	Approved
Nancy Navarro (Friends of)	3/25/2009	Reception	\$500
United Students Against Sweatshops	3/28/2009	Regional conf	\$100
Jews United for Justice	3/31/2009	Labor Seder	\$250
Valerie Ervin	4/15/2009	Reception	\$500
ACE_AFSCME 2250	4/25/2009	Awards Night	\$250
Charles Cty DCC	5/16/2009	Truman-Kennedy Dinner	\$250
MidAtlantic PAC (UFCW)			\$1,600
			TOTAL: \$3,450
Other Correspondence			
Wash-Balt Newspaper Guild	31-Mar	Invite to Front Page Awards	
Harry "Tommy" Thomas		Thanks for MLK event	
AFL-CIO		2009 Workers Memorial Day	

the Charles County Democratic Central Committee for his work on the TriCounty Prevailing Wage bill.

- D.C.: Public Employee Relations Board appointments, Public Employees Campaign update; UDC, Community College, Backus School Location; attacks on students/faculty continue; Graham Loitering Bill—which would have restricted right to peaceful assembly— withdrawn after coverage in Union City and community criticism.

- MD Assembly updates

Reports of Board Members

- AFL-CIO Free Choice Media Fund update: President Williams reported \$4,200 raised so far: \$2,000 UFCW 400, \$1,000 MWC; \$500 CSO Local 4; \$200 NCAUR; \$500 CWA 2108; he thanked these locals and promised to re-send the request to other affiliates.
- Doris Reed (ASASP) reported on new pre-apprenticeship program in Prince George's County schools; Vance Ayres (WBCTC) reported that he'll be meeting with local authorities to start negotiating the PLAs and "do what we have to do to ensure adequate jobs so apprentices can be hired." Reed added that "our intention is to take this program state-wide."
- - Carl Goldman (AFSCME Council 26): trying to get meetings with new political appointees; happy to hear that MD Secretary of Labor, Licensing, & Regulation Tom Perez has been nominated to be Department of Justice

Assistant Attorney General for Civil and Human Rights.

- Sandra Falwell (DCNA): new head of Howard University Hospital is trying to break union; refused to sign contract that we negotiated and ratified. Mayor Fenty trying to privatize DC Department of Health. 100 nurses hit Capitol Hill last Wednesday for Employee Free Choice Act.
- Jaime Contreras (SEIU 32BJ): first meeting of NoVa commercial cleaners this Saturday; over 4,000 organized last year; 4,600 UDC workers negotiating contract; card count this Saturday for IMF workers.
- - Anthony Garland (ATU 689): reported on testimony supporting driver safety in MD Assembly last week
- Vance Ayres (WBCTC): supporting bills in Annapolis; tired of hearing "there are too many labor bills" and worried about some of our key bills getting gutted. Did ok in Virginia; about broke even on labor bills. Hopefully more work coming because of stimulus bill.
- Merle Cuttitta (SEIU 500): Organizing campaign for part-time workers at UDC; Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett put out his budget today; need to see what County Council does with it; interesting times coming up. None of the county unions are getting COLAs and it looks like job losses

coming up, some through attrition/retirement so we're not sure how many will be actual job cuts.

- Tony Perez (UFCW 400): updates on labor bills in Maryland, including shift break bill; good shot at getting it out of the House but it's under heavy attack from business community. Big deal last Monday in VA regarding Big Box bill; would allow Wegmans to develop 150,000 sq foot supermarket. Approved unanimously by Fairfax County board, which we'll remember come election time. On the other hand we did well at state level in VA on disclosure of corporate taxes. WalMart campaign continues to do well.
- Mike Murphy (IUOE 99): Washington Post gave us another last and final offer the same as last year's, which we voted down. Like the Mailers -- who've been working without a contract for 6 years; they want to take out seniority, which we're not going to give in on.

Meeting adjourned at 5:55P

*Merle Cuttitta,
Secretary*