



Delegate's Meeting Minutes

FINAL

Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

September 21, 2009

Meeting called to order at 6:40pm by President Williams.

He indicated that we would hold consideration of contributions until the October 19 meeting. There was no financial report available so that will be reviewed next meeting. The minutes for the meeting of June 2009 were approved as written.

New Delegates- Sworn in were Steve Shapiro, from new affiliate AFGE 3331 at EPA, and Ben Butler, AFGE 2741 at DC Department of Parks and Recreation.

Community Services

Agency - Kathleen McKirchy, ED, reported that the agency has won a contract from GSA to conduct pre-apprenticeship training and placement into apprenticeship programs and jobs in construction for 220 area residents. She reminded all about the upcoming Golf Tournament September 28, and indicated that we had available 5000 free tickets for 3 Washington Nationals games courtesy of the Nats.

COPE - Rick Powell, MWC Staff, reported that Tri-County COPE will be working with Charles County Community College to make sure they are aware of union apprenticeship programs and what training is really required to succeed in the construction industry. 2010 will be a huge election

year in all of the area's covered by the Council's jurisdiction. We will be gearing up for lots of campaigns. He discussed the economic development standard legislation that labor will be promoting first in DC then in the counties.

President Williams reported on the passing of the wife of Board Member Faith Jones (ACE-AFSCME 2250). He indicated we would pass on funeral arrangement information once we have it.

John Brasseaux (IATSE 22) thanked the Council and staff for its help in making sure the stage and sound for the Obama Rally for health care in College Park was done union. Brian Benson (IATSE 22) reminded the delegates that they have members who can do all of this kind of work and the list is available on www.iatselocal22.com, or call the local and they will help you find a union worker.

Larry Greenhill (IBEW 26) reported on negotiations for 21 members who work at the Washington Convention center. It looks as if they will be going to arbitration.

Elaine Newman (NCAUR) reported that Vice-President Biden will be at Leisure World 9/23 at 10am and that you must be there by 9am to get in. This is sponsored by the Alliance for Retired Americans.

Ben Butler (AFGE 2741) discussed the situation with DC Mayor Fenty's closure of all publicly-run child care centers, whose workers are represented by their union. 400-500 jobs will be lost. Ruth Castel-Branco (DC JwJ) reported on the Take Back DC action to take place in the morning 9/22 and encouraged all to turn out. A resolution opposing Mayor Fenty's massive privatization of DC Government workers' jobs was moved, seconded and approved.

Clay White (WTU Local 6) reported that it looks like they will be going to arbitration on their contract which expired over 1 year ago. They will have a rally October 1 to oppose DCPS Chancellor Michelle Rhee's termination of hundreds of teachers.

Annual DC Labor Film Fest will take place October 13-19 this year. AFI schedules were distributed.

Eugene Kinlow (DC VOTE) reported on the impact labor can have by relating the example of the local labor push in Mississippi for their elected officials to support DC Voting Rights. This would not have happened without the MWC pushing this agenda across the national labor movement. He discussed the current PR campaign for voting rights including posters around town highlighting

regular residents and their support for voting rights. He reminded the delegates of DC VOTE's annual event coming up on October 13 and encouraged participation.

President Williams gave a brief report on the recently-completed AFL-CIO Convention in Pittsburgh and indicated that there was a lot of energy and that good things are expected from the new leadership.

President Williams encouraged locals to help out with the Governor's race in Virginia. The NOVA Area Labor Federation is conducting Saturday door knocking and weekly phone banking. Kendall Martin (Iron Workers Local 5) indicated that races will also be coming up for State Assembly and that only a 6-seat shift and the Democrats can take control of the House. Craig Simpson (ATU 689) echoed the importance of labor's activities to keep Virginia a "blue state".

Ruth Castel-Branco (DCJwJ) reported on a strategic campaign training they are conducting Tuesday, September 22.

Steve Shapiro (AFGE 3331) reported that Steve Early, a well-known writer and former CWA member will be appearing at Bus Boys and Poets on October 20. It was moved, seconded and approved to promote this event.

closing of 10 area post offices.

Jim Lee (NABET 31/CWA) reported on the continuing fight with NBC, indicating that they are intent upon destroying the union. All are encouraged to turn off NBC, including MSNBC and other NBC outlets.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Merle Cuttitta,
Recording Secretary

Gwend Johnson (DC CBTU) reported that the annual event to prepare shoe boxes full of personal care items for the homeless will take place on decemner 19. There will be a meeting to plan for an HIV Conference sponsored by CBTU. The annual membership drive is ongoing.

Saul Schniderman (AFSCME 2910) indicated that the Northland Poster Collective has closed but he has some bumper stickers available for \$2 each.

Kendal Martin (Iron Workers Local 5) asked if the AFL-CIO was actively fighting the taxation of health insurance benefits which may end up part of a health care reform bill and President Williams indicated that that fighting this is one of the AFL-CIO's priorities along with the support of a public option.

Dena Briscoe (APWU, NCSML) reported on the Post Office closings and lay-offs proposed by the USPS. Nationwide 150,000 workers are being targeted for early retirements. They are also offering early outs. SB 1507 and HB 22 address requirements for the USPS to pre-fund retirement accounts even though no other federal agencies are required to do this. This is wreaking havoc on COLA's and benefit levels. There will be an informational picket on October 10 from 10am-12noon at the Brentwood Facility to protest the proposed

Board Members

In attendance: Jos Williams, Fred Allen, Dena Briscoe, Riley Gaines

Excused: Sandra Falwell, Carl Goldman, Faith Jones, Jaime Contreras, Vance Ayres, Gino Renne, Doris Reed, Merle Cuttitta, Linda Bridges, Carnell Reed, George Johnson, Dan Dyer, Anthony Garland

Absent: John Boardman, Mark Federici, Tommy Rattliff, Chuck Graham, Anthony Frederick

Delegate attendance

Brian Benson, IATSE 22
John Brasseur, IATSE 22
Dena Briscoe, APWU, Nation's Capital and Southern MD Local
Avis Buchanan, AFGE 2782
Ben Butler, Afge Local 2741
Richard Campbell, AFGE 1000
Carl Carson, Plasterers & Cement Masons 891
Cynthia Collins, SEIU 400 PG
John Cusick, AFM 161-710
Ruben Dario Ferrufino, LABORERS 657
Anthony Frederick, Laborers 657
Ronald Freeland, Laborers 657
Jo Freeman, NWU/UAW 1981 2
Riley Gaines, IBEW 26
Harry Geety, IUOE 99
Gerald Green, SEIU 400 PG
Larry Greenhill, IBEW 26
David Hershfield, AFGE Council 1 12
Ann Hoffman, NWU/UAW 1981
Trent Holmes, SEIU 400 PG
Gwend Johnson, CBTU DC Chapter
Roosevelt Limes, SEIU 400 PG
Kendall Martin, Ironworkers Local # 5
James Carl Mayers, NABET-CWA 31
Robert Mayfield, AFGE 2978
Elaine Newman, NCAUR
Tony Perez, UFCW 400
Carnell Reed, SEIU 400 PG
Victor Reyes, LABORERS 657
Saul Schniderman, AFSCME 2910
Rodney Sewell, LIUNA 657
Steve Shapiro, AFGE 3331
John Shields, Sheet Metal Workers 100
Craig Simpson, ATU 689
Eric Starin, OPEIU 2
Gerald Warrick, Laborers 657
Russel Washington, AFGE 2782
Boyd Way, ATU 689