

# Executive Board Meeting Minutes

DRAFT

## Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

October 19, 2009

Called to order at 1:25p by President Williams

Minutes, financial report etc tabled for the moment in order to proceed directly to the discussion of the proposed 2010 workplan for the Council. JNW said that the Board Members in attendance would comprise a working group to review and discuss the proposed workplan for the Council for 2010. The workplan is based on staff ideas about the work that needs to be done by the Labor Council to strengthen the local labor community. Noted that this Council has been relatively unaffected by the split between the AFL-CIO and CTW, which has been largely because of the strong leadership of locals in the DC area.

Presentations by Council & CSA staff:

- CSA: Exec Dir Kathleen McKirchy reviewed the draft 2010 CSA work plan. Q&A and discussion ensued.
- Union Cities: Coordinator Chris Garlock reviewed the draft 2010 CSA work plan. Q&A and discussion ensued.
- COPE: Coordinator Rick Powell reviewed the draft 2010 CSA work plan. Q&A and discussion ensued

Reports

Community Services Agency: Executive Director Kathleen McKirchy reported on the recent Golf Tournament, which netted \$17,000 for the

Emergency Assistance Fund; upcoming holiday baskets; GSA Building Futures update

Union Cities: Assistant Mobilizer Adam Wright reported: DC Labor FilmFest: most well-attended yet, with over 30 screenings, thousands attending and two standing-room only shows (Michael Moore and Office Space) in AFI's 400-seat Theater 1; lots of good publicity, including being selected as Washington Post "Pick of the Week" which called the Labor FilmFest "a jewel in Washington's cinematic crown"; Our blue-card raffle yielded hundreds of new readers for Union City; 2009 program guide available; Supporting effort by ticket-takers and ushers to organize with IATSE; Article on "Putting Labor Films to Work" by Chris & Jon Garlock in this month's Labor Notes (copies available) about how to organize your own local labor filmfest.

- 2010 Directory of Affiliates to be published soon; will be available at next Council meeting
- Busy Street Heat month since we last met, with more than two dozen demos, picket lines & rallies, including the huge teacher's rally on October 8, one of the largest in recent years, with thousands attending; stay tuned in Union City for upcoming actions!

COPE: Coordinator Rick Powell reported:

D.C. Public Union Campaign; School Layoffs/student protest Maryland: COPE activity in P.G., County East Campus project on hold, Building capacity, P.G. Hospital, Tri-County elections: X-mas party, Apprenticeship Program Charles County Community College, Mont. Co., Building capacity for elections.

Reports of Board members

Sandra Falwell, DCNA- fighting mandatory flu shots for all RN's, discussed the H1Ni flu situation

Sonny Reed, SEIU 400- the Coalition of Public Employees will be meeting 10/20 at 9:30. Local 400 had a summit 10/16 and of their 1250 members, 1000 showed up which was recognized by the School Superintendent. They have won a victory in that temporary employees are now in the union. The local's annual Atlantic City trip is the Friday after Thanksgiving and all are invited to attend- info to be provided to Chris Garlock for Union City publication. The school system negotiations involving the 4 unions are at a standstill.

Doris Reed, ASASP- reported on the victory of AFSCME 2250 which filed a complaint leading to the reinstatement of 32 parent liaisons. They and some temporary employees

Present: Jos Williams, Doris Reed, Sandra Falwell, Merle Cuttitta, Carnell Reed, George Johnson, Faith Jones, Michael Murphy, Dena Briscoe

Excused: Gino Renne, Linda Bridges, John Boardman, Carl Goldman, Tommy Ratliff, Dan Dyer, Riley Gaines

Absent: Mark Federici, Chuck Graham, Jaime Contreras, Anthony Frederick, Anthony Garland, Fred Allen

Guests: Mark Coles, WBCTC; Craig Simpson, ATU 689; Tony Perez, UFCW 400

got back pay. There will be no school system furloughs but the schools are now operating with no assistance principals.

Tony Perez, UFCW 400- Thanked MWC COPE staff for helping with setting up meetings to discuss attempts by WalMart to locate in DC. Senator Cardin (D-MD) has cooled a little bit on his Chesapeake Bay bill which would have set limits on menhaden fishing causing distress to fishermen members of the local. Members at the Giant Food in Ward 5 raised funds for sickle cell research and later this month are raising funds for breast cancer awareness. Also at Giant, they have been able to pare 65 grievances down to only 3 and won an arbitration over Giant's efforts to remove the UFCW Union Shop decals on all their buildings.

Dena Briscoe, APWU NCSML- USOS tried to get 150,000 workers to take early retirement but less than 30,000 did nationally and of those 17,000 were union members. The efforts to require USPS to pre-fund its retirement system have been slowed down a little- the bill now postponed this for one year. She announced that APWU President Burris will not be seeking re-election and the Secretary-Treasurer will be moving to the AFL-CIO.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:30pm.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Merle Cuttitta  
Recording Secretary*

Craig Simpson, ATU 689-METRO is facing a \$100 million budget deficit. Recent press about how many workers have been written up over the last few years was misleading. Given the number of employees working everyday over a 4-year period which would be in the hundreds of thousands, the number cited by the POST is miniscule.

Merle Cuttitta, SEIU 500 reported that the Governor of Maryland signed the first contract for the Purchase of Care Child Care Providers in the State. The providers will be lobbying to have the Governor's Executive Order codified into legislation during the upcoming session.

President Williams informed delegates of a rally sponsored by the AFL-CIO on Thursday, October 22 at 2:30. All to meet at the AFL-CIO with a march up the block to the Capital Hilton to "welcome" health insurance industry execs who will be meeting there.

Tony Perez, UFCW 400- reported that Mark Coles, WBCTC had been honored by the Maryland NAACP as Labor Leader of the Year, winning him a round of applause from those in attendance.