



Delegate's Meeting Minutes DRAFT

Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

November 16, 2009

Present: Jos Williams, Fred Allen, Vance Ayres
Excused: Sandra Falwell, Gino Renne, Carl Goldman, Riley Gaines, Michael Murphy, Chuck Graham Doris Reed, Merle Cuttitta, Linda Bridges, Carnell Reed, George Johnson, Dan Dyer, Jaime Contreras, Anthony Garland, Dena Briscoe,
Absent: Faith Jones, Mark Federici, John Boardman, Anthony Frederick, Tommy Rattliff

President Williams called the meeting to order at 6:37p.

Minutes: The October minutes were moved, seconded and approved.

Financial report: The October financial report was moved, seconded and approved.

Executive Board Actions: President Williams reported that the Board was recommending his appointment of Jimmy Tarlau (CWA District 2) and Dwight Bowman (AFGE District 14) to fill vacancies on the Executive Board; it was moved, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the recommendations. President Williams then swore in Tarlau as a new Board member, after which he swore in Yvette Martin-Gross (AFGE 631) as a new delegate. The Board also recommended that the Council

join the Consumer Utility Board and other allies in opposing the nomination of Ms. Beasley to head the OPC; this was moved, seconded and approved. The Board recommended contributions totaling \$2,520; these are the first such contributions since June, as subsequent actions were held pending development of a contributions criteria (which will be posted on the Council's website). See below for details on the contributions, which were moved, seconded and approved. President Williams reported that the Board had reviewed the 2008 audit with auditor Bond Beebe and that the Council had received a "clean" audit report; it was moved, seconded and approved to receive and accept the audit.

Community Services

Agency:

Executive Director Kathleen McKirchy reported:

- Holiday baskets: collecting contributions for needy families, who will receive gift cards. Prefer no toys this year, as gift cards are much more effective and easier to distribute. Locals wishing to "adopt a family" can do so by contacting CSA.

- Bowling tournament: the annual event benefiting CSA's Emergency Assistance Fund is set for January 31, 2010 and teams can sign up now. As usual, looking for donations of excess convention materials etc for give-aways.

- GSA Pre-Apprentice Training Program: new program is up and running, with four (of 6) staff hired and 21 people attending class being held at the Cement Masons. Great group of folks includes a female interested in construction work.

Union Cities

Coordinator Chris Garlock reported:

- Streeheat: recent & upcoming activities:
- Amy Lloyd, AFGE Legislative and Political Action Department, reported on AFGE's TSA national campaign to represent Transportation Security Officers, kicking off at all three area airports; the Council is working with AFGE and NoVA ALF to assist. Lloyd said AFGE's been organizing screeners for 8 years and had to battle just to get them the right to join a union, as the Bush administration said it would be a security risk. AFGE 1442 President Frank Sylvester (DCA TSOs) told delegates that TSA management "shows horrid disregard for workers rights...please show the officers that we're not alone in this fight." Thomas Sincock, an AFGE organizer at Dulles Airport, says management fired the local president there twice, that they "always blame the workers" for any problems and that "they treat us like second-class citizens; if you kicked a dog you'd get in more trouble." They dis-

tributed luggage tags supporting the campaign and urged delegates to show their support for the campaign during travel during the upcoming holiday season.

- Jobs with Justice DC's Ruth Castel-Branco reported on several upcoming JwJ activities, including a grassroots fundraising training session, a People's Property Campaign hearing and the ongoing ironworkers strike against Wings Corp, which has been going on nearly a month. She translated for ironworker Cristian, who said "we have suffered so much injustice at Wings; we want a wage increase, a medical plan, retirement and respect on the job. Working with you we'll be able to achieve all of these."

JwJ Executive Director Mackenzie Baris updated delegates on the campaign to help day laborers win back pay and to make wage theft a major campaign; JC Recinos of Iron Workers 201 and Kendall Martin of Iron Worker Local 5 both spoke to these issues as well as to the role of DOES in functioning – or not – as the District's Department of Labor and a watchdog for District workers.

- Andy Richards and Mikua Rai of the Coalition of the Uninsured and Underinsured for Single-Payer (CUUSP) reported on their efforts supporting single-payer healthcare, asking affiliates to join the Council and other local organizations in signing on to support this campaign.

- Coordinator Chris Garlock also reported:
- 2010 Affiliate Directory: expect to be available at December meeting
- Labor FilmFest update: AFL-CIO's Labor Film Poster collection being donated to the Labor FilmFest; in discussions with National Labor College now to permanently display the exhibit in the Kirkland Center
- 1st Canadian Labor FilmFest – which has worked with the DC Labor FilmFest to develop -- kicks off this weekend in Toronto; will be there to help make it a successful launch.

COPE

Assistant Coordinator Alya Mbamba reported:
- Peoples Counsel Conflict; reported on related issues of PEPCO rate increase – which would increase utility costs for DC consumers – and Mayor Fenty's nomination of an inexperienced head of the Office of the People's Counsel in place of 18-year veteran – and highly-rated – consumer advocate Betty Noel. Also noted the Mayor's attempt to slip the nomination through by having his ally on the Council review it at a "roundtable" this Friday rather than the usual hearing, which would require 30-day notification. It was moved, seconded and approved to join the Consumer Utility Board and other allies in opposing the nomination of Ms. Beasley to head the OPC.
- Mayor Fenty illegally routing more than \$82 million in contracts to friends through Department of Parks & Recreation projects without City Council review or approval

Reports

- Dwanna Lee, MD/DC Alliance for Retired Americans: reported that ARA has been focusing on health care issues and now expanding to work on

other issues of concern to seniors, especially local issues; reach her at 202-637-5136
- Jewell Ryan-White, 2010 Census Bureau Worker: the former CWA local president is working with the U.S. Census Bureau to make sure that all area union members are counted in next year's census, and she's helping locals set up "Complete Count Committees" in preparation for the census in March 2010. President Williams reminded delegates of the importance of a complete census for federal funds, programs, etc.
- Veronica Turner, MD State Delegate & SEIU 1199 leader; President Williams recognized Delegate Turner's attendance, noting that she has been elected President of the Maryland Legislative Black Caucus. "My goodness, Metro Council meetings have gotten bigger, stronger and more interesting!" Turner added. "Our legislators should really come here to hear about what you're going through," said Turner, the 1199 SEIU leader proudly known in Annapolis as "Miss Labor."
- Vanessa Dixon, Doctor's Council: Upcoming 12/2 Community Service Fair for high school students being organized by DC Council-member Thomas
- Steve Shapiro, AFGE 3331: Custodial workers at the Reagan International Building still looking for a union to organize them (Sonny Reed SEIU 400 said he'd follow up with Jaime Contreras, SEIU 32BJ).
- Gwend Johnson, CBTU DC: 12/19 annual Shoebox gift-wrapping reception; CBTU will also sponsor a reception following the December Council meeting on 12/21.

Meeting adjourned 8:21p.

Kendall Martin, Iron Workers

5, won the 50/50 raffle and donated the \$14 winnings to COPE.

Delegate attendance:

Carl Carson Cement Masons Local 891
Eamon Clifford IUOE 99
Cynthia Collins SEIU 400 PG
Vanessa Dixon Doctors Council of DC
Jo Freeman NWU/UAW 1981
Riley Gaines IBEW 26
Gerald Green SEIU 400 PG
Ann Hoffman NWU/UAW 1981
Steve Hopkins AFGE 3331
Jessica Ingerick OPEIU 277
Gwend Johnson CBTU DC Chapter
Kendall Martin Ironworkers Local # 5
Elaine Newman NCAUR
Carnell Reed SEIU 400 PG
David Richardson AFGE Council 1
Saul Schniderman AFSCME 2910
Mark Sexton IUOE 99
Steve Shapiro AFGE 3331
Eric Starin OPEIU 2
Jimmy Tarlau CWA 2336
Veronica Turner MD House of Delegates/1199 SEIU United Healthcare Workers-East
Russel Washington AFGE 2782
Boyd Way ATU 689
Terrie Williams 1199 SEIU United Healthcare Workers-East
Bridget Wilson American Income Life