

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

October 18, 2010

Meeting called to order at 4:16P

Minutes: September minutes received as distributed

Financial Report: President Williams requested deferral to November meeting, due to report not being ready. It was moved, seconded and approved to defer the report.

Correspondence: DC Vote Champions of Democracy dinner: \$500 approved; Painters District 51 Children's Hope fundraiser: \$100 approved. Thank-you letter from DC Employment Justice Center received; President Williams noted that Tom McNutt, UFCW 400 President, was among those recognized.

Community Services

Agency: Executive Director Kathleen McKirchy reported:

- Golf report; the 15th annual CSA Golf Tournament was cancelled after being rained out twice. Enterprise Golf Course gave us rain checks and still wound up making about \$17,000 which goes to the Emergency Assistance Fund; \$15,000 has already been used due to huge need.
- Bowling tournament: January 30, 2011. Registration forms coming soon; details are posted on the Metro Council's website.
- Holiday baskets: notification going out soon; food drive, gift card, discount store gift cards, adopt a family or direct contributions. Also need to

identify members in dire need of assistance.

- United Way/CFC: can't emphasize enough as our amount continues to dwindle each year so we really need to promote to our members. Discussion ensued on ways that affiliates can assist with this effort, including inviting CSA to address meetings etc, get the word out, etc. Look for stories in UC that can be re-used on affiliate websites, in newsletters, print and email, etc. Look for email from President Williams on easy ways to help spread the word.
- Washington Wizards want us to do Labor Night at the Wizards (applause); tickets would be \$17 plus whatever we want to tack on as a benefit for CSA; will investigate further to see possibility

Union Cities: Coordinator Chris Garlock reported:

- FilmFest update: already nearly 1,000 people have attended and we expect a sell-out crowd of 450 for tomorrow night's Closing Night screening of Fair Game with Valerie Plame and Joe Wilson (reminder that free passes are not accepted for this screening; sorry!). Lots of very positive response from attendees, as usual. Thanks to all the FilmFest sponsors, especially AIL, which has been our premiere sponsor since the very beginning.
- The giant rat --as seen in the Washington Post -- is on the loose and available!
- AFM 161-710: Washington

Ballet contract unanimously rejected last month over decision to use "canned" music at "The Nutcracker" ballet again this year. Local is planning an action at the Ballet headquarters soon.

- Teamsters 639: Veolia contract approved 93-12 today; Daycon struggle continues, with 10 strikers returned to work and 30 still out. Daycon has lost all NLRB rulings but is dragging process out; next court date 11/17.

- Nurses United of DC: WHC contract imposed last month; NU-DC affiliated with NNU.

COPE

MD/DC Report:

- Employment stimulus bill: The DC Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Mr. Gandhi, issued the Fiscal Impact Statement for the Employment Stimulus bill. The analysis showed that if this legislation is passed and implemented it would cost the City \$67M over the next 4 years and \$16M for FY2011. Councilmember Michael Brown, who introduced this legislation, has set up a meeting with Mr. Gandhi and labor unions to give unions an opportunity to discuss and refute his findings. With the Council Session coming to an end in December, we have between now and next the legislative session, November 2, to educate Gandhi and to get him to re-issue a modified fiscal impact statement, which includes significant cost reductions. (Alya Solomon, Assis-

ATTENDANCE

Jos Williams
Doris Reed (ASASP)
Sandra Falwell (DCNA)
Linda Bridges (OPEIU 2)
Carnell Reed (SEIU 400)
Carl Goldman (AFSCME Cn 26)
Anthony Frederick Sr. (Laborers 657)
Anthony Garland (ATU 689)
Vance Ayres (WBCTC)
Michael Murphy (IUOE 99)
Dwight Bowman (AFGE District 14)
Jimmy Tarlau (CWA District 2)
Fred Allen (GCIU 538C)
Riley Gaines (IBEW 26)

Excused:

Gino Renne (UFCW 1994)
Merle Cuttitta (SEIU 500)
John Boardman (UNITE HERE 25)
Mark Federici (UFCW 400)
George Johnson (AFSCME Cn 20)
Jaime Contreras (SEIU 32BJ)
Kendell Martin (Ironworkers 5)

Absent:

Tommy Ratliff (Teamsters 639)
Chuck Graham (IBEW 26)
Faith Jones (ACE-AFSCME 2250)
Dan Dyer (OPEIU 2)
Dena Briscoe (APWU, NCSML)
George Parker (WTU)

Guests: Earl O'Neal, AFSCME Council 20; Gerald Warrick, Laborers 657

Staff: Kathleen McKirchy, Chris Garlock, Rick Powell, Alya Solomon

tant Political & Legislative Coordinator)

- Early voting: Early voting in the District begins today, October 18, 2010 through to November 1, 2010 at One Judiciary Square. Several satellite locations are open on the weekends throughout the City. It is rumored that people will be writing Mayor Fenty's name on the ballot.

Let's not take this lightly; we urge you take advantage of Early Voting to make sure we do not have any unexpected Election outcomes. The wait time is approximately less than 5 minutes. (Alya Solomon, Assistant Legislative & Political Coordinator)

- Ward 3 GOTV Blitz: Councilmember Mary Cheh has a Republican challenger in the General and needs labor's assistance leading up to Election Day. She specifically would like folks to volunteer with her campaign on October 30, 2010 to blitz the super voters in Ward 3. The Labor Council urges you to provide members to volunteer. Discussion ensued on nascent Fenty write-in campaign and what, if anything, labor should (or can) do. (Alya Solomon, Assistant Legislative & Political Coordinator)

- Mont. P.G., Tri-County Labor Walks and Election Day State Fed Labor Rally (10/23 8 AM, IBEW 26) (Rick Powell, Legislative & Political Coordinator)

- Good turnout in MontCo and PG walks last week; thanks especially to UFCW 400 and others who've been turning out. Painters, AF-SCME, MCGEO, CWA/TNG 32035 members who work at AFL-CIO. But we need to double the turnout to cover the remaining territory; these are big counties. (Rick Powell, Legislative & Political Coordinator)

- Powell reported the following endorsements in local county races: Prince George's

County Council: Mary Lehman (District 1); Leslie Johnson (District 6). Tri-County: Candice Kelly (County Commission President, Charles County), Elfreda Talbert Mathis (St. Mary's County Commission). Prince George's County Board of Education: David Murray (District 1); Mark Cook (District 2); Amber Waller (District 3); Aimee Olivio (District 4); Sharon Theodore Lewis (District 5); Carolyn Boston (District 6); Henry Armwood (District 7); Steve Morris (District 8); George Mitchell (District 9)

- Tony Perez (UFCW 400): FEED bill in DC; healthy food for grocery stores & corner stores in DC. UFCW 400 testified on this bill; good idea but not if it means giving tax subsidies to a WalMart, Whole Foods etc that's trying to get into the District. Also noted that UFCW 400 President Tom McNutt has just been made an International VP, one of fastest-ever promotions. Charles County Council 4-1 vote against Wal-Mart in LaPlata; good victory for Local 400 workers.

- Resuming P.G. COPE meetings in Nov.; details TBA (Rick Powell, Legislative & Political Coordinator)

- Additional Funds needed for Independent Expenditure Campaign (Rick Powell, Legislative & Political Coordinator)

- DC tax reform resolution (see page 3) discussed and approved.

Reports of Board Members:

- Dwight Bowman (AFGE Dist. 14 Vice President): Announced that AFGE District 14's address has changed to 444 N. Capitol Street NW, Suite 841

- Vance Ayres (Washington DC Building Trades Council): Fundraiser for O'Malley coming up on October 22

Meeting closed at 6:07P

**RESOLUTION ON
DC TAX REFORM**

Whereas the District of Columbia faces a \$175 million budget shortfall for Fiscal Year 2011, that the Mayor and DC Council will need to address before the end of calendar year 2010;

Whereas the recession has resulted in falling tax collections for the District of Columbia for three years;

Whereas the revenue declines have led to steep cuts in a wide range of services, including child care, housing, libraries, parks, public safety, health care, and homeless services;

Whereas budget shortfalls have led to a reduction of nearly 3,000 positions in the District of Columbia government;

Whereas Council Chair Vincent Gray has acknowledged that services have been cut not only into the bone, but also “into the marrow” of public services;

Whereas the recession has also devastated thousands of DC residents, with unemployment reaching a 40-year high in 2010;

Whereas child poverty has increased by one-third in two years, family homeless has increased 37 percent, and more than one in 10 DC residents now lives in extreme poverty;

Whereas the decisions made to address the current budget shortfall will have a significant impact on DC residents and the men and women who work to provide public services;

Whereas further budget cuts could hurt struggling families and could hurt investments that are critical to the District of Columbia’s future, such as education, health care, and infrastructure;

And Whereas taxes paid by DC residents at most income levels are the lowest in the Washington region;

We therefore resolve that:

The Mayor and DC Council should work to preserve services that DC residents rely upon as they address the \$175 million budget shortfall. The Mayor and Council should take a balanced approach to the shortfall and keep all options on the table. Because a cuts-only approach would be devastating to DC residents, the Mayor and Council should include significant increases in revenue, through progressive tax increases that fall on those most able to pay, if that is needed to balance the budget without cutting services.