

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

December 9, 2010

Note: December meeting held via conference call.

Minutes:

October minutes moved, seconded to accept as distributed. Approved.

Financial report:

October/November financial report moved, seconded to receive. Approved.

Community Services Agency

CSA Executive Director Kathleen McKirchy reported:

Holiday baskets: need contributions of food, toys, gift cards & money asap
Bowling: set for 1/30; registration forms out; please get in asap
\$27,000 grant from Marpat Foundation received to continue placement for trainees in the Building Futures Program
Emergency Assistance renewals: \$300 minimum annual contributions due

Union City

Mobilization Coordinator Chris Garlock reported:

NNU returns to bargaining table with WHC Thu 12/9; AFM continues protesting canned music at The Nutcracker; work continues on 2011 Council Directory (please update your local's info if you haven't already!)

COPE

Legislative & Political Coordinator Rick Powell reported:
Montgomery: Solidarity with public unions and planning meeting at National Labor

College set for the 16th; President Williams sent out alert on this issue last week, asking for solidarity. Powell outlined impact of the possible abolishment of arbitration. Public hearing held Tuesday: President Williams, Gino Renne (UFCW 1994), Firefighters & FOP testified. President Williams had asked Valerie Ervin – incoming President of the County Council – to slow the process down to provide time to reach some sort of agreement (but that didn't happen). Discussion ensued, focusing on how the attack on the public sector threatens all unions.

D.C.: Four Walmart stores planned in DC, smaller locations, including in Ward 4, Ward 5, Ward 7 & Poplar Point. Have joined coalition with JWJ-led religious & community allies, not to block Walmart but to push for wage and other standards. Ward 4 & 5 are on fast track, could open by 2012; good meeting Tuesday with Councilmember Thomas on this issue and will be meeting with him weekly as this moves forward. Will keep Board updated. President Williams noted that AFL-CIO Executive VP Arlene-Holt-Baker and Willie Baker – former UFCW Region 4 Director – live four blocks from the Ward 4 site and have really taken a strong lead in organizing in the neighborhood.

DC Mayoral Transition Committee: President Williams reported on the latest status on DC transition and labor's role.

Ditto for PG transition with County Executive-Elect Rushern Baker.

Reports

- *Dwight Bowman, AFGE District 14:* discussed concerns about potential impact of budget deficit on the DC employees; wants to ensure that the burden does not fall disproportionately on public employees and the unions. Have to come up with some new thinking; can't just be cuts, must look at additional revenues, which means raising taxes.

- *Tony Perez, UFCW 400:* Walmart is a critical issue for UFCW and all of us. Special thanks to all the friends in labor and President Williams who attended the meeting with DC City Councilmember Harry Thomas, even though in a lot of ways it seems like we got there after the table had already been set. Discussion about yet another "race to the bottom" ensued.

Meeting closed at 4:58P

ATTENDANCE

*Vance Ayres (WBCTC)
Dwight Bowman (AFGE Dist. 14)
Dena Briscoe (APWU, Nation's Capital and Southern MD)
Sandra Falwell (DCNA)
Michael Murphy (IUOE 99)
Jimmy Tarlau (CWA District 2)
Jos Williams*

Guests:

*Steve Lanning
Tony Perez (UFCW 400)*

Staff: Kathleen McKirchy, Chris Garlock, Rick Powell