



Delegate Meeting Minutes

Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

March 28, 2010

Meeting called to order at 6:41P

The DC Labor Chorus -- which has its Spring Concert coming up (May 7, Luther Place Memorial Church) led the delegates in singing of *We Shall Overcome*, concluding with the Chorus and all delegates linked in solidarity and song. Leader Elise Bryant (NLC) noted that "We are connected to all the labor struggles going on recently as well as those that have gone before."

Minutes: February minutes approved as distributed.

Financial Report: February report received

Correspondence: tabled to April meeting

President Williams reported that the Executive Board voted to recommend adoption of the DC Coalition Revenue Budget Motion (see attached). Ed Lazere of DC Fiscal Policy Institute reviewed and discussed.

Community Services Agency - Executive Director Kathleen McKirchy reported on the 2011 Labor Night at the Nats (July 29): flyers coming out next week; stay tuned for more details.

Board actions & recommendations: Reporting that the Executive Board had interviewed all three candidates in the upcoming At-Large DC

City Council race, President Williams reported the Board's recommendation that the Council endorse Vincent Orange in the At-Large race on April 26. Moved and seconded to concur (with one vote against by SEIU MD).

Union Cities

Coordinator Chris Garlock reported on the successful occupation at the recent Wisconsin GOP fundraiser as well as on the following upcoming events:

- Tuesday, 3/29: Rally To Stand With The Women Of Wal-Mart: 9:30 am - 11:30 am
- Wednesday, 3/30: Rally To Protect Jobs At Giant: 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

- April 4 "We Are One" events to commemorate Rev. Martin Luther King Jr's support of striking Memphis workers when he was assassinated in 1968:

- Monday 4/4: We Are One demo at Koch Industries; 11:30a, 600 14th Street NW

- Monday 4/4: Book/Author discussion: Michael Honey and "All Labor Has Dignity"; 1-3p, AFL-CIO

- Monday 4/4: Labor Film: "At The River I Stand"; 8p, Boys & Poets (5th Street)

- Monday 4/4: NoVa We Are One event, 5:30-6:30p Stand in solidarity with UFCW 400 and local businesses to show support as the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors votes on legislation to limit big box retailers in the county. Gather outside the Loudoun County Government Center, 1

Harrison Street SE, Leesburg 20177

- Wednesday 4/13 NoVa We Are One event, 5-7 pm. Rally for contracted cafeteria workers at George Mason University who are trying to organize with SEIU 32BJ.

- Affiliates reported on several other We Are One events being organized; Garlock said that as soon as details are provided they'll be added to the growing list on the Council's website calendar.

COPE

DC Report: Political/Legislative Assistant Alya Solomon reported on several bills currently being tracked, including two on Walmart and the trades bill involving misclassification of workers. She also noted that DC Council Chairman Brown has scheduled Town Hall meetings on the appointment of DC Public Schools Chancellor Henderson

Maryland Report: Political/Legislative Coordinator Rick Powell reported:

- Annapolis report: Crossover Day today; almost all the anti-union legislation was killed in committee; session ends next month and we expect things to move fast until then.

- Tri-County COPE report: 4th Tuesday of the month; internal working group on economic development focused on Charles County and possibly Calvert County as well.

- Prince Georges report: have not had a PG COPE meeting; will resume after the Maryland

state legislature wraps up.
- MAPS Coalition update/recommendations: being considered by the Executive Board.

Evening with Labor: Dinner Chairman Fred Allen (GCC? IBT) reported on a "very very beautiful evening" and said that "based on feedback so far, we finally got the mix right after 25 years, with the new format that kept the program and speeches brief." He noted that "At this point we're \$1,600 in the red, the first time this has happened, and we'll be exploring our options going forward."

Reports of Affiliates

- Vanessa Dixon, Doctors Council: Mayor Gray recommendation of Neil Stanley to head the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services, we were not consulted and this is not a recommendation that we support; he has no experience and we oppose this nomination.

- Eartha Isaac, AFSCME 2978 (DC Dept of Health): concerned about impact of local budget cuts as in DC some agencies live on Federal funds and we're hearing about budget cuts of up to 25% which could have a huge impact locally, so we need to look at both the federal and local budgets.

- Cynthia Collins, SEIU 400: 110 jobs may be cut in Prince Georges, some schools are totally closing down and the situation looks pretty bad.

We're talking to County Council members to see what can be done.

- Dena Briscoe, APWU NCSML: national union finally has a tentative agreement (which is already under attack by the GOP) with the USPS, approved by the rank and file committee and the union's executive board, which now goes to members for vote. We kept and protected the no-layoff clause; are getting back outsourced work; flexible work hours; better language on excessing, so workers can't be sent far from their home communities (no more than 50 miles); agreed to lower pay for new hires but it's higher than casuals and they'll get health care and be union members and be on track for full-time employment. She also introduced Martha Shunn-King, APWU's newly-elected Organizing Director.

Constituency Group reports:

- APRI DC President Walter Carroll: annual dinner dance April 30 at IBEW 26 keynoted by ATU 689 President Jackie Jeter.
- CBTU DC: annual fundraiser for

national CBTU is April 13 (not March 14 as in minutes); still selling tickets for this, our only fundraiser for the year (\$300/ticket) at Union Station. April 9 at CWA is next DC CBTU meeting.

- Elaine Newman, NCAUR: JUFJ's Labor Seder is focused on the economic crisis impact on the unemployed and under-employed.
- Mackenzie Baris, DC JWJ: Walmart campaign continues; have collected close to 2,000 postcards and have been mobilizing neighborhood residents to speak out at community meetings; need support in the field, as the UFCW organizers are getting burned out, encouraged locals to field teams on each weekend. Political attacks on unions are more vicious than ever; in other countries union members face physical attacks. Introduced Nico Udu-gama who spoke about the campaign to close down the School of the Americas (SOA) which he said trains Latin American soldiers to attack their own people, including union activists. April 4 fast begins in front of White House and is part of the We Are One events
- Avis Buchanan, AFGE 2782: Walmart is moving into South Africa, spreading the same problems around the world.

Adjourned 8:03P

ATTENDANCE

Vance Ayres (WBCTC)
Donna Brockington (CLUW, Metro DC Chapter)
Avis Buchanan (AFGE 2782)
Walter Carroll (DC APRI)
Terry Cavanagh (SEIU Maryland/DC State Council)
Cynthia Collins (SEIU 400 PG)
John Cusick (AFM 161-710)
Vanessa Dixon (Doctors Council DC / AFSCME NUHCE)
Ruben Dario Ferrufino (Laborers 657)
Anthony Frederick (Laborers 657)
Ronald Freeland (Laborers 657)
Jo Freeman (NWU/UAW 1981 2)
Riley Gaines (IBEW 26)
Bridget Hamilton (OPEIU 277)
Donald Havard (IUOE 99)
David Hershfield (AFGE Council 1 12)
Eartha Isaac (AFGE 2978)
Gwend Johnson (CBTU DC Chapter)
Kendall Martin (Ironworkers Local 5)
Yvette Martin-Gross (AFGE 631)
Robert Mayfield (AFGE Local 2978)
Jessie McGhee (IUPAT 51/Local 963- 50/50 Raffle Winner)
Elaine Newman (NCAUR)
Tony Perez (UFCW 400)
Victor Reyes (Laborers 657)
Mark Sexton (IUOE 99)
Lisa Wallace (1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers-East)
Terrie Williams (1199 SEIU United Healthcare Workers-East)