

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

March 28, 2011

3:10P: Meeting called to order

DC At-Large Council Interviews

President Williams introduced DC At-Large candidates Vincent Orange, Sekou Biddle and Bryan Weaver. Each candidate presented brief opening remarks, followed by a question-and-answer session and then concluding remarks. Discussion ensued on the merits of each candidate and the various options available to the Council. It was moved, seconded and approved (11-3) to endorse Vincent Orange. Moved, seconded and unanimously approved to raise the necessary funds to run a successful campaign supporting the endorsed candidate.

Resolution on the City Council budget approved (*see Column 3*).

Political/Legislative Coordinator Rick Powell presented and reviewed draft recommendations from the Metropolitan Washington Alliance for Progressive Solutions (MAPS); President Williams asked the Board to review the proposal and suggested that a conference call be held with the Board within the next 7-10 days to review/discuss and approve.

Union Cities Coordinator Chris Garlock reported on the planned 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, Busboys & 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.

Meeting adjourned 6:40P

DC REVENUE COALITION RESOLUTION

March 28, 2011

Whereas the District of Columbia faces a \$322 million budget shortfall for Fiscal Year 2012;

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 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 homelessness 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 stand resolved as follows:

The Mayor and DC Council should work to preserve services that DC residents rely upon as they address the \$322 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.

ATTENDANCE

Present: J. Williams, S. Falwell, L. Bridges, J. Boardman, M. Federici, C. Goldman, A. Garland, V. Ayres, M. Murphy, K. Martin, D. Bowman, J. Tarlau, F. Allen, D. Briscoe, N. Saunders

Excused: C. Reed, J. Contreras

Absent: T. Ratliff, G. Johnson, C. Graham, F. Jones, D. Dyer

Also attending: Bob Stewart, UFCW 1994; Carl Carson, OPCMDC; Steve Courtien, WBCTC; Gerald Warrick, LI-UNA 657; Robert Mayfield, AFGE 2978; Vanessa Dixon, Doctor's Council; T. Perez, UFCW 400

Staff: C. Garlock, R. Powell, A. Solomon, K. McKirchy