

Delegate Meeting Minutes

DRAFT

Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

May 16, 2011

Meeting called to order 6:43P

\$150.

New Delegates sworn in: Allan H. Perry, IATSE 22 and Rasa Massey, AFSCME 2921

- Peggy Browning Fund: ad & tickets, \$1,000.
- DADs Day Poker Run, sponsored by Ironworkers 5 (18-Jun): \$200.

Minutes (April): Moved, seconded and approved as distributed.

TOTAL \$3,500

Financial Report (April): President Williams asked to table as we're in the middle on the annual audit; will have reports next month for both April and May.

The Council also received letters from DCNA (thanking President Williams for speaking at their 4/26 Labor Relations Seminar) and from UFCW 400 (one from Mark Federici resigning as a member of the Executive Board and another from UFCW 400 President Tom McNutt recommending the appointment of L. Anthony Perez as a member of the Executive Board). The Board voted to accept Federici's resignation, with regret and full appreciation for his many years of active service and support for the Council. The Board then appointed Tony Perez to complete the remainder of Federici's term. The Board also voted to declare former WTU 6 President George Parker's seat vacant and appointed new WTU 6 President Nathan Saunders to serve the rest of Parker's term as a trustee.

Correspondence:

- MD/DC AFL-CIO Salute to Leadership Awards dinner (17-Jun): 4 tickets & Full Page ad, \$1,100.
- NAACP PG Branch Freedom Fund Dinner (17-Jun) 1/2 page \$300.
- NLC Dean's List funder: \$100.
- DC CLUW Gloria Johnson awards lunch (12-Jun): Patron, 1/2 page & 4 tickets, \$250.
- WFPW Contribution: \$100.
- DC Primary Care Association membership: table.
- Ward 5 Council on Education Awards dinner (13-May): table.
- MD Del. Dereck Davis Reception (7-Jun): table.
- MD Sen. Karen Montgomery Picnic (5-Jun): table.
- Washington Building & Construction Trades Council Project Type Zero: \$300.
- DC ACLU Teach-In (9-Jun):

Community Services Agency:

Executive Director Kathleen McKirchy reported:
- Labor Night at the Nats, July 29: AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka will be throwing out the first pitch.

- Golf tournament, September 26.
- Update on GSA Project: just graduated 9th class of students, best yet. A student who had messed up his apprenticeship in the Operating Engineers Local 77 got retrained, the Project helped him get a car, and he now has union job on Dulles worksite.
- MD Prison Book Drive: the drive was very successful; thanks to everyone who contributed, we had 13 big boxes of books.

Union Cities:

- Coordinator Chris Garlock reported:*
- NNU/WHC reaches/approves contract.
 - Teamsters save warehouse jobs at Giant (Ahold).
 - Jobs with Justice: Lillian Shelton reported on the 6/23 I'll Be There Awards.
 - 2011 DC Labor FilmFest: May 6 deadline for 20% earlybird discount extended thru 5/20: thanks to everyone who's already sponsoring.

Upcoming events:

- May 21: DC Asian Pacific American Workers' Rights Hearing. As a follow-up to the National Workers' Rights hearing in November 2009, this hearing will feature local worker testimonials on the right to organize, wage theft, immigrant worker exploitation and civil rights. "Given the current attack on working people throughout the coun-

try, the hearing provides a local perspective of personal courage and strategies in the fight for worker solidarity and economic justice," say event organizers.

- May 21: Montgomery County's Annual Spring Peace Banquet. Keynote speaker Gene Bruskin (labor leader and co-convenor of US Labor Against The War) will lead Montgomery County's annual luncheon celebrating the local peace community's work over the past year.
- June 2: Peggy Browning Fund Honors Williams. This year, Metro Washington Council President Jos Williams is among those being honored by the Peggy Browning Fund, an organization that "educates and inspires the next generation of advocates for workplace justice through fellowships, workers' rights conferences, networking and other programs." Also being honored are Michael Barse, Esq., General Counsel, Laborers' International Union of North America, and Richard Bloch, Esq., Arbitrator, Mediator and Attorney.
- June 10: Washington Worker's Walking Tour. From the Labor Hall of Fame to Joe Hill's ashes, worker's history is around just about every corner in our nation's capital, if you know where to look. This 2-hour walking tour of downtown DC reveals labor's

often-untold story of protest and resistance. Metro Washington Council Union Cities Coordinator Chris Garlock - who usually helps local and national activists make history on DC's streets - leads the tour. \$25 per person (100% of all fees donated to the Metro Washington Council's Community Services Agency

- June 12: DC CLUW's Annual Gloria Johnson Awards Luncheon. The DC Coalition of Labor Union Women Awards Luncheon honors Dr. Lorretta Johnson (Executive Vice President, American Federation of Teachers) Jackie Jeter (President, Amalgamated Transit Union Local 689) and Sheila Love (DC Metro Chapter CLUW President Emeritus, in memoriam).
- June 17-19: Labor Heritage Foundation's 2011 Great Labor Arts Exchange. The 2011 Great Labor Arts Exchange - sponsored by the Labor Heritage Foundation - is an opportunity for union leaders, members, artists, educators, and community activists to gather for three days to share songs, art, poetry, theatre, visual arts, and film
- June 17: MD/DC AFL-CIO "Salute To Leadership" Awards Dinner. This year, the Maryland State and District of Columbia AFL-CIO's annual "Salute to Leadership" awards dinner honors James Bestpitch (Western MD CLC), Loretta M. Carr (Delmarva Peninsula CLC), Charles "Boots" Buttiglieri (CWA Dist. 2) and Gwend Johnson (CBTU).

COPE Report:

- DC Budget Support Act: Alya Solomon (Political & Legislative Assistant) briefed delegates on the current battle over the city budget, especially as it relates to attacks on city workers and social services, and opposition by some Council members to increasing taxes on the rich; extensive discussion followed.
- Solomon reported on teacher layoffs: battling being moved around, "excessed" and buyout offers targeted at teachers with seniority (Michael Flood, President Local 2921, said his local has been battling the same issue).

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- MD: Rick Powell (Political & Legislative Coordinator) reported on budget fights in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties: UFCW 1994 and AFSCME Council 67 have been battling their respective Councils for weeks and months about budget cutbacks and furloughs. Both unions are "cautiously optimistic" they'll be able to work out their differences.

Reports of Affiliates:

- Vanessa Dixon, DC Doctors Council: furloughs of public employees; bargaining has not gone as well as we thought it would with the new Mayor, who refused to help out. CIR: good news is that the local finished negotiations at Children's Hospital.
- Robert Mayfield, AFGE 2978: DC Ward 5 Councilmember Harry Thomas helped us pass legislation regarding separated employees. Also reported on the "Instant Recess" health initiative being tried out at DOH and DOES; could use some help with a little management problem getting this going.
- Saul Schniderman, AFSCME 2910: Triangle Shirtwaist Fire 100th anniversary this year; very successful event at the Library of Congress 4/26; we must commit ourselves to fire safety as much as health safety.
- Michael Flood: AFSCME 2921: In arbitration for contract; paraprofessionals are lowest-paid in 7 jurisdictions; even with increases they'd still be the lowest-paid. We're hopeful we can finally get something but we'll have to return to contract right away again. Negotiations affect every local in Council and across the country. We have to be active in the Labor Council; you've been there for us and we have to be there for our brother and sister locals. Thanks from AFSCME 2921!

- Ann Hoffman, NWU: Noted that she's on the host committee for upcoming event honoring Jos Williams at the Peggy Browning Fund, which supports law students who want to work for labor side; urged support for the event.

- Chuck Clay, IATSE 22: reported on a victory in bannering; one day after putting up a sign, the FOP called and said they wouldn't renew with non-union company when the contract comes up.

- Dietra Beckford, NNU/WHC: Rati-fied contract May 8; not everything we want but something we can work with, so we'll rebuild and take them on again in 3 years.

Constituency Groups:

- DC CLUW: Donna Brockington distributed invitations to upcoming Gloria Johnson luncheon. Location change: at ATU 689 union hall. Also reported on upcoming health awareness day in her Ward, Ward 4.

Good & Welfare:

- Chuck Clay, IATSE 22: will there be more trainings by the Council on unions and social media (Yes; details to follow).
- Avis Buchanan, AFGE 2782: Status of Walmart campaign? Alya Solomon reported on the Respect DC Coalition, which has a position in support of CBA, and we're working on DC City Council to win a legally-enforceable Community Benefits Agreement. A detailed and extensive discussion/debate followed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20P

Gerald Warrick, Laborers 657 won the 50/50.

ATTENDANCE

Vance Ayres (WBCTC); Donna Brockington (CLUW, DC Chapter); Avis Buchanan (AFGE 2782); Chuck Clay (IATSE 22); Cynthia Collins (SEIU 400 PG); Vanessa Dixon (Doctors Council DC/AFSCME NUHCE); Ruben Dario Ferrufino (Laborers 657); Anthony Frederick (Laborers 657); Ronald Freeland (Laborers 657); Ann Hoff-