Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO
Delegate Meeting Agenda
September 21, 2020 (via Zoom)

5:00pm Call to order & Welcome: President Dyana Forester
***Moment of Silence in honor of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg***
5:05pm Roll Call: 1st VP Andrew Washington
5:10pm New delegates swearing in
5:15pm Code of Conduct: Gina Walton
5:20pm Approval of Minutes
5:25pm Nominations for Board vacancies: David Fernandez-Barrial
5:35pm President’s Report: Dyana Forester
5:50pm Financial Report: Treasurer Eric Bunn & Teya Bruce
6:00pm Organizational Reports
   COPE: David Stephen (15mins)
   Vote on DC COPE Endorsement and Supporting Legislation/Ballot Initiatives
6:00pm Union City: Chris Garlock (5mins)
   Community Service Agency: Sonte DuCote (5mins)
   CAP: Tonya Love (5mins)
6:15pm Affiliate Updates (30mins)
Metropolitan Washington Council Delegate Meeting MINUTES
July 21, 2020 (Via Zoom), 3-5pm

(3:00pm) Call to order & Welcome: MWC President Dyana Forester

Roll Call: Cynthia Collins

Minutes: Recording Secretary Cynthia Collins reported that the June minutes have not yet been completed, so she’ll have to report them at the September meeting. May 19 minutes were approved as submitted.

President’s Report: MWC president Dyana Forester reviewed her report, including her work on these areas: Administration, Management, Financial Management (including forming a Financial Committee) and Affiliate Support, as well as her plans for “Looking ahead…..Priorities for July to September.” She also discussed plans for Council committees and recruiting delegates to join and participate in those committees.

Financial Report: Teya Bruce reviewed the financial reports. Approved as submitted.

Election Committee Report: David Fernandez-Barrial reviewed the Committee’s report, reported that Eric Bunn has submitted a formal challenge to the election results, which the committee is reviewing, and reminded delegates that the official election results are available for review through December 15. Discussion ensued.

Evening with Labor Report: Chair George Farenthold reported that given the ongoing pandemic, the October date for the rescheduled 2020 EWL won’t be workable due to continuing safety concerns, so discussions are in progress with Martin’s for a date in Spring 2021.

Organizational Reports

COPE: David Stephens reported on the town halls conducted with DC City Council candidates. He also reported that the DC has finalized the Fall calendar for endorsements, and thanked everyone who participated in the HEROES Act demonstration.

CAP: Lolita Martin reviewed the written CAP report, noting that their caseload continues to be unusually high due to the increased volume of people on unemployment because of the pandemic. Discussion ensued.

Union City: Chris Garlock thanked the MWC, CSA and CAP staff for their all their hard work for affiliates and area union members, noting that much of his own work involves just trying to keep up with what staff and affiliates have been doing and getting the word out. He also reported that the LaborFest free online screenings, which took a mini-break in July, will resume in late August and continue through at least the end of October.
**Affiliate Updates:**
DCNA reported on the recent NNU action at the U.S. Capitol to remember all those who have died during the pandemic, and also reported that an action is planned outside MedStar WHC. CSO reported on a meeting coming up to discuss their concerns about re-opening schools during the pandemic. AFSCME 1808 reported meetings coming up to address similar concerns about re-opening city libraries. WTU 6 reported on a successful caravan to City Councilmember houses on ensuring equal and safe access for all city students.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30p.

*Minutes by Chris Garlock based on review of the Zoom audio recording.*

**Attendance (based on Zoom attendee log):**

- BAST AARON T Ironworkers 5
- BATES WILLIAM Smart Dist Col Leg Board
- BEY JUMOKE ATU 689
- BLACKWELL LISA AFGE 1000
- BOWEN JR GREG ATU 689
- BROOKS CHRISTOPHER IBEW 26
- BRYANT-CUNNINGHAM MARLO AFGE 32
- BURNS ROBIN DCNA
- CAVANAGH TERRY SEIU Maryland/DC State Council
- CHILDS BARBARA AFSA/CSO 4
- CLARK TOM IBEW 26
- CLAY I CHUCK IATSE 22
- CLELAND RAYMOND Ironworkers 5
- CLIFFORD EAMON IUOE 99
- COLEMAN ANDREA AFSCME 2830
- COLLINS CYNTHIA L SEIU 400 PG
- COLTER MARIAN ACE-AFSCME 2250
- COURTEN STEPHEN W Baltimore-DC Metro Building Trades Council
- CUMMINGS JONAH AFSCME 1418
- ESPARZA FRANCISCO Carpenters 197
- FARENTHOLD GEORGE E OPEIU 277
- FLASHMAN SUSAN CARA MD-DC Chapter
- FORESTER DYANA N UFCW 400
- FRUM STEPHEN NNU
- GAMBLE LARHONDA AFGE 12
- GENIA ALEXANDRA ALLIE AFSCME 1808
- GRAF STEPHANIE AFGE 12
- HA PHAM BICH IFPTE 70
- HARTWICH KOREY NNU
- HENRIQUES PAUL IBEW 26
- HERSHFIELD DAVID AFGE 12
- HOFFMAN ANN NWU 2 (UAW 1981)
HOGAN GEORGE IBEW 26
ISREAL JAMES WTU 6
JETER JACKIE ATU 689
JETER ROLAND H ATU 689
KASECAMP LARRY SMART-TD 1470
KILLEEN THOMAS SMART 100
LITTLEJOHN ROOSEVELT NFFE-IAM 2
MCKOY CORDELIA IBEW 26
MEJIA ROXANA Painters DC 51
MIDDLETON SR GLENARD S AFSCME Council 67
MURPHY RICHARD G IBEW 26
NABORS DERRICK E ATU 689
PETESON TAREN 1199 SEIU UHE- MD/DC Region
PURYEAR CHRYSTAL WTU 6
REED DORIS ASASP
REESE RICK NABET 31
RICHARDSON DAVID H AFGE 12
RICHARDSON KAREN DCNA
SAVOY BRENDA CLUW Chesapeake Bay Chapter
SCHNIDERMAN SAUL AFSCME 2910
SETTLES WAYNE Teamsters 639
SPANNN-DOWNING TRACY DCNA
SPILLER MIKE OPEIU 2
SPRUILL TONY ASASP
TIMLIN MARTHA IATSE 772
WALKER ANIKA AFGE 383
WALKER DEBRA AFSCME 709
WALTON GINA AFGE 1975

Schlein David unknown
Bruce Teya accountant
Chris Garlock staff
David Stephen staff
Lolita Martin Staff
Nikko Blitza JWJ?
Juanita Sanchez afl-cio
Clayton Sinyai Catholic Labor Network
Lenace Edwards unknown
2027872526 unknown
2023844547 unknown
3019251660 unknown
2407840751 unknown
Elaine Newman unknown
Sandra Cai unknown
David Fernandez-Barrial Election Ctte
Ben Blake UMD
PRESIDENT’S REPORT
Dyana Forester

Throughout the summer months my work has been focused on: stabilizing our internal practices and procedures to ensure we can remain productive throughout the pandemic, evaluating our financial management systems and our financial health, advancing our political program, and reinvigorating our committees.

So far, in collaboration with staff and board members, we have:

Developed internal procedures to address organizational practices in order to adapt to working remotely and operate in compliance with our governance

- Established regular staff check-ins, meetings, and work-plans
- Planned and hosted training for financial officers and developed plan for trustee’s audit
- Evaluated and began updating our financial systems and practices
- Applied for Solidarity Grant from the AFL-CIO
- Develop plan to address unions in arrears
- Recruited PGNEA to join our CLC
- Supported mobilization efforts for affiliates- WTU Townhalls, Postal Workers Action, NAN March on Washington and IASTE Red Alert
- Assessed existing committees and appointments

Next Steps

- Provide board members with their roles/responsibilities and assure all officers are trained
- Form together a Constitution and By-laws committee to plan for a Constitutional Convention for 2021
- Work with program area committee chairs to develop strategic plans- Education, Health, Transit, Public Sector, COPE, BLM and Hospitality/Transit
- Work with Political Director and COPE Committee to move GOTV program
- Continue to support rallies, legislative efforts, and programs of affiliates
- Work with our team to streamline our organization communication

Upcoming Meetings

- Appointment & Committee Discussion Friday 9/25 10am
- Committee Chair Meeting- Thursday 9/24 10am
- Union Dues & Relief Committee- Thursday 9/24 1pm
Community Services Agency (CSA)  
of the Metropolitan Washington Council AFL-CIO
Sonte DuCote, Executive Director

HOLIDAY BASKET 2020

CSA is gearing up for our Annual Holiday Basket program which is expected to receive at least triple the number of requests received in previous years from needy Metro Washington area families who are laid-off and still bearing the brunt of COVID-19.

Last year, CSA provided union grocery store gift cards to 52 needy families for the 2020 holiday season and adopted five (5) families by providing food, clothing, and toys during Christmastime. Thanks to Metro Washington Council affiliates and allies we made a difference in people’s lives!

There are three ways to help:

1. Make financial contributions to CSA earmarked for “Holiday Basket.”
2. Contribute grocery store gift cards from area union grocers or discount store cards (except for Walmart).
3. Adopt a Family – provide gift cards, toys, clothes, etc to area needy families.

Contributions and gift cards can be mailed to: Community Services Agency, 815 16th Street, NW, Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20006

Contribution Deadlines:

- Thursday, November 12 for Thanksgiving
- Friday, December 11 for Christmas

Look out for an email containing further details and the Holiday Basket referral form.

COVID-19 / EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

CSA continues to pass along resources to locals impacted by COVID-19 and help members with limited financial and food assistance. Funds are dwindling due to the increased COVID 19 need and the cancellation of the Labor Night at the Nats and Golf Tournament fundraiser. Please consider making a contribution earmarked for Emergency Assistance to the CSA address above or on the CSA website: www.communityservicesagency.org.
COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN (CFC)

The Combined Federal Campaign starts September 21 through January 15th. Funding from the CFC provides much needed unrestricted funds to help CSA keep its virtual lights on so that it can continue to provide union members with assistance and services.

We are asking affiliates representing federal employees to urge their members to visit https://givecfc.org to make a contribution to CSA using CFC number 19579.

BUILDING FUTURES CONSTRUCTION PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

BUILDING FUTURES Pre-apprenticeship Program graduated 22 DC residents from its UPO-funded virtual program. More than 50% are already placed in good paying jobs and apprenticeships. Apprenticeship sponsors this month included Heat and Frost Insulators Local 24, Piledrivers, Heavy Equipment Operators Local 77, Sheet Metal Workers Local 100, and Plumbers Local 5.

A new DOES-funded cohort started last week with a total of 14 DC residents participating in BUILDING FUTURES virtual classroom. Students in this class are veterans and older youth 19-24 years-of-age with an interest in the building and construction trades.

As part of the program, students receive OSHA 10, Flagger Safety Training, CPR, First Aid and AED, and Scaffold User Training. In addition, they receive job counseling and individualized case management and referrals to other programs in the city to address any challenges to employment.
COPE/Legislative Monthly Summary for August 2020

David Stephen, Political Director

Washington D.C.

COPE Recommendations for endorsement:

- At-Large: Ed Lazerre, Robert White (already endorsed)
- Ward 2: Brooke Pinto
- Ward 4: Janeese Lewis George (already endorsed)
- Ward 7: Vincent Gray (unopposed)
- Ward 8: Trayon White (already endorsed)

Collaborated with Lara Fuchs on planning to participate in State Board of Education candidate screening

- At Large: Mysiki Valentine
- Ward 2: James Harnett
- Ward 4: Frazier O'Leary
- Ward 7: Eboni Rose Thompson
- Ward 8: Carlene Reid

Plan for endorsement support:

- Peer-to-Peer texting
- Mailer from Council & affiliates
- Phone banking in DC and with state federation
- Working America letter writing campaign

Washington DC Legislation:

- Public sector injured workers (see attached)
- Medical marijuana (see attached)
- Voter information is live on dclabor.org

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT!
All active voters will receive a Mail In ballot at their registered address.

VOTE SAFE DC
VOTE BY MAIL
Montgomery/Prince George's County County:

- Worked and prepped leadership at IATSE Local 22 on testifying in Montgomery County on funding assistance for $3,250,000 for Arts COVID-19 Relief Fund
- Planned Meet and Greet for Prince George's County Board of Education (date rescheduled for October)
- Information meeting on Taxes Ballot Questions Coalition - No on B
- Worked with Chris Garlock on disseminating census info for Prince George’s County

Tri-County/Statewide

Request to adopt Workers bill of rights into future COPE questionnaires (see attached)

Resolution:

- Post office position statement

Daily tasks:

- Tracking legislation on the federal level, as well as for Washington DC, Maryland, and local jurisdictions and Virginia (when applicable) and updating webpage with all updates.
- Updating legislative update page on the website with the latest information.

Other tasks:

- Labor support committee for March on Washington
CLAIMANT ADVOCACY PROGRAM
Tonya Love, Program Director; Lolita Martin, Attorney

The Claimant Advocacy Program’s overall objective is to advise and represent claimants with DC unemployment benefits who have a scheduled hearing before the Office of Administrative Hearings.

Additional tasks:

- Discussed existing issues with DOES regarding regular UI, PUA, PUEC and FPUC.
- Check-ins with other stakeholders on issues on a broader level that affect unemployment benefits.
- Suggest and connect UI claimants with other resources, when/if needed.

Summary:

1. Invoiced for the month of June in the amount of $72,187.50. Invoiced for the July in the amount of $67,375.00. Invoiced for August in the amount of $49,500.00. CAP has more than tripled the number of cases over the period of the pandemic.

2. CAP continues to assist hundreds of union and non-union members in accessing the UI system in DC, with multiple emails, calls and texts to POCs at DOES. We have assisted, escalated and resolved at least 20-30 union members’ claims during the months of July and August, which are unbilled hours. As for billed hours in July: (3) 32BJ; (2) SEIU 722; (1) WTU 6, (1) UNITE HERE 25 members represented. In August: (2) SEIU 722; (1) 32BJ members were represented. Overall, less than 10% of our billable cases have involved affiliated union members.

3. Began and will continue discussions with DOES regarding COVID19 and how the transition to fully reopening DC could impact employees (currently claiming UI) that are concerned about returning to work.

4. Continued discussions with DOES to reduce the misinformation regarding Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) applications as well as the PUA process and backlog.

5. Monthly DOES conference call with recommendations for procedural changes and expediting decisions/payment of benefits.

6. Bi-weekly conference calls with the Commission Task Force of the DC Office of Administrative Hearings.
**UNION CITIES**
*Chris Garlock, Coordinator*

**2020-21 MWC Directory:**
Includes updates to the online directory as well as to LaborKey. A draft of the hard-copy Directory should be available for final review soon, after which it will go to press and be distributed via mail.

**Union City, Union City Radio, MWC social media**
Of special note was producing and hosting the annual WPFW Labor Day “Workers Rising” show, which ran this year from 8a to 5p and included segments on:

- **COVID’s effects on DC-area workers: Education/Healthcare** with Pia Morrison, SEIU 500 and Wala Blegay, staff attorney, DCNA
- **COVID’s effects on DC-area workers: Essential workers** with Mark Federici, UFCW 400; Jim Griffin, IBEW 1900; Dabney Hudson, IAFF 36 and Andrew Washington, AFSCME Council 20
- **COVID’s effects on DC-area workers: Hospitality/Entertainment** with Dyana Forester, MWC; John Boardman, UNITE HERE 25; Jaime Contreras, SEIU 32BJ; Ryan Chavka, IATSE 22 and Ed Malaga, DC Musician’s Union

**Getting out the vote: Labor 2020** with Donna Edwards, Maryland/DC AFL-CIO; Stephen Courtien, Baltimore-DC Metro Building Trades Council; Julie Hunter, Virginia AFL-CIO; David Stephen, Metro Washington Council and Harold Meyerson, The American Prospect

**Labor & solidarity with Black Lives Matter** with Louis Davis, SEIU 32BJ; Djawa Hall, 1199SEIU; Tanya Wallace-Gobern, National Black Worker Center Project; Clayola Brown, A. Philip Randolph Institute; Davon Lomax, Painters and Chuck Modiano, Sports Writer

Produced, published and distributed latest local labor news on the MWC’s Union City daily, Union City Radio (WPFW 89.3FM) and Facebook/Twitter feeds, including ongoing coverage of the COVID-19 pandemic and the efforts of DC-area unions and workers. Union City returned to daily weekday publication as of September 8; Union City Radio (WPFW 89.3FM) continues to run 7 days a week (formerly was on weekdays only); Your Rights At Work broadcasts every Thursday from 1-2p.

I have continued working with all MWC staff to keep the labor community informed about news and resources on the local response to the pandemic, including keeping our website and social media – including Twitter and Facebook -- up-to-date, with the website – including the COPE, CAP and CSA pages – updated as necessary.
MWC meetings: Coordinated with President Forester to hold the special July Board meeting on July 20 and the delegate meeting on July 21, including preparing reports, notifying affiliates/delegates, etc.

MWC check log-in: Opened, sorted, logged in MWC mail and checks.
Database updates: Updated MWC and LaborKey databases as necessary.
Election Committee: Assisted the committee in responding to questions/concerns and coordinated ballot inspections.

**Your Rights At Work** *(WPFW 89.3FM, Thursdays from 1-2p)*
August guests included: 8/27: local union leaders participating in the Commitment March and Rally; "Union Busting, Vegan Style"; 8/20: Danny Alpert, Co-director of the upcoming film The Last Strike; 8/13: Liz Davis, Washington Teacher’s Union; Christopher Martin, Professor of Digital Journalism, University of Northern Iowa: author of "No Longer Newsworthy: How the Mainstream Media Abandoned the Working Class"; 8/6: Jews United For Justice DC Community Organizer Zach Weinstein; AFL-CIO Deputy Director, Corporations and Capital Markets Brandon Rees.

**Union City AUGUST 2020 highlights.**

**Labor Radio Podcast Network**
Continued to expand this network of labor radio shows and podcasts, which now includes 70 shows and was reported on recently in the AFL-CIO Now blog: Labor Radio Podcast Network Expands To More Than 60 Members In Four Countries. Coordinated/led weekly meetings and hosted a roundtable discussion as part of the WPFW Labor Day show: Labor Day with the Labor Radio/Podcast Network.
**LaborFest:** The weekly online screening series has resumed on Tuesday nights at 7p via Zoom. **Upcoming screenings:**

### PATSY MINK: AHEAD OF THE MAJORITY

![Pat Mink Image]

**Tuesday, September 22**
7p, FREE via Zoom; [RSVP here](#)

2008; 56m; documentary; Women Make Movies’ OWOV (One Woman One Vote) Festival

In 1965, Patsy Takemoto Mink became the first woman of color in the United States Congress. Seven years later, she ran for the US presidency and was the driving force behind Title IX, the landmark legislation that transformed women’s opportunities in higher education and athletics.


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### RESISTERHOOD

![Resisterhood Image]

**Thursday, September 24**
7p, FREE via Zoom; [RSVP here](#)

2020; 97m; documentary

Introduced by AFL-CIO Secretary Treasurer Liz Shuler (Invited); Q&A with director Cheryl Jacobs Crim; Hosted by Elise Bryant, president of the Coalition of Labor Union Women

Resisterhood is a feature-length documentary about the power of women, hope and resistance in the age of Trump. It follows fledgling and veteran activists as they fight for our rights on the streets and in the halls of power. Produced, directed, filmed and edited by women, Resisterhood is a testament to the strength of ordinary Americans in this extraordinary time.

*Co-sponsored by the DC LaborFest, Labor Heritage Foundation, Coalition of Labor Union Women*