

Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO
Delegate Meeting: June 29, 2021



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**Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO
Delegate Meeting Agenda
June 29, 2021 (via Zoom)**

<https://aflcio.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUudeGgqjloH9xwCJ6ljM1K-72Ag5tTbWVK>

5:00pm	Call to Order & Welcome: President Dyana Forester
5:05pm	Code of Conduct- Gina Walton
5:06pm	Approval of Minutes: Lisa Wilsonia-Blackwell-Brown-Secretary
5:15pm	President's Report: President Dyana Forester
5:30pm	Financial Reports: Treasurer Eric Bunn
5:40pm	Program Reports: § CSA - Sonte DuCote § COPE - David Stephen § Union City - Chris Garlock § CAP - Tonya Love
6:15pm	Affiliate Reports

CODE OF CONDUCT

The Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO is committed to providing an environment free from discrimination and harassment.

We ask all meeting participants to embrace our values of equity and equality, and conduct themselves in this meeting consistent with those values.

Anyone who thinks they have experienced discriminatory, harassing or otherwise unacceptable behavior are urged to contact a designee if you have any concerns.

For this meeting, Gina Walton is the designee. Please contact her to express concerns.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: June 2021

Administrative- Supported Sonte and the board to interviewed and successfully hire a new Executive Director for the Community Service Agency. We are working to implement a transition plan which will allow the new ED to develop an understanding of the MWC and form relationship with key stakeholders and staff.

Financial Management- Worked with Jo to continue our 2020 audit and submit our Annual Report to the AFL-CIO. Prepared a quarterly vacation usage report for staff and board. Notified affiliates in arrears of their delinquency and offered them an opportunity to apply for Per Capita relief. In June, with the support of both Jo and Chris, we finally begin implementing a Lockbox system per the recommendation of our Financial Management Consultants.

Political-

MD-In response to Governor's Hogan decision to terminate the federal government extended unemployment benefits two months before the ended, President Donna Edwards of the MD State AFL-CIO and I convened meetings with unions representing employees in the hardest hit industry to discuss a collective response. Additionally, we discussed a plan to promote a legislative platform to protect workers as the economy recovers from the pandemic in the next legislative session.

DC Budget- Working with stakeholders to do an analysis of how the proposed budget will impact our affiliates. Key areas of concern are cuts to the PFL fund, the DCPS budget and funding Hero Pay. The DC COPE has worked to inform the DC City Council on Labor's priorities and concerns regarding the budget.



In solidarity with our affiliates and supporting campaigns MWC endorsed - Spoke at Rally for DC Statehood and Welcomed UNITE HERE's Freedom Riders

Claimant Advocacy Program Report

The Claimant Advocacy Program's overall objective is to advise and represent claimants who have filed claims for unemployment benefits in the District of Columbia and have unemployment compensation appeals hearings before the District of Columbia Office of Administrative Hearings.

Additional tasks:

- The delayed payments for CAP invoices for March (\$44,562.50) and April (\$39,937.50) have been received. CAP Invoiced for May for \$27k.
- The CAP contractual changes were approved, and the new terms will apply this month.
- CAP participated in the weekly stakeholder's meeting with the Office of Administrative Hearings, advocacy groups, and others concerning unemployment issues and case management.
- In addition to the escalation process for CAP/DOES to address union members' issues with wage credits issues, CAP continues to engage in discussion with Virginia and Maryland state representatives to see if we can offer members with UI assistance in MD and VA.
- Interstate claim issues affecting/impacting members of IATSE 22, UNITE HERE 23/25, and 32BJ members are slowly getting resolved.

Summary:

- DOES and OCP have accepted and implemented the proposed changes to the current contract, resulting in additional payment for work performed, including claimants that CAP assists without hearings.
- CAP continues to assist union and non-union members in accessing the UI system in DC, with multiple emails, calls, and texts to POCs at DOES. Additionally, we are still working with individuals with interstate claims and extension of claims issues.
- CAP represented and advised members of SEIU Local 722, IATSE Local 22, UNITE HERE 23, UNITE HERE 25, UFCW Local 400, SEIU Local 32BJ, and AFSCME Council 20 who had hearings at OAH or unresolved issues pending before DOES.

Community Services Agency (CSA) of the Metropolitan Washington Council AFL-CIO

Sonte DuCote, Executive Director

MWC AFFILIATES PLEASE MAKE YOUR 2021 EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE CONTRIBUTION

MWC affiliate support for the CSA Emergency Assistance Fund is vitally important. Also, according to Emergency Assistance policy, affiliates who do not contribute are not eligible to refer members who need assistance.

The minimum contribution is \$300. Please work with your boards to provide your best contribution.

Many thanks to the below affiliates who have made contributions to date.

AFGE Local 32	\$500
AFGE Local 476	\$600
AFSCME Council 20	\$7,300
ATU Local 689	\$10,000
Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen DC	\$1,000
Dan Fields	\$500
Susan Flashman/Richard Bissell IBEW (In Memory of Liz Davis)	\$100
District of Columbia Nurses Association	\$300
IATSE Local 22	\$1,000
IUOE Local 77	\$500
IUOE Local 99	\$500
IUPAT District Council No. 51	\$300
LiUNA! Baltimore Washington	\$300
National Nurses United	\$1,410
SEIU Local 32BJ	\$500
SEIU Local 722	\$1,000
SEIU MD/DC State Council	\$1,000
SMART Local 100	\$300
Staff Professional & Clerical Association	\$1,000
Teamsters Local 639	\$5,000
UNITE HERE Local 25	\$1,000

HELP CSA RAISE FUNDS TO HELP MEMBERS EXPERIENCING HARDSHIP

Is your local, retiree club or any group that shares labor's values interested in helping workers facing hardship due to COVID or other unforeseen life events? CSA now has a fundraising link that can track contributions for a specific fundraising campaign. Please call 202-974-8226 for more information.

NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO START JULY 1

The CSA Executive Director Hiring Committee, comprised of Board President, Dyana Forester, Dan Duncan, AFL-CIO Maritime Trades, Ann Hoffman, NOLSW, UAW 2320, Quincey Jones, ATU 689, Michael Murphy, IUOE 99, Alexander Thompson, A. Thompson & Associates as well as the outgoing ED, Sonté DuCote. The Committee selected three of the ten candidates interviewed to be invited back for second interviews. These candidates submitted writing samples and the Committee conducted a robust reference checks for each candidate.

After several discussions, the Committee selected Letycia Pastrana.

Letycia has extensive experience developing and executing community and economic development activities for vulnerable, diverse populations in need of resources. Letycia's areas of expertise include strategic planning and capacity building, leadership and management, partnership and board development, program evaluation, and management of multicultural teams and projects. She has served as the Chief Operating Officer of Ella Austin Community Center, developing, and executing strategies in distressed communities while driving the financial stability for the organization. Prior to her role as COO in San Antonio, Letycia spearheaded the Gwinnett Community Alliance Inc. As the Executive Director, she had oversight of programs, fiscal sustainability, and cultivated relationships with stakeholders.



Letycia has served on the boards of several charities and non-profit groups. She mentors adolescent girls to engage them in youth civic service and leadership in their communities as well as to become life-long learners. She has a B.A. in Health Science from California State University and completed graduate course work at Arizona State University in Leadership Education. Ms. Pastrana was also a graduate of Leadership Gwinnett Class of 2011 and Leadership Dekalb in Georgia.

Letycia is eager to bring her skills and talents to the Community Services Agency and partnering with the Metro Washington Council and labor community.

BUILDING FUTURES CONSTRUCTION PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

During the past month, the Building Futures team conducted pre-apprenticeship training in the southwest area of the city (ANC 6D) for 19 DC residents and graduated 15 on June 25. CSA's partnership with the DC Department of Parks and Recreation allowed us to gain access to King-Greenleaf Recreation Center as a training site. During the 6-week program the students received case management services, training, safety certifications and individualized career guidance, completed tool identification and hands-on training at OPCM Local 891, and conducted weekly site visits to Museum Place/Randall School construction projects. The program seeks to empower low-income minorities, older youth and women through individual and group learning experiences that lead to good jobs and apprenticeships.



Highlight:

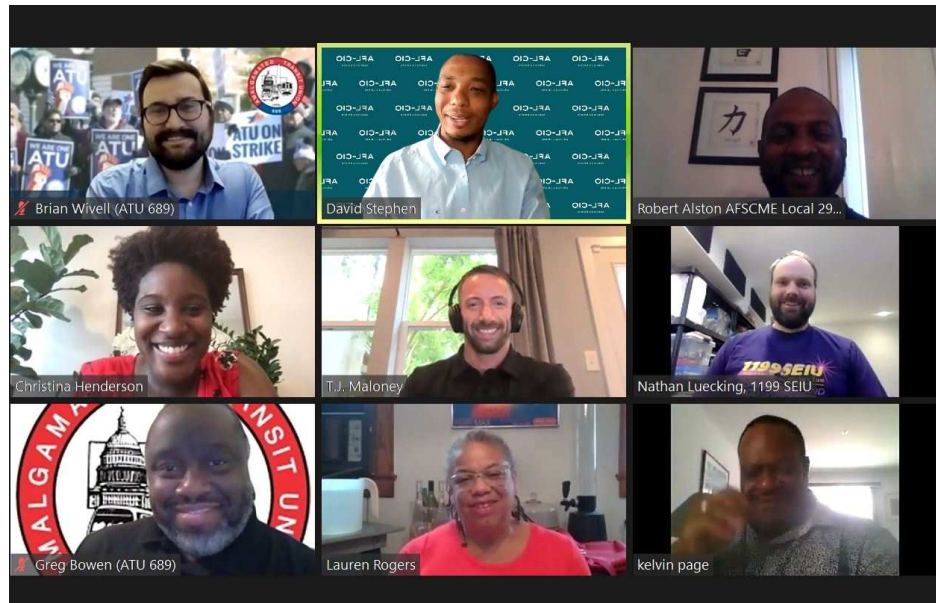
Building Futures training is modeled after the AFL-CIO sponsored MC3 curriculum which includes an orientation to the construction industry, apprenticeships and jobs, rights and responsibilities in the workplace, labor history and contemporary issues, the right to organize, blueprint reading, math, job readiness, case management, discrimination and harassment at work, and industry-recognized certifications such as OSHA 10, Flagger Safety, CPR, Firsts Aid and AED, and Scaffold User. Our graduates have been vetted and are ready for work, they are drug-free, conscious about safety and reliable.

COPE

David Stephen, Political & Legislative Director

DC Budget Council Lobby Day held from Tuesday, June 22-24 with

- Nadeau
- Lewis George
- Cheh (staff)
- Gray
- Henderson
- Silverman
- McDuffie
- Trayon White (staff)
- Robert White



Lobby Issues covered with Council:

- Hero pay for essential workers: \$500 direct payments to 38,000 private sector workers
- Protection of Paid Family Leave: use PFL funding for the program and not for corporate tax cuts
- DCPS job protection: Protection of RIF's for 147 members of AFSCME Local 2921, 34 members of AFSA/CSO, and the 27 members of the Teamsters Local 639 who have been notified that they will be a part of a reduction in workforce (RIF) at DC Public Schools in the coming weeks.
- Fund employer Side Contribution to Retirement Plans at the DC Circulator
- Ensuring that the \$8M in federal funding for the reopening of entertainment venues includes funding for the continuation of COVID protocols in entertainment venues.
- Protecting UI benefits for workers (especially in the entertainment workforce) who cannot yet return to work and ensuring the adequate funding already allocated for improving the troubled system for claims at DOES.

Prince George's/Montgomery County COPE

Met with new Co-chairs Samuel Epps and Jennifer Epps to discuss results of survey on MoCo/PG COPE. The next COPE meeting to discuss the findings of the survey with COPE activists will be **Wednesday, July 14. You may register for the meeting here:**

<https://zoom.us/j/95223374881?pwd=eGFIRUt4WFNaNmduMWEyWklPdTZOQT09>

Prince George's/Montgomery County COPE Survey

Form description

Email *

Valid email

This form is collecting emails. [Change settings](#)

Statehood Coalition Update:

- Working with our coalition members to develop our outreach strategies to their members.
- Collaborating with national communications office to develop op-ed and petition in West Virginia.
- Senate hearing on DC Statehood was held on Tuesday, July 22



UNION CITIES

Chris Garlock, Coordinator

DC Labor FilmFest

The 2021 DC Labor FilmFest – which ran through June 6 -- featured eight films, available for screening in the AFI Silver's Virtual Screening Room. While paid attendance was lower than for the free online screenings we hosted in 2020, AFI reports that they were consistent with other online festivals.

I also hosted and produced weekly sessions of the [Labor Goes to the Movies podcast](#).

Thanks again to founding sponsor [American Income Life](#) for their ongoing support.



MWC affiliate support

Provided as needed, including updating affiliate info and delegates, coordinating solidarity/mobilization efforts and publicizing through Union City, UC Radio, Your Rights At Work and social media.

MWC meetings

Coordinated prep, including preparing reports, notifying affiliates/delegates, etc.

MWC check log-in: Opened, sorted, logged in MWC mail and checks. Coordinated mail pick-up/drop-off with MWC staff.



Database updates:

Updated MWC and LaborKey databases as necessary.

MWC staff support

Coordinated weekly staff check-ins, supported staff as necessary, including keeping program pages on website updated, including the [COPE](#), [CAP](#) and [CSA](#) pages

Union City e-newsletter

Produced, published and distributed latest local labor news on the MWC's Union City daily; reports posted [here](#)

Union City Radio

Produced daily report for Union City Radio reports, 7:15a on WPFW and on the [UCR podcast](#).

[Your Rights At Work](#) (WPFW 89.3FM, Thursdays from 1-2p)

May 6: Death on the Job: The Toll of Neglect: The AFL-CIO's 30th annual Death On The Job report...DC Labor Chorus' annual spring concert preview...Nikko Bilitza from DC Jobs with Justice reports on the Essential Workers Bill of Rights...and Gabriel Winant discusses his book The Next Shift: The Fall of Industry and the Rise of Health Care in Rust Belt America. PLUS: We Did Not Come This Far, by the DC Labor Chorus.



May 13: Will strike, if necessary: ATU 689 shop steward Tonia White on why MetroAccess Operations Control Center workers voted this week to authorize a strike. Alejandro Ortiz on how the ACLU staff union won voluntary recognition. The American Prospect's Harold Meyerson on the PRO Act's prospects and "Biden's Good-Paying Union Jobs? Here's How to Get Them." **May 20:**

Blowing the whistle on corporate greed: Washington Gas workers (Teamsters 96) blow the whistle on corporate greed. Organizer Steve Lanning (LIUNA 11) on workers' right to strike. And Brittany Scott on Ending Racial Discrimination in Industrial Temp Hiring Through Innovative Enforcement.

May 27: Workplace violence and mental

health: Wednesday's deadly shooting at the maintenance and dispatch center for the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority in San Jose, California has once again raised the issues of workplace violence and mental health. We talk with Nurse Consultant – and DCNA member -- Laverne Plater. Also, Strathmore Music Center is threatening to replace ticket-sellers there with machines; Treasurers and Ticket Sellers Union, IATSE Local 868 Business Agent Anne Vantine reports on what's at stake. We do have some good news this week, as DC workers notched another victory against wage theft on Monday and DC Mayor Muriel Bowser's just-released budget restores salary cuts for AFSCME Comps 1+2; we check in with Elizabeth Falcon, Executive Director at DC Jobs With Justice, for an update.

MWC social media: Posted daily labor news/updates to MWC [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) feeds.

MWC website: Posted affiliate news/updates on our [website](#). Latest website traffic report: 4.3K users in May.

Labor Radio Podcast Network: Coordinated network of **125** labor radio and podcast programs, including weekly meetings; produced/hosted Labor Radio Podcast Weekly.

2020-21 MWC Directory: Maintained updates to the database, [online directory](#), and LaborKey.

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL DELEGATES MEETING

May 25, 2021

Scheduled: 5-7PM (**Actual meeting time:** 5:10PM – 6:34PM)

Call to Order and Welcome: President Forester

Code of Conduct: Gina Walton

Approval of Minutes: Lisa Blackwell-Brown

Motion – Ann Hoffman

Motion Seconded – Michele Clark

No Discussion

Call the Question – to accept the minutes as presented

Motions Passes – unanimously

President's Report: President Forester

- Working on the transition with CSA as Sonte is leaving; pretty good candidates and hopefully will be wrapped up in the next couple of weeks and Sonte has agreed to stay on board to help with the transition
- Preparing for ending the 2019 audit which was delayed because of access to the AFL-CIO; beginning the process of the 2020 audit; can now secure the solidarity grant and working on improving communications and access to the affiliates
- Will be sharing a three-month plan; part of that is to start a listening tour via site visits
- President Forester was given an award by Aisha Braveboy
- Met with Donna Edwards to talk about the Governor's race to ensure that there is a plan in place
- New committee chairs for the Prince George's COPE committee – Sam Epps (UniteHere 25) and Jennifer Epps (represents Prince George's County Teachers); want to also get chairs for Montgomery County COPE – looking for the Unions that have the largest stake in the jurisdiction are the ones helping lead the process
- Had a rapid response to save jobs at United Medical Center; received a last minute notice that there was something in the budget that a control board would take over if United Medical Center spent over \$15 million; would have been massive layoffs; was able to reach out to the Council members to get a provision added that would increase the amount that went to the hospital, was increased up to \$40 million; also a provision that would require them to layoff managers before members; no new hospital bill at this point
- Council member McDuffie introduced a resolution on behalf of Liz Davis

Financial Report: Eric Bunn

Teya Bruce is no longer with the firm and Edward will be assigned to us for the financials going forward

Statement of Financial Position (as of May 2021)

- Not much has changed from previous statement
- total current assets - \$1.5 million
- still wrestling with doubtful accounts; President Forester will be sharing a plan to handle that matter

- dealing with the money that CSA owes MWC; will be addressing that matter as soon as possible
- **total assets** = \$1.6 million
- **accounts payable** = \$83,000
- deferred revenue dealing with EWL is still out there
- other payables - \$129,000, how much of that is CAP?; President Forester is still researching the historical documentation on this issue
- **total liabilities** = \$404,722
- **net revenue** = \$42,000
- **total liability, unrestricted net assets and net revenue** = \$1.6 million

Budget vs. Actual

- Receiving more money than budgeted; budgeting conservatively due to COVID; shouldn't say overbudgeted, it should state that it's the variance between what was budgeted and what was actually received
- Solidarity grant should be coming in soon and will correct the -\$30,000 that is shown
- Variance of about \$7,000 regarding CAP of what was budgeted and the actual
- **Budgeted** = \$284,000 **Received** = \$385,000 = **Variance** - \$101,000

Statement of Activities by Class

- separating CAP from total amount; CAP brought in about \$101,000 and the majority of that is money owed to MWC from the previous year
- Film Fest received about \$15,000
- total revenue with CAP = about \$385,000
- total revenue excluding CAP = about \$283,000
- going to start to add the expenses of liability of workers comp insurance to the CAP side of the house but that has not been reflected in the report

Statement Activity by Month

- bump up in per capita in February of \$95,000; nothing came in for CAP in April 2021 because of the way the contract runs through the year; it will catch up
- issue with professional fees; \$9,000 hit, working on a credit back to MWC

Motion to Accept the Financial Report for Audit – George Farenthold

Motion Seconded – Michele Clark

No Discussion

Call the Question

Motion Passes - unanimously

QUESTION – Chuck Clay – how is our fund is doing in comparison to other central labor councils? General assets, liabilities, etc.

- President Forester – don't have that information currently but will find out

Election Committee: Gina Walton – election last month to seat the Liz Davis' position; Jacqueline Pogue-Lyons was nominated for the position and it was uncontested wants to entertain a motion that Jacqueline Pogue-Lyons be declared the winner by acclamation

Motion – George Farenthold

Motion Seconded – Chuck Clay

No Discussion

Calling the Question

Motion Passes – unanimously

Community Service Agency (CSA): Sylvia

- Thankful to everyone for their contributions to the emergency assistance fund; helps Union members and their families; a \$300 contribution from Unions assists individuals where needed
- There is a fundraising link that can tract contributions for specific fundraising campaigns
- Application submitted for the job and in a couple of weeks a decision will be made on the position
- Rely on grants and contracts and a big ally is the Greater Washington Community Foundation; available to support DC residents
- Building Futures Construction Pre-Apprenticeship program; promoting pre-apprenticeship training for low-income residents

COPE: David Stephen

- Refer to written report
- Formed a planning committee around having a lobby day for the DC budget; planning meeting will discuss the breakout of the budget; the essential workers bill of rights will be a part of the lobby day as well
- Status of the strike of the call centers workers at ATU; had a one-day walk-out and are back at the negotiating table
- DC Statehood – Ann Hoffman – six Senators took the floor to support DS statehood; counterparts in Main met with a staffer and may be within inches of becoming a co-sponsor of the bill

Union Cities: Chris Garlock

- **Bernard** – Local 96 Teamsters – represents those that work for Washington Gas; looking at a strike vote for Thursday; contractors will come in to perform emergency work if there is a strike
- **Barb Churchill** – IATSE (Strathmore) – struggling for years over a new contract; want to use the pandemic to get rid of all the full-time positions; represent ticket sellers, treasurers and all those that set up the shows; replace the full-timers with part-timers and replace part-timers with ticketing kiosks; May 30th will be demonstrating at Strathmore at 5PM; handing out info to patrons about what is happening with the employees; inflatable rat

QUESTION –

Chuck Clay – did you try to reach out to Wynton Marsallais to let him or his people know what is happening at Strathmore? **Barb** – no, but that is a good idea

- **Mike Wilson** – Local 400 – contract negotiations at Kroger; had meetings with members; start negotiations with Kroger next week; have made billions of dollars in profit during COVID and still are attacking employees health insurance
- **Nico** – DC Jobs with Justice – been fighting to get access to the tip minimum wage portal; DOES is now compelled to cooperate with sharing this portal; will be able to get hard data on wage theft,
- May – DC Labor Film Fest – all of the movies are online; American Income Life has been the prime sponsor

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Announcement – President Forester – April 1st, the payroll protection loans were extended to unions and Bank of Labor will be doing an information session for unions that are experiencing layoffs or other financial hardship

Affiliate Updates

1. **Chuck Clay** – IATSE Local 22 – starting to see some movement as far as employment; WolfTrap started their season today; Kennedy Center and the National Theater will be starting programs in the Fall
2. **Roxie Mejia** – asking for support for extension of the I-270 corridor; represents building trades, painters and allied trades; would provide job opportunities to their members and provide good wages and benefits; has been negotiated for a project labor agreement
3. **Chris** – Workers United – Brooks Brothers, represent the tailors in DC and VA; filed for bankruptcy and purchased by a management athletic brand company, which is owned by Simon Properties; and most entities they represent are in malls; concerned with losing stand-alone locations; been given access and in the process of resigning members; has always been strongly unionized;
4. **Sam Epps** – met on May 13th and were asked to co-chair; there will be a ten-question survey on the endorsement process; meeting times will be addressed; also using it to plan candidate education forums from now until the Fall
5. **Jennifer Epps** – be on the lookout for the survey; aligning the processes with individual locals
6. **Nico** – twitter shoutout; share email if Union has a twitter account to be a part of the DM group
7. **Paula** – Local 2401 AFSCME – telework policy in the District and thoughts about it in light of President Biden's position; many are waiting to see what happens in various agencies, looking at particular situations; some agencies have found the employees have been even more productive while teleworking; July 12th return date for a number of agencies in the district
8. **Theresa** – gave President Forester props; not sure if she can stay as a delegate because she will be the Vice President of MSEA; take a hard look at the school board

Adjournment

Motion – George Farenthold

Motion Seconded –

Meeting adjourned @ 6:34PM

Submitted by MWC Recording Secretary Wilsonia Blackwell-Brown, Esq. (UFCW 1994)