

**Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO
Delegate Meeting: March 22, 2022
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**Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO
Delegate Meeting
March 22, 2022**



Via Zoom:

https://aflcio.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0tcOigriluHdQ_pZ-2RspbVhngUpALU87s

5:00 pm Call to Order – President Forester
5:05 pm Code of Conduct – Gina Walton
5:10pm President’s Report – Dyana Forester

Program Area Updates:

COPE - Dejah Desiree Williams- Political & Legislative Director

CSA - Letycia Pastrana- Executive Director of Community Service Agency

5:30 pm Credential Committee Reports - Jackie Jeter and Kayla Mock

5:40pm Election Committee - Gina Walton & Ann Hoffman

- Report on uncontested positions 5mins
- Overview & FAQ for the Election Process 15mins
- Mock Election 20mins
- Candidate Pitch 20mins

6:40pm Affiliate Reports

7:00pm Adjournment

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:

afge1975dmv@yahoo.com

President's Report- Dyana Forester

Administrative Development-

- Working with Jo (Office Manager) and our financial consultant to finalize our AUP, 2021 Audit, managed the onboarding of Bill.com, and worked with affiliated unions to resolve problems with per capita payments.
- Assisted with renewing the 2022 CAP Contract and organizational insurance policies.
- Continuing negotiating with staff union to finalize CBA and extension has been needed due to scheduling.
- Developing a 3-Year Strategic Plan to ensure our program areas meet our mission, effectively supporting our affiliates, updating our Constitution, and stabilizing our finances.
- Working to identify a return to in-person work plan for the MWC staff and developing a telework policy.

Program Area Support-

- Supporting CSA by working with Letycia(ED of CSA) to plan for a new grant from DOES focus on recruiting and training women. In addition to speaking at the Building Future's Ceremonies
- Working with Dejah (Pol/Leg Director) to develop a 2022 Timeline for endorsements, candidate education forums, and member mobilization plan to support our endorsements.

Affiliated Support

- Supporting our DC public-sector unions to obtain medical leave and parental leave as the city plans to expand the DC Paid Family Medical Leave for the private-sector workforce.
- Submitted testimony and letters of support for our unions pursuing legislation and engaging in collective bargaining fights.
- As DC Budget season begins, we are working with our allies to develop a plan for labor's engagement and advocacy around the process.

[DC COPE Budget Education Forum](#)

[DC COPE Committee Special Meeting](#)

[DC COPE Committee - General Meeting](#)

[Tri - County COPE Committee - General Meeting](#)

[PG and MoCo COPE Committee - General Meeting](#)

[March 29th, 2022 - Labor Day at the Wizards' vs Chicago Bulls game](#)

COPE Report: Dejah Desiree Williams, Political & Legislative Director

Political Updates

Candidate Educational Forum

MWC AFL-CIO will host two Candidate Education Forums. Panelists have been notified with the necessary information. If you want to listen in, please click the links to register.

[DC COPE Committee](#): Thursday, Mar 24, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. **[MD COPE Committees](#)**: Saturday, Mar 26, 2022, at 11:00 a.m

Endorsement Interviews

MWC AFL-CIO will host interviews for candidates running for statewide office. This exercise will allow affiliates to voice their desires and concerns before Delegates report to MD COPE for formal recommendations. In-person invites will be given, and a virtual option will be provided for all to participate. The tentative dates for these interviews are as follows:

- **Apr 4, 2022: Comptroller and Attorney General Candidates**
- **Apr 6, 2022: Gubernatorial Candidates Part I**
- **Apr 8, 2022: Gubernatorial Candidates Part II**

***Further Information to be provided at a later date.**

D.C. COPE Committee

The DC COPE Committee will host candidate interviews on April 20th and April 21st. Interviews will be held virtually via Zoom. Those a part of the COPE will be interviewed to join. Rank and file members are encouraged to join these sessions as well. More information will be disseminated soon.

Tri-County COPE Committee

The Tri-County COPE Committee will host candidate interviews for state and county-level candidates on Apr 23, 2022. The interviews will be held via Zoom. More information is forthcoming.

Prince George's and Montgomery County COPE Committee

Interviews for the Fourth Congressional District will be held this Friday, March 25th, at 10:00 a.m. at IBEW Local 26. If you would like to attend but require a virtual option, please contact Dejah Desiree for accommodations. Lunch and refreshments are to be provided.

***State and County interviews will be scheduled at a later date.**

Legislative

Maryland

The Maryland General Assembly "Crossover" Day was today. Any bills that pass through the House and Senate floor will be assigned to the opposite house. Any bill that does not pass the chamber in which it was originated by this date will be subject to a referral to the Rules Committee in the opposite chamber. While this does not necessarily stop a Bill from the eventual passage, it does add an additional hurdle, complicating the process and making it harder to get a bill passed. Therefore, the week preceding Crossover Day is commonly referred to as "Crossover Week," and it is marked by a significant flurry of activity in the General Assembly by way of an increased number of voting sessions in committee and on the floors of the chambers.

District of Columbia

Budget briefings began last week. The council would like to ensure that affiliate's DC Budget priorities are being advocated for and properly addressed this year. Please get in touch with Dejah Desiree or President Forester if you would like any assistance pushing your local's budget agenda item.

Furthermore, the council will be partnering with DC Jobs with Justice and DC Fiscal Policy to provide education opportunities for affiliates to become more knowledgeable about the budget process.

March 21, 2022

CSA Executive Director's Report

Accomplishments: January – March 11, 2022

Two Building Futures Pre-Apprenticeship Program Graduations

1. Cement Masons Site: The Winter – Cohort 2022 - Building Future Pre-Apprenticeship Program (UPO Grant Funded) – Cement Mason Site. On February 18, sixteen (16) students graduated from the Building Futures Construction Pre-Apprenticeship training program, having earned their certifications in OSHA 10, Flagger Safety, First Aid/CPR, and Scaffold User.

2. The Dream Center Site: The Building Futures Pre-Apprenticeship Program - Department of Employment Service (DOES) – On March 11, 2022, eleven (11) students completed the program, earned their certifications in OSHA 10, Flagger Safety, First Aid/CPR, and Scaffold User. Two students received three (3) employment offers.

Job Development & Placement - Building Futures Pre-Apprenticeship Program

In CSA's efforts, identifying Union Apprenticeships open to employing Building Futures Program graduates has been a challenge. CSA, Building Futures measures program success by students completing the pre-apprenticeship training, obtaining five certifications, and employment placement shortly after graduation. Our current grantors measure success the same way as CSA, training completion, and employment/apprenticeship placement.

Proposed Solutions:

- 1. CSA and Union Apprenticeships** develop a formal partnership, together to design a matrix/timeline aligned with the graduation dates of the Building Future Program and the Union Apprenticeship program
- 2. Unions Apprenticeships** commit to accepting one or more Building Future program graduates per quarter.
- 3. Connect the following companies/agency's** list to CSA's ED: DC Water, Washington Gas, Metro DC Dept. of Transportation, DC Public Schools, US General Services Administration, Metro Washington Airports Authority DC Department of General Services.

Resource Development:

a) Department of Employment Service (DOES) Awarded CSA \$120,000 to design and launch a 6-week Building Futures Pre-Apprenticeship Program for (20 - 25) Women. The program planning and recruitment process began in early March, program is scheduled to launch on April 18, 2022, at The Dream Center site in Ward 8.

b) Workforce Investment Council (WIC) – Funding Request: **\$100,000** to support the Building Future Pre-Apprenticeship Construction Program. Letter of Inquiry was submitted, grant application due: April 15, 2022.

***CSA needs you! Support Letters needed to include with the WIC grant application.**

Fundraising Events:

March 29th, 2022 - Labor Day at the Wizards' vs Chicago Bulls game. Ticket prices range from \$19.00 - to \$175.00/ CSA will receive \$5.00 per ticket sold. Contact person: Grant Mintz - 202-661-5075/gmintz@monumentalsports.com for large groups or <https://fevo.me/wizardslabornight-22>

June 10, 2022 – Labor Day at the Washington Nationals vs. Milwaukee Game: Tickets cost- \$17.00 per ticket/ CSA will receive \$2.00 per ticket sold. Josh Grohs, Account Executive, Group Sales (o) 202-640-7714 or Josh.Grohs@nationals.com

September 12, 2022 - Enterprise Golf Tournament: Enterprise Golf Course, Mitchellville, MD

The luncheon will be held at the Newton White Mansion, catered by Martin's Caterer.

The first virtual CSA/MWC Golf Tournament Volunteer Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 29, 2022, 10:00 am.

**Presentation by
President Dyana
Forester**



IUBAC Training Center



Claimant Advocacy Program Report – March 2022

The Claimant Advocacy Program's overall objective is to advise and represent claimants who have Unemployment Compensation Appeals hearings before the District of Columbia Office of Administrative Hearings.

Additional tasks:

- We continue to use the escalation process for CAP/DOES to address the claimant's issues involving gaps in payments, delays in processing claims, filing issues, etc.
- Assisted claimants in initial filing claims, weekly claim reporting, and re-opening claims
- Check-ins with other stakeholders, including on the federal level, to assist in resolving UI issues on a broader level.
- CAP received notice of CAP receiving the Legal Aid Partnership award.
- CAP participated in the weekly stakeholder's meeting with the Office of Administrative Hearings, advocacy groups, and others concerning unemployment issues and case management.
- Met with DOES and OCP to discuss the new contract set to begin shortly.
- Addressed issues related to the subcontracting proposition. The issue was resolved without any further discussion.

Summary:

1. Closed out the CAP/DOES contract.
2. 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. We also continue to assist individuals with interstate claims (MD/VA) and extension of claims issues.
3. DC Legal Aid Society will present CAP with the Legal Aid Partnership award in May.

UNION CITIES **February 2022**

Chris Garlock, Coordinator

Election Committee: In addition to my regular duties (see below), much of my time in February was devoted to supporting the work of the MWC Election Committee in preparation for the 2022 MWC Executive Board elections. This involved staffing the EC, coordinating with the Credentials Committee, and extensive



outreach/response to affiliates regarding their per capita payments and updating their delegates in Labor Key, as well as maintaining/updating the [Election Page](#) on the MWC website.

DC Labor FilmFest: Continued work on the 2022 DC Labor FilmFest, planned for May at the AFI and other venues. This includes working with AFI on the FilmFest line-up, and outreach for the program book, which now has just over \$10,000 in ads/sponsorships.

The Bread and Roses screening series in February featured *The First Wave & Coronavirus*



Capitalism on March 8, introduced by NNU Political Director Ken Zinn. Plans are in the works for an APALA-related screening in April.

Also coordinated Global Labor Film Festival Organizer's Network online screenings in March of several films focused on women and work celebrating Women's History Month.

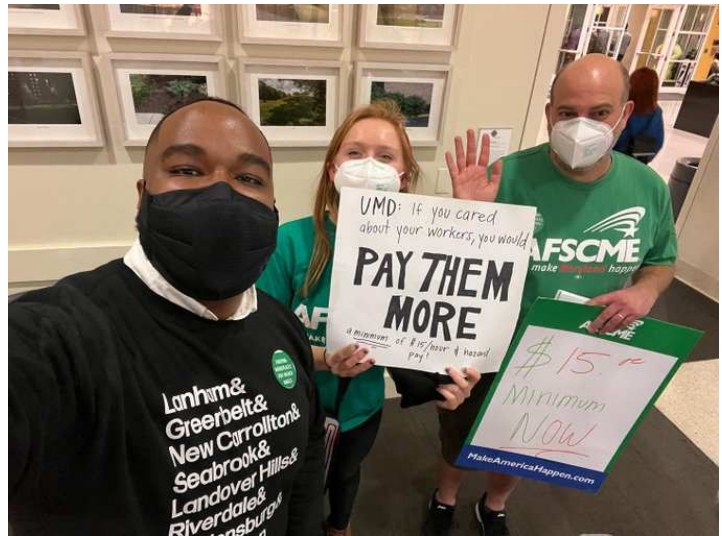
Union City e-newsletter

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

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

Topics/guests included: ATU Local 689 President Raymond Jackson and Labor Network For Sustainability Maryland Director Elizabeth Bunn; Errol Schweizer, host of The Checkout Podcast; "Revolutionary Nonviolence,

Organizing for Freedom" author Michael Honey (Feb 3); Reports from the folks who are organizing a union at Union Kitchen in Washington, DC, and at Starbucks in Virginia; Damon Silvers at the AFL-CIO (Feb 10); One Fair Wage president Saru Jayaraman; Cathy Feingold on the Jerry Black Scholarship Fund at the TraRon Center; Timothy J. Lombardo on Blue Collar Conservatism: Frank Rizzo's Philadelphia and Populist Politics (Feb 17); Gene Bruskin with a working-class analysis of the crisis in Ukraine, Bryant Simon, author of Everything but the Coffee: Learning about America from Starbucks (Feb 24).



Union City Radio

Produced Union City Radio reports airing 7:15a weekdays on WPFW 89.3FM and on the [UCR podcast](#).

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

Database updates: Updated MWC and LaborKey databases as necessary.



MWC staff support

Support staff as necessary, including keeping program pages on website updated, including the [COPE](#), [CAP](#) and [CSA](#) pages

MWC social media

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

MWC website: Posted affiliate news/updates on

our [website](#).

Labor Radio Podcast Network

Coordinated network that now includes over **150** 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.